

H. L. Miller Cantorial School and College
of Jewish Music of The Jewish Theological Seminary
and B'nai Torah Congregation present...

VOICE
OF A
PEOPLE:
Then, Now, Always

A John Leopold and Martha Dellheim Concert

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2014



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John Dellheim^{z"1} was a Holocaust survivor who became a pioneer computer programmer at IBM. He deeply loved Judaism and Jewish music, and endowed the John Leopold and Martha Dellheim Internship Program and Concert Series in order to bring Western cantorial music to synagogues around the United States via the mentors, alumni, and students of the H. L. Miller Cantorial School, thereby perpetuating the performance and transmission of Jewish sacred music to future generations.

The John Leopold and Martha Dellheim Endowment Fund initiative includes an internship program that pairs students with mentors in the field, and expands the school's opportunities to teach concert planning, enhance repertoire coaching, and present student performances."

PROGRAM:

Sephardic Medley <i>Hazzan Alberto Mizrahi</i>	arr. Mizrahi
Eilu D'varim <i>Isaac Yager</i>	Jacob Rapaport
Taylor, the Latte Boy <i>Cantor Nancy Abramson</i>	Zina Goldrich
V'ulai <i>Cantor Ben Tisser</i>	J. Sharet
Haven Yakir Li <i>Hazzanim Mizrahi & Tisser</i>	J. Schlesinger
I Dreamed a Dream (from Les Miserables) <i>Sarah Levine</i>	Kretzmer/Schonberg
Hinach Yafah <i>Isaac Yager</i>	Solomon Sulzer
Y'varech'cha <i>Cantor Nancy Abramson & Rachel Brook</i>	Gerald Cohen
Ahavat Olam <i>Sarah Levine</i>	Morris Barash
Hashkiveinu <i>Rachel Brook</i>	Adolph Katchko
Tu Ca Nun Chiagne <i>Hazzan Alberto Mizrahi</i>	E. de Curtis
Hanukkah Medley <i>Hazzan Alberto Mizrahi</i>	arr. Levy/Mizrahi
Adon Olam <i>Cast</i>	arr. Simon Spiro

*Special appearances by guest artists will be made throughout the program.
This evening's program will be accompanied by Dr. Alan Mason at the piano.*

*Out of respect for the artists and your fellow audience members, please turn
off or silence all cell phones. No video or flash photography is permitted.*

Program subject to change.



HAZZAN ALBERTO MIZRAHI

Anshe Emet Synagogue

Greek-born tenor, Alberto Mizrahi, one of the world's leading interpreters of Jewish music, has served the historic Anshe Emet Synagogue, Chicago, as their Hazzan, for the past quarter century. He has thrilled audiences worldwide in recitals, symphony concerts, cantorial concerts and opera. He was a finalist in the first Luciano Pavarotti Competition and understudied him in the Miami Opera production of

"Ballo in Maschera." His repertoire, spanning nine languages and a myriad of styles, makes his performances unique.

Hazzan Mizrahi most recently debuted with Maestro Ricardo Muti and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra in Arnold Schoenberg's "Kol Nidre," and sang before two U.S. Presidents, George W. Bush (White House Hanukkah celebration) and Barack Obama (U.S. Capitol "Days of Remembrance"). He has since sung recitals and cantorial concerts throughout Europe and the United States.

A graduate of the JTS Cantorial School, Hazzan Mizrahi studied with his mentors, Cantor Moshe Ganchoff and with Cantor David Kusevitsky for many years. He continues their great teaching legacy by mentoring students at the H.L. Miller Cantorial School. He remains one of the most active forces in the performance and recording of Jewish music today. Hazzan Mizrahi is very active in the Cantors Assembly, and will become its President in May 2015.



CANTOR BENJAMIN TISSER

B'nai Torah Congregation

Cantor Benjamin Tisser began studying the art of hazzanut at age seven, under the direction of Cantor Herschel Fox at Valley Beth Shalom in Encino, CA. He has served as Cantor of B'nai Torah Congregation in Boca Raton, FL since 2013, the same year in which he received his Cantorial Investiture and Master of Music in Sacred Music from the H.L. Miller Cantorial School of The Jewish Theological Seminary.

An active composer, Cantor Tisser's composition "Achat Sha'alti" was selected as a finalist for the 2013 Shalshet Festival in Miami Beach. In 2011, he was awarded the Hazzan Louis Danto Memorial Award for Excellence in the Presentation of Hazzanut. He has studied with such prestigious coaches as Dr. Joel Ewing, Josephine Mongiardo, Hazzan Alberto Mizrahi, and Hazzan Jacob Mendelson.

An active performer and lecturer, Cantor Tisser has served as guest Cantor and Scholar in Residence at synagogues around the country, speaking on the changes in davening style and "shul music" in Conservative synagogues. He takes pride in directing the b'nai mitzvah program at B'nai Torah, through which he continues the tradition of teaching children the art of davening. Cantor Tisser resides in Boca Raton, FL with his wife Sarah and their daughter Talia.



CANTOR NANCY ABRAMSON

Cantor Abramson is director of the H. L. Miller Cantorial School and College of Jewish Music at JTS. Having served as senior vice president and two-time national convention co-chair of the Cantors Assembly, Cantor Abramson is now president of the organization, the first female officer in the Cantors Assembly's 67-year history.

Cantor Abramson has performed as a soloist at Carnegie Hall, Avery Fischer Hall, and the Rose Theater at Jazz at Lincoln Center, and has sung with the Rinat Choir in Israel. Cantor Abramson came to JTS from New York City's Park Avenue Synagogue, where she directed all musical aspects of congregational life, and previously served West End Synagogue in Manhattan and Congregation Sons of Israel in Briarcliff Manor, New York.

Cantor Abramson is a graduate of the Joint Program of the Albert A. List College of Jewish Studies of JTS and Columbia University, from which she earned a BHL in Jewish History and a BA in Music. She received her cantorial education at JTS, and earned a master's degree in Music Education from Teachers College, Columbia University. She is married to Mitch Glenn; they have three children and one delightful grandson.



HOWARD LEVY

Howard Levy is an acknowledged master of the diatonic harmonica, a superb pianist, innovative composer, recording artist, bandleader, teacher, producer, and Chicago area resident. Equally at home in Jazz, Classical, Rock, Folk, Latin, and World Music, the two-time Grammy Award Winner is a favorite with audiences worldwide and a recording artist sought after by the likes of Kenny Loggins, Dolly Parton, Paquito D'Rivera, Styx, Donald Fagen, Paul Simon, and many more. Howard has appeared on hundreds of CDs and played on several movie soundtracks.

He is perhaps best known for his work with Bela Fleck and The Flecktones. Howard's other prominent collaborations include Trio Globo (with Glen Velez and Eugene Friesen), oud player/composer Rabih Abou Khalil, guitarist Chris Siebold, and The Riessler/Levy/Matinier Trio.

Howard's recordings on his label, Balkan Samba Records, include *Chévere de Chicago's Secret Dream* and *Time Capsules* with Acoustic Express. The most recent Balkan Samba CD's are *From Matzah to Menorah*, music for Passover and Hanukah with Cantor Alberto Mizrahi and Trio Globo, and *First Takes*, a CD of free Jazz improvisations with bassist Larry Gray and Howard's son, drummer Miles Levy. His website is www.levyland.com.



RACHEL BROOK

Rachel is a third year student at the H.L. Miller Cantorial School of The Jewish Theological Seminary of America. A passionate supporter of Jewish music, Rachel is the conductor of Shir Chadash: The Brooklyn Jewish Community Chorus, and has also served as conductor for the Westchester chapter of HaZamir: The International Jewish High School Choir. In addition to her work as a conductor, Rachel currently serves as Music Educator for Youth and Family at B'nai Jeshrun in New York City. She has taught and led services throughout New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Florida, and Jerusalem. Rachel received her Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music and her Master of Music in Vocal Performance and Pedagogy with Distinction from Westminster Choir College of Rider University. She enjoys singing with Zamir Chorale, chanting Hebrew Kirtan with Kirtan Rabbi, and performing with Jewish musicians across the city.



SARAH LEVINE

Sarah is a third year student at the H.L. Miller Cantorial School of The Jewish Theological Seminary of America. Originally from Cherry Hill, NJ, she holds a B.A. in Jewish Studies and a minor in music from Temple University. Sarah most recently spent the past year in Israel studying at Machon Shechter and Hebrew Union College. Currently, she is the cantorial intern at B'nai Torah Congregation and Congregation Beth El in Bethesda, MD. At JTS, Sarah serves as co-gabbai of the daily egalitarian minyan at the Women's League Seminary Synagogue.

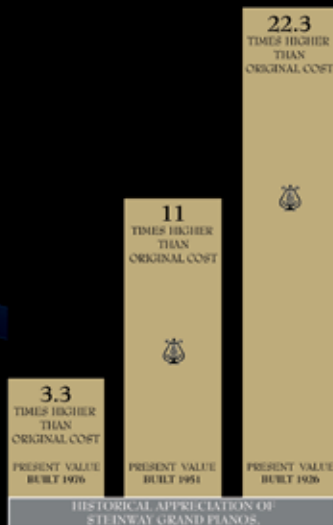


ISAAC YAGER

Isaac is a third year student at the H.L. Miller Cantorial School of The Jewish Theological Seminary of America where he coaches with Hazzan Alberto Mizrahi and Hazzan Azi Schwartz. During his year of study in Israel, Isaac had the privilege to sing in the Jerusalem Great Synagogue choir and study hazzanut with Raymond Goldstein and Hazzan Naftali Herstik. Born in NYC, Isaac has also sung professionally with the Boston Lyric Opera chorus and was a young artist in the Castleton Festival, the late Maestro Lorin Maazel's summer music festival, where he studied voice with artists including Neil Shicoff and Denyce Graves. Isaac holds a BA in theater from Bard College and a Masters in Music in vocal performance from Boston University.



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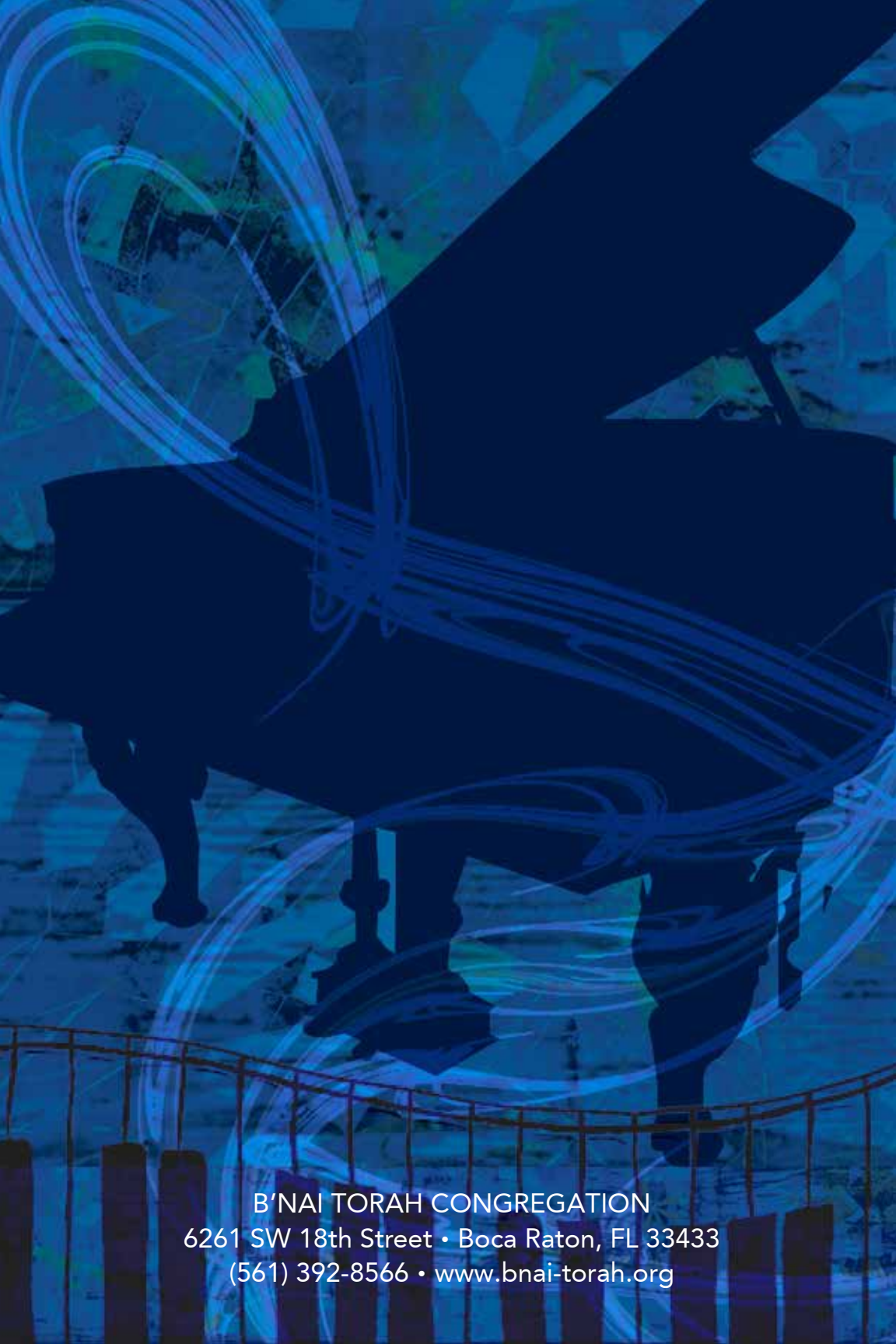
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