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**Artwork by Joshua Meyer Featured  
in Hebrew College's Inaugural New Campus Exhibit**

**"Eight Approaches" paintings on display through July 2023**

NEWTON, MA (March 8, 2023) — To celebrate the inauguration of the new shared campus, Hebrew College is featuring artist Joshua Meyer's eight-painting series "Eight Approaches," which debuted this past December at the Museum of Fine Arts Boston. These paintings are displayed alongside his painting "Seek" from the College's permanent collection and will be on view through July 2023.

"Joshua Meyer is a magician with paint—building up layers to ultimately reveal images, in a way that encourages the viewer to physically and conceptually approach the work from different perspectives," said Laura Mandel, the executive director of Jewish Arts Collaborative (JArts), a shared campus partner. The eight paintings exhibited at Hebrew College, which stand in for the Hanukkiah, boldly and carefully layer thick paint and overlapping stories. The paintings delve into a rich dialogue with artists like Philip Guston, Mark Rothko and Hyman Bloom, creating conversations in paint.



*"Eight Approaches," Joshua Meyer, oil on board, 40 x 100 inches, 2022*

“For me, this makes his work a physical reminder of the power of art, making space to view life from many angles and distances,” continued Mandel. “This is especially powerful in the context of ‘Eight Approaches’ because it literally illuminates the Hanukkah story, at first pass showing a visual story of light, and upon further inspection, it illuminates many themes and issues that make Hanukkah important, like human resilience and the power of community.”

Deborah Feinstein, founding chair of the Hebrew College Arts Initiative, added “I am personally thrilled to present Joshua’s work at the College for many reasons: the subject symbolizes a holiday re-dedication of the Temple in Jerusalem as well as the re-dedication of Hebrew College in its new collaborative environment. The work also encapsulates people and light. There is a searching, an exploring of the human needs to find something. Is it the light in all the chaos? Joshua’s painterly texture evokes eruptions of color and light. Can we find ourselves through the penetrating, piercing complexities of life?”



“Eight Approaches” reminds us of side-by-side triptych paintings, narrative comic-book panels or film stills, and of course the eight-armed hanukkiah. Meyer uses these paintings to explore our relationships to time and to light, while immersing us in the creative process. “Looking at a Meyer painting means changing your mind about what you see,” according to novelist [Allegra Goodman](#). “Only gradually do I discern the figures in his work. They emerge slowly, rewarding a second and third glance. Coming into their own, they transform the color all around them. As living people do, Meyer’s subjects will reveal themselves, and they will disappear.”

“Eight Approaches” inaugurates the galleries at Hebrew College’s new campus on Washington Street in Newton. The gallery is open Monday through Thursday 8:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m., Friday 8:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m., and Sunday 8:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.

*Artist Joshua Meyer is known for his thickly-layered paintings of people, and for a searching, open-ended process. Meyer has been recognized with a Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant, a CJP Arts and Culture Impact Award, The Sustainable Arts Foundation Award, as well as the Massachusetts Cultural Council’s Painting Fellowship. The Cambridge, Massachusetts artist studied art at Yale University and The Bezalel Academy, and internationally. Joshua Meyer was a Visiting Artist at Hebrew College in 2004 and 2006. Forty of his paintings were shown at the College in a 2004 exhibit entitled “Tohu vaVohu.”*



More at [www.joshuameyer.com/eightapproaches](http://www.joshuameyer.com/eightapproaches).  
high-resolution digital images are available upon request; please visit  
[www.joshuameyer.com/press/](http://www.joshuameyer.com/press/).

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Hebrew College reimagines Jewish learning and leadership for an interconnected world from Newton, Mass. By making our lives more meaningful and our world more whole, we infuse Jewish life with substance, spirit, beauty, imagination, and a sense of purpose. Learn more at [hebrewcollege.edu](http://hebrewcollege.edu).