## NEWSLETTER TAMMUZ/AV 5756

S. A. Jewish Muric Conte affiliated to the Condon J. Mus. Cut.

Addles: POBOX 817 DH. NO.
CAPE TOWN 762-2886

KLEZMER : CANTORIAL : YIDDISH : HEBREW: SEPHARDIC: ISRAELI : CHASSIDI

Upcomy events CHOIR FESTIVAL 26 AUG.

CHOIR FESTIVAL TAPES, RECORDINGS ON SALE

Whale Well

REPORT ON ACTIVITIES 1996 FMP Collecting donations Hainovitz evening / Consultation on background music answered with Voices of Israel / concert SABC Erev Shiver / entertainent at various vermes Hyplands House .... / Interfails music fisting Was From Land and the John Day on Mary Court of Court of Interfaith

Contact w. Jewisel. Museum. Cape Town

members: Yechiel Chrysler (Thos.) Welcome to new Meromen, Galloon, . Leone LASKER .. S'lisein Alexander. Richard Newman Sybil LESSING Patricia BARNES Fleanor TARICA. JENI RABINOWITZ MERVYN, ISOBER NICK QUS GOODMAN

Visit to BUDAPEST Stuart Serwater at WINTER SCHOOL 1996 May 28 June 4 June 11 June 18 mention Ber Chiat Iva Voises of Israel Doug Masele. If you would like to know more about the Centre, or be informed about future events, please write to: THE SOUTH AFRICAN JEWISH MUSIC CENTRE PO Box 817, Cape Town 8000 Telephone: (021) 762-2886 Stuart Serwator (021) 439-7914 Ivor Joffe (021) 434-3829 Fay Singer Stuerts Fax: (021) 45-4811

Potential dens for neveletter Nov. 1996 Raymod Goldsten andor Iszak S.S. a R.G. to Viska Schmanan Tape 'Menorah' someel Stefan Kriiger Correyd. W. Gualdur John Simon New home Subscription for Plans: Interfault March '97 UCT lect. JAN '77 ? Museum concert in assoc. Suggetin ham CLARA FRIEDMAN-SPITS

Mention DONORS. Make list of donors.

#### THE SOUTH AFRICAN JEWISH MUSIC CENTRE

affiliated to the London Jewish Music Centre

#### Stuart goes to Budapest

With great excitement the SAJMC represented South Africa in Budapest at the First Hungarian Conference On Jewish Music in March.

Stuart Serwator attended the 3-day Conference, exploring the fascinating old city and its equally fascinating Jewish community during his 12-day visit. (Before the War there were 900 000 Jews in Hungary. Today there are at least 100 000 - perhaps even 250 000.)

The Conference was organised by Chief Cantor Laszlo Fekete of the magnificent huge Dohany Street Synagogue (Neolog), the largest in Europe, built in 1858, seating 3000 and presently being restored. It spotlighted liturgical music theory and practice, East European Jewish folk music, selected composers and various styles of Jewish music.

Cantor Fekete opened proceedings with an overview on Hungarian Jewish music followed by key papers given by Gyorgy Karman of Budapest on 'The Effect of the Enlightenment on Jewish Music' and by Professor Alexander Knapp of the City University, London, on 'The Development and Usage of Ashkenazic Nuscha'ot' and on 'Ernest Bloch's Jewishness: Conscious or Subconscious?'. Professor Knapp's lectures were particularly comprehensive and informative. He has broadcast for BBC Radio and is a sought - after world authority on Jewish Music.

Composer Harry Maiorovici, Honourable Citizen of Cluj, Rumania, spoke about his life and introduced his somewhat avante - garde works on synthesizer.

Delegates heard the Scola Hungarica Chamber Choir render Old Testament texts in Latin to monophonic Gregorian chant as well as the Lauder Javne School's Hay Band. Five teenagers comprise this youthful group. In Hebrew the fifth letter, hay, symbolises the number 5, hence the "Hay Band".

Each day's proceedings closed with a concert. To provide the real feel and pulse of East European

klezmer folk music, the Budapester Klezmer Band was first to perform, richly evoking images of shtetl-life and causing the audience to clamour for more.

In a mixture of vocal and instrumental pieces, the second evening focused on Israeli composers in Hungary: the art - music of Paul Ben - Haim, Mark Kopytman, Ami Ma'ayani, Mordechai Seter and others.

As if the previous concerts and conference presentations had not been treats enough, Chief Cantor Naftali Herstik of the Jerusalem Great Synagogue came especially to give the concluding concert, accompanied by Professor Knapp at the organ, at the Bethlen Square Synagogue which was sold out. Many non – Jewish people too came to hear one of today's foremost exponents of Chazanut. Budapest's own Goldmark Choir opened the evening, part of which was televised and which formed part of the Budapest Spring Festival. Stuart had the unexpected honour of having his services enlisted by Prof. Knapp as page turner.

'Attending the Conference was a marvellous opportunity not only to meet interesting delegates from Hungary, Austria, Germany, Rumania and England, similarly dedicated to perpetuating the Jewish music heritage, but also to see and learn about Budapest itself and its Jewish community.

In the CBD modern shops and buildings front on to clean streets. Public transport - choice of train, underground, bus, trolleybus and tram - is also clean and efficient. In the Castle district centuries - old buildings are beautifully preserved.

Stuart stayed at the new kosher hotel (*The King's*) in the heart of the former ghetto, where the proprietors, Mr and Mrs Rosenwaser, made him feel most welcome. In this section of the city, while a few buildings are newer and a few have been modernised, generally it seemed like walking onto a set of *Fiddler on the Roof*. About 20 synagogues operate in Budapest today. Though there are a few comparable to those of the usual South African proportions, several are 'shtieblech'.

Many support a Rabbi and a Chazzan but few have a choir. The religious spectrum ranges from Lubavitch and Szatmar Chassidic congregations to Neolog, similar to Reform in South Africa. Kosher food is available, there are two kosher restaurants and the Jewish community is active. Stuart says that he enjoyed the experience of a lifetime!

The SAJMC extends heartiest 'yashar - ko'ach' to

Cantor Fekete on his almost singlehanded pioneering achievements in realising a dream and causing the Conference to happen, as well as our profound thanks for inviting our attendance. Strong links in Jewish music have been forged as a result and we eagerly look forward to continued communication with our newfound friends.

#### Lectures on Jewish Music at UCT

A t the recent Winter School held under the auspices of the Department of Adult Education and Extra-Mural Studies at the University of Cape Town, a record enrolment of interested students heard Fay Singer deliver four lectures on The Yiddish Revival: discoveries and developments in Jewish music. The presentations were

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The lectures titles were as follows:

- 1 Hobn mir a nigundl (We have a song): an overview Yiddish folksongs of Eastern Europe.
- 2 Klez! The American revival of klezmer instrumental music.
- 3 More Klez! The fiddler is playing a Stradivarius: Itzhak Perlman revels in klezmer music.
- 4 Entartete Musik: the rediscovery of banned

music from 1933-1945 in Nazi-occupiedEurope.

Highlights were Yiddish songs sung by Voices of Israel choir under the direction of Ivor Joffe, the ever-favourite My Yiddishe Mamma beautifully performed by upcoming soprano Beverley Chiat, and examples of klezmer-style clarinet solo playing by noted American clarinet and saxophone maestro Doug Masek. Audience enthusiasm was high, and there were many requests for the series to be repeated.

#### Sir Sigmund Sternberg visits Cape Town



Left to right: Fay Singer, Sir Sigmund Sternberg KCSG (Vice President, World Congress of Faiths), Lady Hazel Sternberg, Bertha Sherman, Rabbi David Sherman, Geraldine Auerbach (Director, Jewish Music Heritage Trust, London) and Cantor Philip Badash.

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To arrange for your contribution to be fetched call:

 Stuart Serwator
 762 2886

 Fay Singer
 434 3829

 Ivor Joffe
 434 5146

#### upcoming events

#### Annual Choir Festival

This event will take place at the Schoonder Street Shul on Monday 26 August at 8.00 pm. We will be honouring Cantor Philip Badash and Cantor Max Badash. The public of Cape Town can expect a first-class festival. Watch the press for details. Tapes and CD's of chazzanut will be on sale.

#### ~Jerusalem Quartet

Four outstanding young musicians from Jerusalem will feature in a Gala Concert at the Whale Well, South African Museum, Queen Victoria Street, at 7.45pm on Monday 2 September 1996. As part of the Jerusalem 3000 celebrity concerts, this highly talented quartet is doing a whirlwind tour of south Africa. Diarise this event. Watch the press for details.

#### Welcome to new members

Sybil Lessing
Jeni Rabinowitz
Mervyn & Isobel Nick
Richard Newman
Eleanor Tarica
Vivien Cohen
Jack & Rae Galloon
Susan Alexander
Patricia Barnes
Gus Goodman
Leoné Lasker
Solly Gutman
Li Boiskin
Yechiel Chrysler (Jo'burg)
Dr Val Abratt

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## THE SOUTH AFRICAN JEWISH MUSIC CENTRE

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The main objective of the South African Jewish Music Centre is to preserve our musical heritage by promoting the study and performance of Jewish music.



For further information about the activities of the South African Jewish Music Centre contact:

Fay Singer, Stuart Serwartor or Ivor Joffe

PO Box 817, Cape Town 8000 Fax: (021) 454811 Tel. (021) 762 2886

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For the latest in Klezmer and other Jewish music CD'S, Cassettes and sheet music

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the City Hall where Beverley will sing the Exultate Jubilate K.158a (Mozart) and the concert aria Misera, dove son K.369 (Mozart) on Thursday 23 January at 8 pm and the next evening at a starlight concert at Spier (also with the CTSO) on Friday 24 January. Booking at Computicket.

A further honour will be her debut recital for the Cape Town Concert Series, Baxter Hall on Saturday 8 March at 8 pm. Albie van Schalkwyk (piano) and the Schwietering Quartet will accompany her.

..... 2 ........

Beverley, who has won several prestigious awards, is also a friend of the S A Jewish Music Centre, and is increasing her repertoire of Hebrew and Yiddish songs alongside her training in the classical repertoire of opera and song.

Booking for her March recital is at Computicket or telephone Elana Newman 438 9007. Don't miss it! •

#### **DONATIONS**

Donations in the form of books, sheet music, collections of 78 rpm records, LP records, cassettes, CDs and equipment are gratefully acknowledged from:

Yiska Schmaman (Ihbg) Jossy Marks Gladys Murik Hannah Lewis Mrs E Kassel Geoffrey Mirkin Hannah Joles B. Rosenthal Rheina Epstein Mr & Mrs Willie Katz Iona Sacks Len Pinn Clara Friedman-Spits Phyllis Folk & sons Ghita Cohen lack Sher Tanya Jacobson Alan Sher (for the Cape Town Hebrew Congregation) Leon Yankelowitz Clive Allen Sydney Yankelowitz Katherine Ruth Purves Highlands House Miriam Baigel

Gershon & Chave Ginsburg Mrs | Goldblatt Miriam Lichterman Dr Jeanne Zaidel-Rudolph Abe & Pearl Davis Shirley Shlom Babsie Katz Ivor & Roma Schneider John Juritz Hymie & Luba Hayman Ben-Zion Volpo Beatrice Jones Avril Kurgan Edmund & Gillian Cress Richard Newman Mr & Mrs W Berger Val Abratt Florrie Cohen Fanny Eisman Gwynne Robins Dan & Anne Rabie Cape lewish Seniors Association Norman Spektor Paul & Cheryl Salkinder Stefan Krüger (Köln, Germany) Laszlo Fekete (Budapest) Andor Izsák (Hanover, Germany) Vitaly Oplachko (Odessa Ukraine)

#### Membership Drive

We value your support and assistance, which enables us to continue with our important work.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS for 1997 to the SA Jewish Music Centre are now DUE. Membership forms are enclosed with this newsletter. Your prompt reply will be greatly appreciated!

#### Richard Newman

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Richard Newman, newlyappointed curator of the Cape Town Jewish Museum, has already assisted the SA Jewish Music Centre on numerous occasions.



Richard Newman

#### What's been happening ...

There is an encouraging interest in Cape Town in klezmer music —the once-forgotten vibrant folk music of Jewish communities in Eastern Europe. Fay Singer has spoken to several groups about the revival of klezmer instrumental music, imparting her enthusiasm through lectures and screening of video material.

Ivor Joffe, well known as an established performer in Cape Town, is currently serving his second year as the resident Chazzan to the United Orthodox Hebrew Congregation (Schoonder Street Shul). This year, 1996, marked a highlight in his career when he officiated as the Cantor

over Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur with the Shul choir under the direction of Mr Jeff Kusevitzky. This was the first time in many years that the Schoonder Street Shul did not import a Chazzan for the High Holidays from overseas. Ivor, who received expert guidance from Cantor Philip Badash, impressed the entire congregation. We wish him continued success and a long association with the congregation.

Six choirs participated in the Annual Choir Festival arranged by the Union of Orthodox Synagogues in association with the Jewish Music Centre. It was held at Schoonder Street Shul and

honoured the distinguished Badash brothers, Max and Philip. Plans for the 1997 Festival are under way.

Consultations have been taking place with profess-ional advisers to secure the future of the SA Jewish Music Centre, to place it on a firm footing as a non-profit organisation. We are dedicated to preserving our great Jewish music heritage through:

- ~ Concerts
- ~ Workshops
- ~ Lectures
- ∼ Resources and information,
- Providing a consultancy service on all aspects of Jewish music, secular and liturgical.



### Links with European Jewish Music Centre

Ivor Joffe (left) and Andor Izsák (right). Andor Izsák, Director of the Europaïsches Zentrum fur Judische Musik (Hanover, Germany) visited Cape Town in September.

#### Welcome to new members

Professor Lionel Bowman Dr H C Paradisgarten Rev. Warren Bank Design & DTP of this newsletter by Mara Singer

TEL. 45 7266 (o/h) or 439 8980 E-MAIL: mara@oup.co.za

#### University of Cape Town Summer School

MUSIC AND THE OLD TESTAMENT Series of 5 lectures

January 20-24 1997 All at 11.15 am in Lecture Theatre 2, Education Building, Middle Campus, University of Cape Town.

Lecturer: Fay Singer, Director of the SA Jewish Music Centre

All enquiries, please phone (021) 650 2888 or fax (021)650 2893 - Department of Adult Education and Extra-Mural Studies

Biblical themes have inspired and influenced poets, artists and musicians, across the culture of nations. This course will explore the affininties between the Bible and music,

considering both secular and religious compositions.

Each session will be illustrated by live perform-ances: soloists, cantors, synagogue choirs, church choirs, secular choirs and instrumentalists.

The course will be of interest to those engaged in interfaith dialogue, and hopes to expose participants to diverse musics, cultures, traditions and styles.

Lecture programme:

MONDAY 20 JANUARY

- I Tekiah teruah: The sound of the Shofar
- TUESDAY 21 JANUARY
- 2 The Book of Psalms
- WEDNESDAY 22 JANUARY
- 3 Women and the Bible
- THURSDAY 23 JANUARY
- 4 Oratorios on Old Testament themes FRIDAY 24 JANUARY
  - 5 Folksongs and American Negro spirituals.

#### The Bnai Brith **Iewish Music** Festival in London

The eighth Bnai Brith Lewish Music Festival was held in London from 27 October - 24 November 1006. The event celebrated the reawakening of Jewish life in Austria with a season of concerts, theatre and film performances, exhibitions, seminars, workshops and literary events reflecting a many-stranded and tenacious culture.

n the spectacular opening day, at the

Barbican, there was Jewish and gypsy music in the foyer, displays and stalls, and an exhibition Vienna Today — Photographs of Contemporary Jewish Life. Chava Alberstein, Israel's great singer of Jewish Song captured the hearts of the audience, and on the same day, the Meirov Brothers (Vienna) and the energetic big band from Boston, USA, the Klezmer Conservatory Band, performed. A major season of Austrian films with a lewish connection were shown at the Barbican cinema, and at eleven venues throughout London, amazing performances took

place, as well as synagogue services, talks, symposia and discussions.

To single out any event is difficult, but we would like to mention a moving work, conceived by Neil Levin of the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York - an oratorio 'Vanished Voices' performed at the Barbican on Sunday 17 November 1996. 'Vanished Voices' pays tribute to Jewish folkmusic and liturgical music of lost German-speaking communities in Central Europe before the Holocaust. The cantors who participated in the performance were Joseph Malovany (New York); Ira Bigeleisen (Los Angeles) and Moshe Haschel (London). The work is scored for several soloists and choirs, organ and

orchestra. Neil Levin devised and conducted the London performance.

The final event, at the ■ Royal Festival Hall, was a new programme including

Yiddish and Austrian folksongs as well as works by among others Haydn, Faure, Brahms, Bernstein sung by the world-renowned Vienna Boys Choir. ~

#### End of Year Reception to meet Geraldine Auerbach

We extend a cordial invitation to Members and Friends of the SA lewish Music Centre to attend a reception in honour of Geraldine Auerbach. Geraldine is the dynamic Director of the Jewish Music Heritage Trust, London, and Director of the 1996 Bnai Brith Jewish Music Festival. She will report on the great success of the Festival of Austrian-Jewish Culture 'heritage survival presence' that was held in London from the

27 October to the 24 November 1996. Music items will be presented and refreshments will be served. Please reply as soon as possible as accomm-odation is limited.

DATE: Thursday 19 December

TIME: 5.15 pm for 5.30pm. The function will end at 7.00 pm

ADDRESS: The Joan St. Leger Lindbergh Foundation, 18 Beach Road, Muizenberg, (opposite the putt-putt)

RSVP: Fay Singer: 434 3829 or 434 3697 ADMISSION: Members and Friends of the

SA lewish Music Centre Non-members

R7.50 R10.00

#### upcoming events...

**~** Jerusalem 3000 Song Contest Thursday 12 December 1996, 7.45 pm, Sea Point Civic Centre

~ Erev Shira

Monday 23 December 1996, 8.00 pm, Albow Centre. Come and join Ivor Joffe and the Voices of Israel.

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PO Box 817, Cape Town 8000

Telephone: (021) 434 3829 Fay Singer (Director)

(021) 434 5146 Ivor Joffe

(021) 762 2886 Stuart Serwator

Fax: (021) 45 4811

E-mail: ziskeit@iafrika.com

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Committee: Fay Singer, Stuart Serwator, Ivor Joffe

## JOIN the Friends of the South African Jewish Music Centre TODAY!

The best way to be kept informed about Jewish music in all its aspects is to join the Friends of the South African Jewish Music Centre. for only R25,00 per year you will receive a newsletter, discounts on tickets, and special offers for CDs and cassettes.

Join the Friends now on the form below!

Cassettes and CDs of Jewish music from all over the world are available from Jewish Music Distribution (SA).

Phone and fax Ivor Joffe (021) 434 5146

Yes, I would like to be a Friend of the South African Jewish Music Centre I enclose my subscription for 1997 of R25,00  Cheque for R (payable to the S.A. Jewish Music Centre)  Cash R  Print full name			Fax no Date  Send to: The South A PO Box 817 Cape Town 8	The South African Jewish Music Centre		
	Cantorial	Klezmer	Sephardi	Israeli	Other	

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#### ALTOS & SOPRANOS:

Elsie Menasce, Carole Levin, Tammy Sanzul, Barbara Barishman, Zmira Cohen, Becky Goldberg

GUEST SOLOIST:
Hilda Sandak-Lewin

TENORS & BASSES:

Isaac Habib, Isaac Israel, Dean Murinik, Dean Sandler, Norman Katzeff, David Shapiro,

Cecil Schneider, Leon Cohen, David Gordon

REHEARSAL RÉPÉTITEURS:

Albert Combrink, Fay Singer, Calli Housdon, Elsie Menasce

#### WEIZMANN CHOIR:

Lori Berelowitz, Romi-Lee Sevel, Joelene Shap, Chen Futeran, Bianca Margolis, Nicole Margolius, Rebecca Robinson, Samantha Aronson, Teegan Curitz, Calli Dogon, Mei Mei Theeboom, Gabriella Berezowski, Candice Maree, Mai Sachs, Lisa Saven, Tahlia Yesorsky, Roxanne Zieve

#### Acknowledgements:

We acknowledge with sincere appreciation and gratitude the following who have contributed towards the success of this production:

Joe and Nicole Mallel Waltons Stationery

Isaac & Joe Kesler (assistance with lights & sound)

Claudine Franco (assistance with sets)

Fiona Young (artwork & design)

Yverne Gnesin & Mathy Hasson (ticket sales)

La Boutique Yvelle (garments and accessories)

Anleo (grey gowns)

Elegance (fabric)
Capab (sets)

David Gordon (sets)

Kenwill Construction (transportation of sets)

and assertance which enables us by enabling to your of water was son as the Membership drive We value your support without which we to continue our important work. For those of you who are renewing Your annual subscription for 1997 to the S A Jewish Music Centre, we thank you warmly for your patronages is now due. Rehind the scenes our efforts continue tirelessly. We are constantly being asked ..... Enquiries come to us ...... suitable music for use at functions & ceremonies by Jewish and non-Jewish enquirers copies of sheetmusic background music for projects etc. specific music for stage, or private use information on cantorial & liturgical music and advice on method of performance We do all of this willingly and not for profit, but we do ask for a modest 'search' fee to cover expenses like photocopying, phone-calls, delivery, etc. letters, portage, research ..... Negotiating at present land for safe and secure land for our collection LITURGICAL MUSIC Some of our donations are not yet fully unproduced classified/collated/ ex. wrently need cafe & secure home BUDAPEST when publican have access

#### L. to R.

Fay Singer, Sir Sigmund Sternberg, Lady Hazel Sternberg, Bertha Sherman, Rabbi David Sherman, Geraldine Auerbach (Director, Jewish Music Heritage Trust, London), Cantor Philip Badash.

cartoon

Books, records & sheet-music and
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because their owners
or the heirs of the original owners/readers/
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LECTURES ON JEWISH MUSIC AT U.C.T.

At the recent Winter School held under the auspices of the Dept of Adult Education and Extra-Mural Studies at the UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN, a record enrolment of interested students heard Fay Singer deliver four lectures, enlivened by live performances and video footage,

on The Yiddish Revival:
discoveries and developments
in Jewish music

Lecture titles: 1. Hobn mir a nigundl (We have a song): an overview of Yiddish folksongs of eastern Europe.

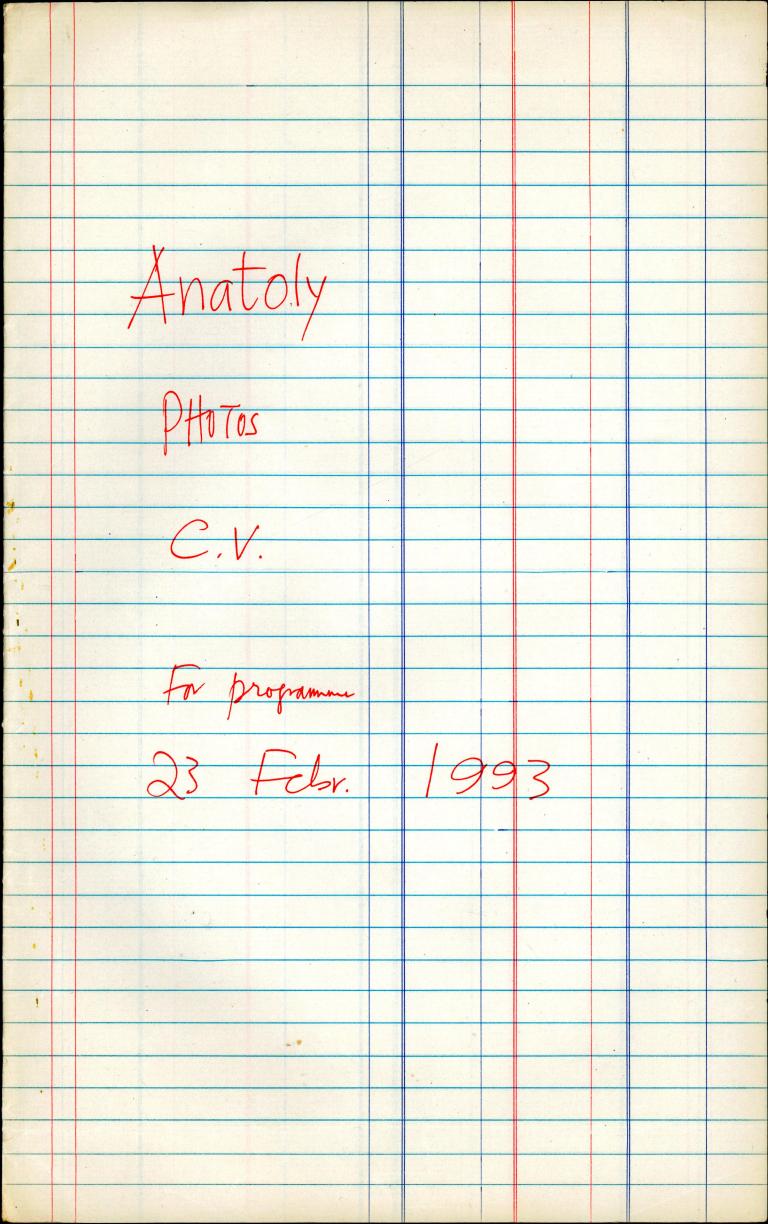
- 2. Klez! The American revival of klezmer instrumental music.
- 3. More Klez! The fiddler is playing a Stradivarius: Itzhak Perlman revels in klezmer music.
- 4. Entartete Musik: the rediscovery of banned music from 1933-1945 in Nazi-occupied Europe.

Highlights were Yiddish songs sung by Voices of Israel choir under direction of Ivor Joffe, the ever-favourite 'MY YIDDISHE MAMMA' beautifully performed by up-coming soprano Beveryley Chiat, and examples of klezmer-style clarinet solo playing by noted American clarinet & saxophone maestro Doug Masek.

Audience enthusiasm was high, and there were many requests for the series to be repeated.

of a new series to be given,

Beverley



# From anne. Marie's card

Violus.



See

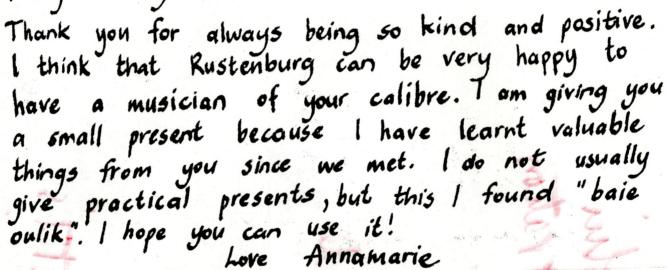
Mactais

1/1993

Vanou Sizes

Dear Fay

I hope that
you will have a
lovely holiday!



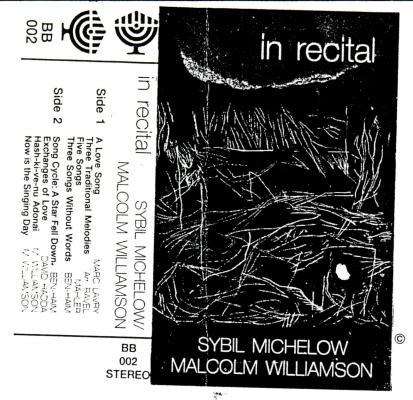
"I was attracted to the strange And haunting beauty of Jewsh.

Music. I felt, almost, as though I had been brought into a new musical world when a few anthenti Terrish melodies were brought to my notice. I was so beintched by the mysterious colow and exotic charm of their melodies that for weeks I could not get The Music out of my mud. Then my imagination was set aflame ....

Mannie Ravel.

"I was attracted to the strange and haunting beauty of Jewish Music. I felt, almost, as though I had been brought into a new musical world when a few authentic Jewish melodies were brought to my notice. I was so bewitched by the mysterious colour and exotic charm of these melodies that for weeks I could not get this music out of my mind. Then my imagination was set aflame..."

Maurice Ravel



Side 1

A Love Song MARC LAVRY Published by: Hamerkaz Letarbut Israel. Three Traditional Melodies Arr. RAVEL Five Songs MAHLER Three Songs Without Words BEN HAIM Published by: Israel Music Publishers.

#### Side 2

Song Cycle: A Star Fell Down

BEN-HAIM

Published by: Israel Music Publishers. Exchanges of Love

DAVID HADDA

Hash-ki-ve-nu Adonai M. WILLIAMSON Published by: Josef Weinberger Ltd.

Now is the Singing Day M. WILLIAMSON Published by: Campion Press.

SYBIL MICHELOW - Mezzo Soprano MALCOLM WILLIAMSON - Piano

Recorded by: Warren Recordings, London NW4 4LP Cover design: A. Auerbach. "a star fell down"

1984 B'nai B'rith Music Festival. Bnai Brith Recordings 1/2 Endsleigh Street London WC1H ODS 01 387 5278

#### Translations and notes Side 1

A Love Song MARC LAVRY Words by Ben Gavriel (Sung in Hebrew) Your heart and love came to me like the perfume of fragrant spices, and flew to the stars, there, where our souls merged as in the moment of our

Three Traditional Melodies Arr, RAVEL Mejerke, main Suhn (Sung in Yiddish) 'Before whom do you stand?' ... 'Before the King of Kings' 'What do you pray for?' ... 'Sons, long life and food' 'Why sons?' ... 'They study the Torah' 'Why a long life?' ... 'Life is holy' 'Why food?' ... 'So I can give praise to the

Die alte Kashe (Sung in Yiddish) The age-old question is asked ... but there is no single answer. Man, as always, will find whatever answer suits him best!

Kaddish (Sung in Hebrew) Though used as a source of consolation in times of personal bereavement the Kaddish is a song of Praise, glorifying, honouring and extolling the name of the Holy One.

**Five Songs** 

MAHLEF (Sung in German

Ich atmet' einen linden Duft.

Poem by Rücker I breathe the soft fragrance of the Lime. In the room stands a branch, a gift from a loving hand. Its perfume wafts gently towards me ... the lovely perfume of the Lime.

Liebst du um Schönheit.

Poem by Rücken If you love Beauty, or Youth, or Riches, do not love me. But if you love for Love's sake, then ever love me!

Hans und Grethe

Ring-a-ling-a-ling. Whoever is carefree, come join in the dance. Whoever is sad must remain behind. Whoever has a sweetheart to kiss is lucky! Gretel, why stand alone? Hans is seeking a sweetheart to take to the dance. Hurrah.

Erinneruna Poem by Leander Songs awaken my love, and love awakens my songs. Dreams of your ardent kisses become melodies and my unfulfilled thoughts complain. Thus love and song forever hold me in bondage.

Frülingsmorgen Poem by Leander The Lime tree, heavy-laden with blossoms, is tapping on the window. Awake. Awake. The sun has risen. Bees are humming, birds are singing and I have seen your sweetheart. Lazy one, Awakel

Three Songs Without Words BEN-HAIM These songs are described by the composer as "tone pictures of an Oriental mood" and depict the pitiles heat in the Judean Hills, and the monotonous babbling of a story-teller. The third song is a setting of a folk tune of Sephardic-Jewish origin.

#### Side 2

A Star Fell Down **BEN-HAIM** Poems by Matti Katz (Kochav Nafal) English Translation by P. Vernon

This cycle was commissioned by the family of the gifted young poet Matti Katz who perished on active service at an early age.

The composer's intuition and the poet's eloquence combine to make this a true memorial.

I can't put those thoughts into shape ... I forgot everything, how all began. I only remember a tree and an Indian summer; a bush that was sending its flowers. I remember the middleway ... the point that separates from the highways of the kings.

The sun is setting and I find myself among lanes that are dark. Between the horrors that burn at the feet of a deceitful world, I lift up my eyes to the redcoloured heavenly trails, and towards the king's ways are flowing sleepy streams of asphalt. The sun is setting ... I find myself ....

Last night ... last night, between Cassiopeia the Great Bear, a star fell down. A life of man ran out. New hopes were born precisely to the time of zero seconds. A life in grey land a hope in rose look onto a vague eternity ... look onto a colourless night. They laugh.

Exchanges of Love DAVID HADDA Poems by Jehudith Stemberg a. Upon the tree of my love.

b. Seek death no longer.

David Hadda was born in Breslau and came to London in 1939 when he studied composition and singing with Alan Bush and Elena Gerhard respectively. Between 1950 and 1959 he lived and worked in Israei where he was well known as a conductor and composer. He now lives in London.

#### Hash-ki-ve-nu Adonai

MALCOLM WILLIAMSON (Sung in Hebrew) From "The Red Sea", An opera in one act.

Cause us to lie down, O Lord our God, in

And raise us up, O our King, unto life. Spread over us the tabernacle of Thy peace. Direct us aright through Thine own good counsel.

Save us for Thy name's sake. Be Thou a shield about us. Remove from us every enemy, pestilence, sword, famine and sorrow; Remove also the adversary from before us and

from behind us. O shelter us beneath the shadow of Thy wings.

#### NOW IS THE SINGING DAY

MALCOLM WILLIAMSON Translation by Albert H Friedlander from The Bridal Dialogue - Song of Songs.

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah Oh Daughters of Jerusalem come stand atop each wall! Your prince is riding through the streets to his espousal time; Oh daughters of Zionic joy attend each trumpet call, Crowned by his mother rides he forth to bells' encycling chime Attended by his paladins, bright guards about his way Bedecked with swords, white plumes, with gold. Now, now, now is the singing day

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah. Zeh ha-yom assa Adonai Nagila v'nis-m'chabo! Hallelujah!

As bold as Tirzah shines my love, Jerusalem of old, As white as day break glows her joy as bright as moon and sun; Her armour is her loveliness, her hair is lambent gold; Her captive willing prince submits reioicing to be won. Arise my love, my fairest one, arise and come away, Arise my love, allume the world

Oh set me as a seal upon your heart, upon your arm, Beyond the power of death to break or grave to overthrow: Proclaim a seal of love, that many waters cannot harm; The royal banners canopy, the vineyard where we go; We climb through scent of cinnamon, of myrrh, of nard, of bay, To stand atop the hills of spice, Now, now, now is the singing day.

Sybil Michelow Makes regular appearances on the concert platform both in Britain and abroad, with distinguished conductors and orchestras. She has sung at the Edinburgh Festival, Covent Garden and at the Promenade concerts and been the soloist at the celebrated 'Last Night'. She has sung on radio and television and recorded for many labels.

Malcolm Williamson C.B.E. was born in Sydney, Australia and came to London in 1950. He holds three Doctorates of Music: an Honorary Doctorate from the Open University of Great Britain for service to Music and Medicine, and in connection with work for the mentally handicapped. In addition he holds a Post Graduate Medical Fellowship at the University of New South Wales for clinical work in the field of mentally handicapped children.

Mr Williamson is the visiting Professor of Music at the University of Strathclyde. In 1975 he was appointed Master of the Queen's Music and he J Kepr. 1903.