



**Media Alert: 4 Aug 2022**

**Mind Medicine Australia, B'nai B'rith and Maccabi LIFE announce an exclusive screening of acclaimed Israeli documentary: *Trip of Compassion***

**Mind Medicine Australia**, in association with **B'nai B'rith** and **Maccabi LIFE** are thrilled to announce an exclusive screening of the highly acclaimed, *Trip of Compassion* on **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> August at 5pm**, followed by a Q and A Panel, hosted by Mind Medicine Australia. This will be a collaborative social community event that will entertain, inform and educate.

**Mind Medicine Australia** is Australia's leading not-for-profit organisation working towards the use of medicinal psilocybin and MDMA-assisted therapies to treat a range of mental illnesses. Mind Medicine Australia exists to help alleviate the suffering caused by our accelerating mental illness epidemic, through expanding the treatment options available to medical practitioners and their patients.

Unlike current treatments such as anti-depressants, which only manage the illness and can have nasty side effects, psilocybin and MDMA-assisted therapies have been scientifically proven to be a safe and effective cure for anxiety, depression, end-of-life stress, addictions and PTSD after just a short treatment program. These medicines are also currently being researched for dementia, eating disorders, OCD and a many other conditions. Both medicines have been granted Breakthrough Therapy status by the FDA in the USA to fast-track their approval. This designation is only given to medicines which are highly likely to be vastly superior to existing treatments.

*B'nai B'rith is partnering in this event to meet one of its core objectives of fostering education in the community. "With the alarming increase in mental health challenges facing our community, and all communities, it is our pleasure to support this screening to enhance awareness of this breakthrough treatment and support Mind Medicine Australia in its efforts to expand our understanding" noted B'nai B'rith CEO, Ellana Aarons.*

*Find out more about B'nai B'rith here <https://www.bnaibrith.org.au/victoria.html>*

The National **Maccabi LIFE** program pioneers and promotes health and wellbeing solutions and pursues new opportunities outside of our Sport program to enrich the physical and mental literacy and health of the Australian Jewish community. The message in the film and the values of MMA align strongly with the Maccabi LIFE program and we are proud to partner in this important community event.

You can learn more about Maccabi LIFE here: <https://www.maccabi.com.au/maccabi-life>



**B'nai B'rith, Maccabi LIFE, and Mind Medicine Australia, along with Mind Medicine Australia's Melbourne Chapter** will present this this exclusive screening of *Trip of Compassion*, an acclaimed Israeli documentary on MDMA-assisted psychotherapy for the treatment of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). *Trip of Compassion* follows a number of patients participating in clinical trials in Israel and is the first feature documentary to show footage from within psychedelic-assisted therapy sessions.

*"I felt like I went through 15 years of psychological therapy in one night."*

– Patient featured in *Trip of Compassion*

*Trip of Compassion is the most compelling movie I've seen in the last year!"*

– Tim Ferriss, acclaimed author and podcaster

Director: Gil Karni

Producers: Zafir Kochanovsky & Miri Ezra – ttv Productions

Distributors: GO2FILMS

Following the screening, there will be a Q & A panel with the Mind Medicine Australia founders **Tania de Jong AM** and **Peter Hunt AM** and **Psychiatrist Dr Eli Kotler** and **therapist Marjane Beugeois**. This will be an incredible opportunity to engage and discuss psychedelic-assisted psychotherapies for mental illness broadly, and what Mind Medicine Australia and other local organisations are doing to develop this new paradigm.

**Tania de Jong AM**, Mind Medicine Australia's Executive Director, says, *"Unlike conventional treatments, which often require patients to endure years of daily medications and weekly support from a mental health professional, medicine-assisted psychotherapy can be effective after just two to three clinically supervised sessions with these medicines. All the research indicates that the medicines are safe and non-addictive when administered within a medically controlled environment. There have been no adverse events in over 160 trials globally."*

Board member and Executive Director of the Ethics Centre, **Dr Simon Longstaff AO** says, *"We should not allow the prejudices of the past to deny relief in the present. If these medicines are safe and effective when applied in a clinical environment, as current research suggests, then Australian governments have an obligation to make them available."*



## EVENT DETAILS

**Movie:** Trip of Compassion

**Date:** Sunday 28th August 2022

**Time:** Arrive by 5:00pm for a 5:15pm start – 8:00pm (includes Q&A Panel)

**Location:** Classic Cinemas, 9 Gordon Street, Elsternwick

**Ticket Price:** \$35 General Admission / \$30 Concession - Light refreshments included  
(All funds donated will go towards our mission to make these medicines available and accessible.)

**For tickets to the Trip of Compassion please see link:**

<https://events.humanitix.com/mind-medicine-australia-screening-trip-of-compassion>

**Enquiries:** (03) 8679 6015 or 02 6685 6807

**For more information please visit:** [www.mindmedicineaustralia.org](http://www.mindmedicineaustralia.org)

**Please note the following are available for interview:**

- Peter Hunt AM (MMA Chair)
- Tania de Jong AM (MMA Executive Director)
- Dr Eli Kotler (MMA Board Director)

**For further information, or to arrange an interview, please contact Ilan Hayman**  
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