

## BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE



Robert Skloot has taught and directed plays since 1968 at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he has served as Professor of Theatre and Drama and of Jewish Studies, as Chair of the Department of Theatre and Drama, and as Associate Vice Chancellor from 1996 to 2002. He is the author of *The Darkness We Carry: The Drama of the Holocaust* (1988) and

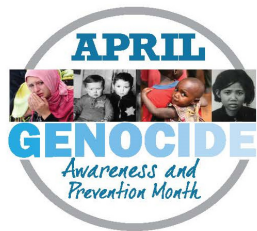
the editor of the two-volume anthology, *The Theatre of the Holocaust* (1982, 1999). He served as a Fulbright Professor in Israel, Austria, Chile, and the Netherlands, and he holds a joint appointment in the UW-Madison's Mosse-Weinstein Center for Jewish Studies.

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**YOM I HASHOAH**  
Holocaust & Genocide Remembrance Day

## If the Whole Body Dies: Raphael Lemkin and the Treaty Against Genocide

A staged reading of the one-act play by Robert Skloot, followed by a discussion with the playwright



Wednesday, April 30, 2014, 7pm;  
Durham Studio Theater, UC Berkeley

*Marking the week of Yom Ha-Shoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day) and Genocide Awareness Month*

Sponsored by: the Center for Jewish Studies, UC Berkeley; the Jewish Student Union, UC Berkeley; the Berkeley Institute for Jewish Law and Israel Studies

With special thanks to the Department of Theater, Dance and Performance Studies



Raphael Lemkin (1900–1959)

### **THE PLAY**

This is a play about Raphael Lemkin, a man who died in obscurity but whose achievements were extraordinary. Lemkin coined the word “genocide” in 1944, and then used it in the name of the *Convention for the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide*, ratified in 1948 and known widely today as the *U.N. Genocide Convention*.

In his author’s note, Robert Skloot writes, “The play I have written approaches the subject of genocide from the perspective of the man, not the treaty.” As such, *If the Whole Body Dies* has three objectives: to recognize the extraordinary achievements of Raphael Lemkin for a new generation, to contribute to the body of anti-genocide materials in the arts and add to the public historical record, and to use the medium of play and performance to create human connections, hope, and empathy in that visceral way that only a play can move people.

### **PROGRAM**

7 pm: Staged reading of the play followed by a discussion with the author

### **GREETINGS**

Catherine Cole, Chair, Department of Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies, UC Berkeley

Sharon Aronson-Lehavi, Lisa and Douglas Goldman Visiting Israeli Professor, UC Berkeley

### **CAST**

Raphael Lemkin: Robert Skloot

Girl: Shir Davidovicz

Narrator: Joel Grebel

Man: Cristhian Ayvar

Woman: Sharlee Taylor

Other Occasional Voices: Sander Lutz, Samantha Hyde

Slides and Sound: Andrei Dubinsky, Nir Maoz

### **SPECIAL THANKS**

Rebecca Golbert, Executive Director, Berkeley Institute for Jewish Law and Israel Studies

Joshua Hesslein, Marketing and Development Director, Department of Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies, UC Berkeley

Wil Leggett, Production Manager, Department of Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies, UC Berkeley

Nir Maoz, Fellow, Berkeley Institute for Jewish Law and Israel Studies