

US Campaign for the Academic and Cultural Boycott of Israel is calling for boycotts and protests of the Jerusalem String Quartet

By [Global Research](#)

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QUARTET FIDDLES WHILE PALESTINE BURNS - BOYCOTT THE JERUSALEM STRING QUARTET!

Join a local protest or organize your local action - contact us at usacbi@usacbi.org!

The Jerusalem String Quartet is embarking on a North American tour from October 2-16, 2011 (visiting Vancouver, BC; Costa Mesa, CA; Tucson, AZ; Logan, UT; Downers Grove, a Chicago suburb, IL; Houston, TX; Toronto, ON; West Lafayette, IN; and Louisville, KY). The Quartet, a premier Israeli musical institution and a project of the Jerusalem Music Centre, has been protested by Palestine solidarity and Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions (BDS) activists around the world during its tours over the years.

The [US Campaign for the Academic and Cultural Boycott of Israel](#) is calling for boycotts and protests of the Jerusalem String Quartet at all of its performance locations during its North American tour, in accordance with the [Palestinian civil society call for Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions \(BDS\)](#) and the [call for the boycott of Israeli academic and cultural institutions](#) issued by the Palestinian Campaign for the Academic and Cultural Boycott of Israel.

Please see details below for your city and join the call to boycott!

Contact usacbi@usacbi.org for protest information and to share local information about your protest of the Jerusalem String Quartet.

Arts and culture have become an important weapon in the Israeli government's public relations campaign, and in 2006, the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs launched an [initiative called "Brand Israel,"](#) to salvage Israel's deteriorating image abroad. [Arye Mekel of Israel's Foreign Ministry](#) has stated that, "We will send well-known novelists and writers overseas, theater companies, exhibits... This way you show Israel's prettier face, so we are not thought of purely in the context of war."

The Jerusalem Music Centre, the home base for the Jerusalem String Quartet, is prominently [featured on the Foreign Ministry](#) website, revealing how it is among the Israeli cultural institutions that are all part of the ongoing effort to "re-brand" Israel's image in the West. Thus, Israel is portrayed as an enlightened center of arts and technology, thereby concealing the ugly facts about its occupation, racial discrimination and grave violations of international law and fundamental Palestinian rights.

Although the Centre claims to be independent, it cooperates readily with practically all leading organisations of music and music education in Israel and is funded by the [America-Israel Cultural Foundation](#), a backer of the racist [Jewish National Fund](#) (instrumental in the Nakba and a key active participant in the ongoing displacement of millions of Palestinians, including), and whose stated purpose is to “showcase the State of Israel as a thriving cultural environment that stimulates creativity and artistic life.” The Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs has stated in an article that the Jerusalem Quartet receives professional patronage from the Unit for Young Musicians at the Music Centre and the Israeli ambassador to the UK said in 2008 when [protesters disrupted the Quartet](#) at the Edinburgh Festival “we must not give in to attempts to sabotage the marketing of Israeli art and culture....”

Since the quartet has made no attempt to dissociate itself from Israel’s apartheid policies, we can only assume that it is happy to play under the patronage of the State of Israel and/or its institutions while the charges of war crimes against Israel hang thick in the air worldwide.

Join us to Boycott the Jerusalem String Quartet! Send details of your local protests to usacbi@usacbi.org for posting on [USACBI's website](#) and sharing widely!

PERFORMANCE AND PROTEST DETAILS

Sunday, October 2, 2011

Vancouver, BC, Canada

PROTEST at 2:30 PM

Performance at 3:00 PM

Chan Centre for the Performing Arts at UBC

6265 Crescent Rd, Vancouver

For more information about the protest, contact the [Boycott Israeli Apartheid Campaign](#) at boycottapartheid@gmail.com

Tuesday, October 4, 2011

Costa Mesa, CA, USA

PROTEST from 7:00 - 8:30 PM

Seegerstrom Center for the Arts, Costa Mesa

Meet at the intersection of Anton Blvd. and Avenue of the Arts

For more information about the protest, email: jsqboycott@gmail.com

Protest organized by: Al-Awda, LA; ANSWER, LA; ARA-LA/People Against Racist Terror; BDS - LA Justice for Palestinians; CEIA-SC (Campaign to End Israeli Apartheid; Friends of Sabeel - OC, LA; IDC (Israel Divestment Campaign Orange County Peace & Freedom Party; Progressive Iranians of Southern California; US Academic and Cultural Boycott Campaign; US Campaign to End Israeli Apartheid; WIB-LA (Women in Black-Los Angeles)

Wednesday, October 5, 2011

Tucson, AZ, USA

PROTEST TBA - contact usacbi@usacbi.org to announce!

Performance at 7:30 PM,

Leo Rich Theater, Tucson, AZ

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Logan, UT, USA

PROTEST TBA - contact usacbi@usacbi.org to announce!

Performance at 7:30 PM

Performance Hall, Campus of Utah State University

Sunday, October 9, 2011

Downers Grove, IL, USA (outside Chicago)

PROTEST TBA - contact usacbi@usacbi.org to announce!

Performance at 3:00 PM
Johnson Auditorium Downers Grove North High School, Downers Grove, IL
Tuesday, October 11, 2011
Houston, TX, USA

PROTEST TBA - contact usacbi@usacbi.org to announce!

Performance at 8:00 PM
Stude Concert Hall Shepherd School of Music, Houston
Thursday, October 13, 2011
Toronto, ON, Canada

PROTEST TBA - contact usacbi@usacbi.org to announce!

Performance at 8:00 PM
St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts Jane Mallett Theatre
Saturday, October 15, 2011
West Lafayette, IN

PROTEST TBA - contact usacbi@usacbi.org to announce!

Performance at 8:00 PM
Loeb Playhouse, Purdue University
Sunday, October 16, 2011
Louisville, KY, USA

PROTEST TBA - contact usacbi@usacbi.org to announce!

Performance at 3:00 PM
Margaret Comstock Hall, University of Louisville

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