

**World Renowned Artist  
Yaacov Agam Creates Unique  
Holographic Medal For  
Government Of Israel**



Few contemporary artists have reached the pinnacle of success and popularity attained by Yaacov Agam. His highly coveted signed and numbered works range from a few thousand dollars for an "Agamograph" (a flat surface that appears to have a third dimension) to the almost quarter million dollars the 56-year-old Israeli-born artist recently received for painting the exterior of Le Mondrian Hotel in Hollywood, California. Millions of Americans have seen and admired an "Agam" that hangs behind Jane Pauley on the "Today" morning television show, though many may not have been familiar with the artist's name.

Agam has been deeply influenced by the Biblical conception that reality cannot be represented in a graven image, and that what is seen or observed consists of fragmented images which can never be grasped as a whole. This made Agam pursue a course of research with the aim of creating an image which could not be seen completely at any one time. Such an image gives the viewer the understanding that he or she

is receiving a partial revelation behind which lie unseen levels of reality.

His commissions range from the new headquarters of the European Parliament in Strasbourg, France, and the Agam Room in the Louvre, Paris, to the Port Authority Bus Terminal in New York. And now, for the first time, Agam has been commissioned to create a unique "holographic" medal for the Government of Israel.

Holography is only as old as the modern State of Israel, having been invented by Hungarian-born scientist Dennis Gabor, who received the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1971. Besides its scientific uses (e.g. reading price codes on packaged groceries at the supermarket), many artists have experimented with this new media... and a Museum of Holography has been established in New York City. Holography is a made-to-order tool for Agam to express his idea of "art in motion."

Unlike the Israel Government's previous numismatic issues which honored particular people, places and historic events, the "And There Was Light" medal by Agam is being produced purely for art's sale. The central holographic glass disk almost magically reveals a three-dimensional Star of David in all hues of the rainbow, when held up to the light. According to the artist, "this symbolizes the Jewish people's unique role in the world...to raise sparks and make them holy...to bring the light out from its hidden place." Lines curve out in both directions from the center of the medal, in the form of menorahs (candelabra). The two opposing directions express the branches of life and spiritual roots. The other side features a spiral, expressing the mystical Kabbalistic conception of "zimzum," which preceded the whole process of divine revelation. The Biblical quote "And there was light" (Genesis 1:3) appears on both sides of the medal, once in Hebrew, and again in English.

Just like the other limited edition works of art by Agam, each "And There Was Light" medal carries his signature and is individually serial

numbered on the edge. But unlike his other creations, these official government medals are very modestly priced. For further information please call the exclusive agent for these medals and medallions in the United States.

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Matching frames are also available for the small silver and gold medals, so they can be worn as unique pieces of modern jewelry.

**Hadasah Raises \$57 Million To  
Fund Network Of Services  
In U. S., Israel**

**Total Includes \$23 Million For  
Medical Center In Jerusalem**

NEW YORK — Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, raised \$57 million in fiscal year 1985 to fund its network of life-saving and life-enhancing programs and services in Israel and the United States, National Treasurer Deborah Kaplan announced during the 71st Hadassah National Convention here.

The fund-raising achievement -- an increase of \$3 million over the previous year -- included \$23 million for the Hadassah Medical Organization in Israel, Kaplan said. HMO encompasses the Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Center at Ein Karem and Hadassah University Hospital on Mount Scopus and is the largest tertiary care facility in the Middle East. HMO also is recognized worldwide for the quality of its research and patient care.

In the United States, Hadassah provides programming in Jewish education, leadership development, and personal enrichment for women and young people.

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