

**"So real, so vivid.  
This show is crucial for our future  
and for future generations.."**

**- The Front Row Center**

# Good Jew

**by Frank Blocker & Murray Scott Changar  
directed by Jamibeth Margolis**



[www.Good-Jew.com](http://www.Good-Jew.com)

## About the Show

Welcome to Henryk Altman's den in St. Louis, 1986, where he recounts his extraordinary exploits navigating the Holocaust and WWII.

"Half Jew is still a Jew," says Henryk, who survived the Warsaw ghetto, escaped Treblinka twice, joined the Resistance, blew up trains, and played cat-and-mouse with the SS.

His journey offers hope and humor, historical perspective, and keeps the audience on the edge of their seats.



***"No one survives war by being good."***

## Available for 2025-26 Bookings

True stories simply told by a nationally-known solo artist.

A compelling performance that crosses generations and religions.

Easy coordination with our cast and production team.

Suggested post-show talkbacks and audience engagement opportunities.

A great value with powerful impact, adaptable to large or small houses.



## The Making of *Good Jew*

The play is based on multiple interviews with playwright Murray Scott Changar's father, a Holocaust survivor. With Murray's partner Frank Blocker, they began collecting his father's stories.

Changar passed away only a few years after his father, Henryk. Blocker honors both men with his performance, keeping these rich and powerful stories alive.

Blocker developed the play through readings and workshops under the direction of Jamibeth Margolis, a granddaughter of Holocaust survivors. The play was produced by Peculiar Works Project for United Solo Festival on Theatre Row and later premiered at the Museum of Jewish Heritage, Safra Hall in Manhattan.

*Photos by Barry Rowell at Museum of Jewish Heritage, New York City.*





## About Henry

*"I am no different. This can happen to anybody.  
It happens today. Look around."*

Henryk Altman, later Henry Changar, was a craftsman who had a flare for business, a quick wit and fluency in four languages.

He navigated World War II using false papers, ingenuity, guile, and a lot of luck.

Continually avoiding and denying his own heritage, his journey offers hope and acceptance as he gets away with...well, a lot of things.

Sponsored by an unknown cousin, he came to America where he learned English, built his own home, married late and struggled to start a family.

Henry's sense of humor, intense love of humanity and willingness to admit his faults (most of them) make his youthful experiences resonate with the world today.



# His Story, Your Venue, Simple Set



**A perfect fit for all venues:**

Arts Center Auditoriums

Large and Small Theaters

University Settings

Intimate Spaces

Churches and Synagogues

*A chair, two side tables and a cassette recorder become Henry's confessional. In a captivating performance, his stories fill the house, regardless of size.*

*The audience is engaged, entertained, and leave the theatre questioning what they would be willing to do to survive.*

## *Good Jew so far*



### **Developed through readings and workshops thanks to:**

The Salon Series at University Settlement  
along with LiveArts Collaboration, East Village, NY  
AG Contemporary Art, Manhattan, NY  
Moe Auditorium & Film Center, FL  
The Jewish Congregation of Marco Island, FL

### **Benefit Performances:**

Center for Performing Arts, Bonita Springs, FL  
Beth Tikvah Synagogue (benefit for Hurricane Ian Victims)

**2022** - United Solo Festival on Theatre Row, NY

**2024** - Museum of Jewish Heritage, Safra Hall, New York City

## Easy Technical Requirements



Simple set

Small cast and staff

Slide projections  
(optional)

Limited light  
& sound cues

Engaging, powerful  
performance



## The Team, page 1 of 2



**Frank Blocker's** plays include *Southern Gothic Novel* (Drama Desk Award nomination) and *Stabilized not Controlled*, both running two years each at Manhattan's Stage Left Studio; *Eula Mae's Beauty*, *Bait & Tackle* (off-Broadway debut), *Suite Atlanta* (78th Street Studio Theatre), *HP Lovecraft's The Call of Cthulhu* (The Visceral Company, Los Angeles), *Patient Number* (Inner Voices Social Issues Play Winner), *The Wisconsinners* (Dubuque Fine Arts Center). Stage credits include Roderick Usher in Steven Berkoff's *Fall of the House of Usher* (The Independent Theatre-West Village), Mr. Peachum in *The Beggar's Opera* (Dixon Place), Brecht's *Edward II* (The Paradox-West Village), *The Don Quixote Project*, and the infamous *The Deep Throat Sex Scandal* (Bleecker Street Theatre). Regional credits: *The Divine Sister*, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, *Urinetown*, and *Amadeus*.

playwright, performer



**Murray Scott Changar** (1955-2008) left St. Louis and Webster College for NYC in 1977. He performed at The McCarter in *Coriolanus*, American Theatre of Actors, Drama Committee Rep, and was featured in the movie *The Chosen*. Directing credits include *Nelson and Simone: Out of Senses* and *Full Circle* (Theatre for the New City). His last directing credit was voted "Audience Favorite" short play for the Stage This! 10-Minute Play Festival at 78th Street Studio Theatre in Manhattan. His play *The Gates of Helen* premiered at Atlanta's Whole World Theatre, and each of his three short plays were produced in New York, Boston and Los Angeles.

playwright



## The Team, page 2 of 2



With nearly twenty years of professional experience in theater and opera, **Jamibeth Margolis** is both a theatre director and casting director based in New York City. She casts for several prestigious theaters and opera companies around the US including National Yiddish Theatre, Plaza Theatricals, and New City Music Theatre. Theatrical directing credits include: National Yiddish Theatre for *Folksbiene's Broadway: A Jewish American Legacy* gala event, *The Whole Megillah* at 54 Below, and *Jekyll and Hyde* at the Arvada Center Theatre. Margolis and Blocker met when she directed the musical *Alice* by William Wade, for which Blocker wrote the book. Her commitment to these stories and her style of directing are a match not to be missed.

*director*



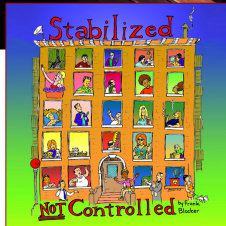
**Ralph Lewis** is a producer, director, and writer who creates multi-disciplinary performances as a co-founder of Peculiar Works Project. Current projects include *The Hare Trilogy* (Wild Project, Frankel Theater); *Origins of Broadway* (BroadwayCon 2022, NY Adventure Club, ongoing); *Good Jew* (2022 United Solo Festival); and *Jane Jacobs Project* (Jane's Walk 2021, 2022, 2023). In 2022, he shot the short films *Animal Magnetism* and *Intuitive Leap*, and gave a virtual presentation of the infamous *Astor Place Riots*. Creations include *AFTERPARTY: The Rothko Studio* in the landmarked 222 Bowery; *2 Jane Jacobs* for Village Preservation (Cherry Lane Theater); *Planet X* for the 2018 [Re]Happening Festival (Black Mountain College, NC). Other directing includes plays by William M. Hoffman, Megan Terry, Paul Foster, Marina Shron, John Patrick Shanley, Hallie Flanagan, Dostoevsky, and Dr. Seuss, among others. AEA, SAG/AFTRA, NYU-TSOA.

*producer*

## Other Solo Plays by Frank Blocker

For anyone who has not been exposed to Mr. Blocker and the men and women who live in his mind, by all means **BUY TICKETS**.

- Mark Peikert, *New York Press*



Two-year run at Manhattan's  
Stage Left Studio

Sold-out Florida show at the  
Moe Auditorium & Film Center

Hollywood Fringe Festival

"Amazing!"

—*The Examiner*

adult language

**70 min comedy**  
**Available for touring**

Drama Desk Award nomination  
Outstanding Solo Performance

Los Angeles Theatre Alliance  
Ovation Recommendation

150+ performances nationwide

"Brilliant" - NY Times

**70 min comedy**  
**Available for touring**



Commissioned by  
The Visceral Company  
Los Angeles

Extended for two-weeks

Filed for posterity

"Chilly and satisfying"  
—*LA Weekly*

**75 min horror**  
**Available for licensing**  
**or collaborative production**



# Good Jew



**Available for Booking**

## **Contact**

Producer

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