JEWISH MUSEUM OF FLORIDA
MEDIA RELEASE
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JEWISH MUSEUM OF FLORIDA
Adding Contemporary Meaning to Jewish Mourning Rituals
Tuesday, March 20 from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Explore the ancient customs of Jewish mourning rituals and ways to infuse them with contemporary meaning and spiritual depth. Creative approaches to the rituals of Kaddish, Shiva, Unveiligings, and Yizkor will be presented, with the goal of strengthening memories to share with family and friends.

This program will be conducted by Rabbi Cheryl Weiner, PhD, Director, Refuat HaNefesh Alumni Network, Jewish Community Chaplain, and Chaplain Resident at Jackson Memorial Hospital, Miami.

The evening includes a tour of the Museum’s current exhibit, Max Miller: Mourner’s Kaddish - 333 Days in Painting, on display through May 13, 2012. In this exhibit, the artist’s grief provides the inspiration for a vivid, moving and cathartic account of his year spent saying Kaddish for his father.

The 50 vibrant watercolors depict the synagogues Miller visited in New York, Vermont, Ohio and 18 synagogues in Florida. The artist’s commentary, based on his thoughts, feelings and experiences with those he met during this pursuit, add a further dimension to the project. While honoring the Jewish tradition of memorializing a parent, Miller came to learn a great deal about his father and their shared heritage.

Sponsored by the Jewish Chaplaincy Program of the Greater Miami Jewish Federation and its Refuat HaNefesh & Creative Rituals Programs.

RSVP to 786-972-3175 or email info@jewishmuseum.com. Light kosher refreshments provided. Free for Museum Members and Refuat HaNefesh Fellows & Alumni; All others $6 (includes Museum admission). New Members & walk-ins welcome. To join, call 786-972-3164 or visit www.jewishmuseum.com, click on the "Join & Support" tab. Museum applications also available at the Museum Front Desk.

ABOUT THE MUSEUM
The Jewish Museum of Florida is housed in two adjacent lovingly restored historic buildings on South Beach that were once synagogues for Miami Beach’s first Jewish congregation. The Museum’s focal point is its core exhibit MOSAIC: Jewish Life in Florida: 1763 to the Present. Interesting history and art exhibits change periodically. Currently on display are: Wooden Synagogues of Poland and the Florida Connection through March 18 and Max Miller: Final Mourner’s Kaddish - 333 Days in Painting through May 13. Coming April 3: Once Upon a Time in Lithuania & The Florida Connection through September 30, 2012. A Collections & Research Center, Timeline Wall of Jewish history, several films, Museum Store filled with unique items and Bessie’s Bistro for snacks complete the experience for visitors of all ages and backgrounds. The Museum is accredited by the American Association of Museums.

Admission: Adults/$6; Seniors/$5; Families/$12; Members and children under 6/Always Free; Saturdays/Free. Open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. except Mondays, Civil and Jewish holidays. 301 Washington Avenue, Miami Beach 33139. For information: 305-672-5044 or www.jewishmuseum.com