

Lioness: Golda Meir and the Nation of Israel

By Elissa Kaplan

From Russian immigrant (born Golda Mabovitch), to Milwaukee teacher, to Israeli Prime



Golda Meir

Minister, Golda Meir was a larger than life figure. She was an iron-willed and chain smoking politician who could just as easily serve tea and cake like a grandmother. Ben-Gurion described her as 'the only man' in his cabinet. Praised for her Zionist zeal and her political savvy, she was also criticized for her handling of the Yom Kippur War and her denial of Palestinian national rights. According to *Kirkus Reviews*, Francine Klagsbrun has written "an evenhanded new biography of one the larger-than-life Israeli leaders" and find the new biography "a terrific chronicle of a unique world leader." The Jewish Historical Society of Fairfield County invites the community to meet Francine Klagsbrun - writer, scholar, researcher, columnist, and feminist - on Tuesday, October 24, 2017 at the Harry Bennett Library, 115 Vine Road, Stamford, CT 06905. The program starts at 7:00 PM, and is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

Francine Klagsbrun has dedicated time and energy to many Jewish agencies: the Jewish Publication Society, the Jewish Museum, the Jewish Theological Seminary Library, the American Jewish Committee, and the National Foundation for Jewish Culture. She is perhaps best known as the author of *Voices of Wisdom: Jewish Ideals & Ethics for Everyday Living*, for being the editor of *Free to Be ... You and Me*, and for being one of the founders of Women of the Wall (WOW). Her latest book, *Lioness: Golda Meir and the Nation of Israel* is coming out October 10, 2017. Be one of the first to hear the author discuss this powerful woman, Golda Meir.

Francine Klagsbrun paints a multifaceted picture of Golda Meir. Golda moved to Palestine in 1921 with her husband. After working on a kibbutz for a short time, she left for a job at a public works office. Noticed by David Ben Gurion, her life changed forever. The year 1948 was banner year for Golda: fund-raising in America, secret meetings in Amman with King Abdullah, and being the Israeli representative to the USSR, where she was mobbed by thousands of Jews at a Moscow synagogue. Her political career was equally high profile. When she was Prime Minister, she negotiated arms agreements with Richard Nixon and Henry Kissinger, and she secretly met with Jordan's King Hussein in a vain effort to offer land for peace. Golda was an influential and complex woman. Francine Klagsbrun has done thorough research and produced a masterful account of the life and times of Golda Meir.

Questions about the programs? Please RSVP to guarantee seating.

Contact The Jewish Historical Society of Fairfield County, *Bridging Yesterday and Tomorrow*

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