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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**Rhoda Goldman Plaza Presents First San Francisco Solo Exhibition by
Judaic Artist Nina Bonos**

Sacred Species and Trees of Life celebrates ancient Jewish symbols and traditions, creating a bridge between the natural worlds of Northern California and Israel.

San Francisco, CA, JUNE 28, 2026—This summer, JFCS' Rhoda Goldman Plaza presents *Seven Sacred Species and Trees of Life* the first San Francisco solo exhibition by award-winning Judaic artist Nina Bonos.

Exhibition Dates: June 28 – September 30, 2026
Artist Reception: Sunday, June 28, 2:00–4:00pm
Artist Talk: Sunday, August 30, 3:30pm

Rhoda Goldman Plaza Gallery
2180 Post Street, San Francisco

Bonos's vibrant works bring Hebrew inscriptions and ancient Jewish symbols into the present day. The exhibition features 40 original paintings and collages, many created on Torah mantles, ark curtains, banners and logos for synagogues and Jewish organizations throughout Northern California, across the US, and in Canada.

Filled with radiant color, symbolism and optimism, *Seven Sacred Species and Trees of Life* celebrates beauty, resilience and traditions that connect generations. Highlights include *Pomegranate Tree of Life*, a 360-piece watercolor collage with branches resembling the Hebrew letter *Shin*, a divine symbol. Also featured is *Tree of Life 2*, a signature work inspired in part by San Francisco's vibrant, late 1960s Fillmore posters. A companion painting, *Rosh Chodesh Women's Gathering*, celebrates renewal through four women representing the seasons as trees reaching toward the heavens.

In her work, Bonos has explored the *Tree of Life* as a symbol of continuity and spiritual connection and she frequently paints the *Seven Sacred Species* of Jewish tradition:

pomegranates, grapes, olives, figs, dates, wheat and barley. Nurturing these trees and fruits in her Sonoma County garden has inspired paintings that create a visual bridge between northern California and Israel, where these species have flourished for thousands of years.

"I want to live my life like a tree with roots firmly planted, an upright trunk and arms reaching high into the sky," says Bonos. "Painting grounds me and lets me know who I am."

A longtime Sonoma County resident, Bonos began her artistic journey in San Francisco, as a child sketching in the de Young Museum. She later earned a degree in architecture from UC Berkeley before pursuing art full time. For more information about Nina Bonos and her work, visit www.ninabonos.com.

Art at Rhoda Goldman Plaza is a key element in the philosophy of creating a senior living community rich with culture and lifelong learning opportunities. Partnering with local artists to teach a full roster of art classes and provide rotating exhibitions in the Art Gallery is part of the vibrancy of life at Rhoda Goldman Plaza, strengthening ties with the community while providing enriching opportunities for residents.

About Rhoda Goldman Plaza

Located in San Francisco's Lower Pacific Heights neighborhood, Rhoda Goldman Plaza is the city's premier assisted living and memory care community. Offering a boutique living experience defined by personalized care, chef-prepared dining, enriching activities, and a dedicated team of trained professionals, Rhoda Goldman Plaza ensures every resident is treated with individuality and respect. A proud division of Jewish Family and Children's Services, Rhoda Goldman Plaza is backed by a 175-year legacy of compassionate service to the Bay Area community. For more information, visit www.rgplaza.jfcs.org.

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PHOTO CAPTIONS:

Photo #1

Nina Bonos, *Pomegranate Tree of Life*, watercolor collage, 2026, collection of the artist

Photo #2

Artist Nina Bonos pictured in her Sonoma studio among her *Tree of Life* illustrations for Torah mantles designed for Peninsula Temple Beth El in San Mateo.

Photo #3

Artist Nina Bonos in her Sonoma County backyard. "Nurturing our pomegranate trees develops my spirituality and my artistic spirit," she says.

Photos courtesy of Nina Bonos.