THE JCCSF ANNOUNCES NEW ARTS & IDEAS ENGAGEMENTS FOR THE 2019 SERIES

Highlights include Steven Pinker, Robert Reich, U.S. Poet Laureate Tracy K. Smith, and Bob Woodward

SAN FRANCISCO (November 30, 2018) – Today, the JCCSF announced a lineup of new Arts & Ideas engagements for the 2019 series which feature dynamic conversations with thought-provoking artists, acclaimed authors, historians and thought leaders at the JCCSF (3200 California Street, San Francisco). Highlights include acclaimed cognitive psychologist Steven Pinker, leading political thinker Robert Reich, U.S. Poet Laureate Tracy K. Smith, and legendary journalist Bob Woodward. Tickets are on-sale now and may be purchased online at jccsf.org/arts, by phone at 415.292.1233, or in person at 3200 California Street, San Francisco, CA 94118.

Steven Pinker
Tuesday, January 15, 2019 at 7 p.m.
Tickets: $30
Acclaimed cognitive psychologist and best-selling science writer, Steven Pinker, first rose to prominence with his theory that evolution can explain our species’ innate capacity for language. His book on the subject, “The Language Instinct,” became an international bestseller, shifted opinion and sparked renewed efforts to study the evolutionary origin of language. In recent years, he has become a torchbearer of Enlightenment values, arguing for the power of reason, the decline of violence and the progress that science brings. His latest book, “Enlightenment Now,” defends the idea that reason drives history forward, and that the principles of science and humanism are directly enhancing the quality of life for everyone—not just those in the West.

Tracy K. Smith, Poet Laureate of the United States
Wednesday, January 30, 2019 at 7 p.m.
Tickets: $25
In the role as Poet Laureate of the United States, Tracy K. Smith has traveled the country on a quest to bring poetry to people living in rural America. Smith authored the critically-acclaimed memoir “Ordinary Light” and three books of poetry including her most recent, “Wade in the Water.” Her collection “Life on Mars” won the 2012 Pulitzer Prize and was selected as the New York Times Notable Book. “Duende” received the 2006 James Laughlin Award and “The Body’s Question” won the 2002 Cave Canem Poetry Prize. Smith has also been a recipient of a Rona Jaffe Writers Award and a Whiting Award, and received a fellowship from the Academy of American Poets, awarded to one poet annually for distinguished
poetic achievement. She is the Roger S. Berlind ’52 Professor in the Humanities and Director of the Creative Writing Program at Princeton University.

Robert Reich  
**Thursday, February 7, 2019 at 7 p.m.**  
**Tickets: $45—$55**

Robert B. Reich has been one of America's leading political thinkers since he served as Bill Clinton's Secretary of Labor, for which *Time* magazine named him one of the most effective cabinet secretaries of the twentieth century. A compelling voice for social change, Reich is the author of fifteen books including the best-sellers “Aftershock,” “Saving Capitalism” and “The Work of Nations.” In his latest book, “The Common Good,” he argues that societies undergo both virtuous and vicious cycles, and that the vicious cycle the U.S. is now undergoing can and must be reversed.

**The Manovill Conversations**  
**Bernard-Henri Lévy**  
**Sunday, February 24 at 7 p.m.**  
**Tickets: $30**

Philosopher, activist and filmmaker Bernard-Henri Lévy (BHL) has long been considered one of the great moral voices of our time. Among his more than thirty books are “American Vertigo,” “Barbarism with a Human Face,” “Who Killed Daniel Pearl?” and “The Genius of Judaism.” At this one-night-only event, BHL will perform excerpts from “Looking for Europe,” his new solo play that examines the frayed transatlantic alliance between Europe and the United States. BHL will also discuss “The Empire and the Five Kings: America's Abdication and the Fate of the World,” his *cri de coeur* for moral courage and clear thinking in these dark times.

**The Manovill Conversations**  
**The Resurgence of Anti-Semitism in America**  
**With Deborah Lipstadt and John Efron**  
**Wednesday, February 27, 2019 at 7 p.m.**  
**Tickets: FREE**

Even before the horrific murder of eleven worshipers at the Tree of Life synagogue, violence against Jews in this country was rising sharply; 2017 saw a nearly 60 percent spike in incidents over the year before, the largest single-year increase on record according to the Anti-Defamation League. Deborah Lipstadt, the award-winning author of “The Eichmann Trial and Denial: Holocaust History on Trial,” joins John Efron, Koret Professor of Jewish History at U.C. Berkeley, for an in-depth conversation on where this hatred coming from, if there is any significant difference between left-wing and right-wing anti-Semitism, what role has the anti-Zionist movement played, and what can be done about the hate that will not die.

**Jennifer Eberhardt**  
**Biased**  
**Monday, April 1, 2019 at 7 p.m.**  
**Tickets: $30**

Stanford University social psychologist and a recipient of a MacArthur “Genius Grant,” Dr. Jennifer L. Eberhardt, studies the consequences of the psychological association between race and crime. As one of the world’s leading experts on unconscious racial bias, her groundbreaking research – from police departments to prisons to boardrooms – shows how it can lead to disparities in education, employment, housing and the criminal justice system. Her new book, “Biased: Uncovering the Hidden Prejudice That
Shapes What We See, Think, and Do,” presents the science of bias and demonstrates the powerful role it plays in our institutions and our perceptions.

**JCCSF Foodways Presents**

*Decolonize Your Diet*

With Luz Calvo and Catrióna Rueda Esquibel

Tuesday, April 2, 2019 at 6 p.m.

Tickets: $25—$65

The JCCSF welcomes guests to pull up a seat at the table of a decolonized meal with professors (and life partners) Luz Calvo and Catrióna Rueda Esquibel, authors of “Decolonize Your Diet: Plant-Based Mexican-American Recipes for Health and Healing.” Along with chefs and other guests, Luz and Catriona explore reclaiming culture and history through food and storytelling. When Luz was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2006, both Luz and Catriona radically changed their diets and began to research traditional precolonial Mesoamerican cuisine featuring plants indigenous to the Americas. Guests will enjoy a meal of their dishes as well as those of local chefs featuring heritage crops and traditional food preparation techniques as we explore what it means to “decolonize your diet” and reclaim culture and history through food and storytelling.

**Portland Cello Project Presents**

Radiohead’s “OK Computer”

Thursday, April 4, 2019 at 7 p.m.

Tickets: $30

Equally at home in punk rock clubs and symphony halls, Portland Cello Project is an alt-classical ensemble known for pushing the boundaries of the classical cello tradition. With an expansive repertoire ranging from Bach to Jay-Z, the group has built a reputation of mixing genres, blurring musical lines and challenging perceptions wherever they go. Experience PCP at its best as they perform Radiohead’s now classic dystopian opus “OK Computer” in its entirety.

**The Lisa & Douglas Goldman Fund Lecture**

An Evening with Bob Woodward

Sunday, April 7, 2019 at 7 p.m.

Tickets: $65—$80

Legendary journalist Bob Woodward has worked for the *Washington Post* for nearly half a century and shared in two Pulitzer Prizes – the first with fellow reporter Carl Bernstein for their original news reporting on the Watergate scandal and the second as the lead reporter for his coverage of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Woodward has written nineteen books on American politics, all of which have become national bestsellers. His latest No. 1 bestselling book is “Fear: Trump in the White House,” an inside look at the Trump presidency. Woodward joins us to discuss his reporting from Nixon to Trump and the challenges faced by the press, the presidency and American democracy.

**David Brooks**

*The Second Mountain*

Tuesday, April 30, 2019 at 7 p.m.

Tickets: $45—$55

Success, stability, security – achieving these goals is life’s “first mountain,” says *New York Times* op-ed columnist David Brooks. But what does it mean to move from material gain to spiritual satisfaction, to focus on building character rather than obtaining status? This is life’s “second mountain,” says Brooks, the No. 1 *New York Times* bestselling author of “The Social Animal” and “The Road to Character.” In his

About the JCCSF
Urban and inclusive, the Jewish Community Center of San Francisco enriches, educates, and celebrates this vibrant City and its people. They host thousands of programs and experiences each year, from events with renowned performers and cultural icons, to spirited holiday celebrations and interactive pop-ups inspired by Jewish culture. The Fitness Center supports wellness through exceptional trainers and a daily lineup of performance-enhancing classes including yoga, cycling, boxing and swimming. Preschoolers discover the vital early love of learning at one of their three exceptional schools.

For more than a century, the JCCSF has evolved with the City, embracing its character and energy. Today, the organization taps into the rich layers of Jewish culture—its rhythms, resilience, and a call for justice—as a resource for everyone. With a commitment to providing people the opportunity for discovery, well-being and purpose, they believe in making the world better by helping the people in it be better. Experience the JCCSF at 3200 California Street or online at www.jccsf.org.

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