

*The SC Humanities Council &  
The Reserve Community Foundation present*

## Lucy Beam Hoffman as **IRENE NEMIROVSKY**

*Actress Lucy Beam Hoffman takes us back to the 1900s* as she celebrates the life and trials of Irene Nemirovsky, a writer in the inter-war period – between WWI and WWII. She was born in Kiev in 1903. Her family was Jewish but not in religion. It was more of a cultural connection—they lived on the wealthy side of the tracks.

Her father, Leon, was a banker and financier, and her mother, Anna/Fanny, was a socialite who did not particularly relish her maternal role. Her family immigrated to France in 1917, after the Bolshevik Revolution and the state take-over of the banks and financial institutions. She embraced her French-ness early on, but was caught up in the anti-Semitic prejudice and actions of France in the 30's. Accused as an anti-Semite early in her career with the publication of her first book, *David Golder*, she never quite rose above the stinging label. Even with her success as a writer, she could not overcome her “Jewish status” in the eyes of France, was arrested in July '42, and died in Auschwitz six weeks later.

*Hoffman will present Nemirovsky in person, and ask that the audience decide: was she an anti-Semite - a perceived “hater of her own people” - or not?*



# Wednesday, August 11<sup>th</sup>

## Founders Hall • 7 pm

RSVP to Concierge, 864.869.2105

