

LEE PERLMAN

Lee Perlman, PhD. is a leading thinker and social entrepreneur in harnessing the power of creativity and the arts for conflict transformation. He researches arts, politics and cultural policy and seeks to understand and influence how artists create social change and open dialogue in conflict zones and divided societies.

Lee is an Associate of Brandeis University's Ethics Center's Program in Peacebuilding and the Arts, where he has been active for over a decade. He is part of the leadership team of [IMPACT: Imagining Together: Platform for Arts, Culture and Conflict Transformation \(ACCT\)](#), a worldwide, values-driven collaboration to design and activate strategies to strengthen the arts, culture and conflict transformation ecosystem.

Lee served as a research fellow at the Tami Steinmetz Center for Peace Research, Tel Aviv University, which in 2017 published "[But Abu Ibrahim, We're Family!](#)", his critical study on Jewish and Palestinian theatre cooperation in Israel. Lee has co-authored a number of research works and analyses on peacebuilding, shared society and equality, informed by his diverse experience in cross-border Israeli-Palestinian negotiations, cooperation and encounter programs, as well as Palestinian-Jewish initiatives within Israel, the latter in his former capacity as Director of Programs of the Abraham Initiatives. He has also served as Executive Director of the America-Israel Cultural Foundation and in 2013, the Ha'aretz newspaper named him as one of "The 100 Most Influential People in Israeli Culture."

Lee has been appointed the Executive Director of the America-Israel Cultural Foundation (A.I.C.F.), which he began in March 2013.

[Video: Creative coexistence at Arab-Jewish Theatre](#)

The Arab-Hebrew Theatre was created by a partnership between the Al-Saraya Theater, an Arab theater troupe, and The Local Theatre, a Jewish troupe. Together, the two companies work on independent projects as well as collaborative productions in both Hebrew and Arabic, drawing on the performances of Arab and Jewish artists, to increase understanding between people and bind the audiences and the actors in a common, fun experience.

[Peace Child Israel \(BBC Report\) \(7:30min\)](#)

[Book interview](#)
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