

LINCOLN SQUARE SYNAGOGUE BULLETIN



Volume 8, No. 6

JEWISH MUSIC MONTH

Adar I, 5733—Feb., 1973

From The Rabbi's Desk...

The Jewish Community must view with alarm a concerted effort on the part of the church to convert our own people to Christianity. Aside from Key 73, an avowed missionary organization which has declared its intention to bring the message of the gospels to every citizen on the North American Continent, we are faced each day with the evangelical activities of our "neighbors" — Beth Sar Shalom. It is the center of the Jews for Jesus movement and erroneously claims to represent the authentic Hebrews who can accept belief in Jesus as the Messiah. More than one-hundred people — a good proportion of them Jews — listen to the perverted message of these neo-Christians each Sunday afternoon — and this at our very doorstep.

It is true that these missionary activities affect an infinitesimal proportion of our Jewish people. Nevertheless, the ground is not infertile for such Christian propaganda. The majority of Jews are woefully ignorant of our Jewish heritage, and our Federations and United Jewish Appeals are still giving tragically inadequate sums for the furtherance of Jewish education. A positively committed and well-educated body of Jews is, in the final analysis, the only effective bulwark against the inroads of assimilation.

Even more sadly, our present religious institutions are generally unable to cope with an honest generation searching for authentic religious values. It is not by accident that the He-

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Jewish Music Month



Lincoln Square Synagogue

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874-6100

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From Rabbi's Desk (Cont'd)

brew names for synagogue are *Bet Kneset*, *House of Assembly*, *Bet Midrash*, *House of Study*, *Bet Tefilah*, *House of Prayer*. A synagogue must be an extension of one's very home, and must have the openness and warmth which would encompass the Jew seeking to return. Instead, the majority of Reform and Conservative Synagogues provide an arid, formalistic, antiseptic type of Judaism and our Orthodox Jews are generally reluctant to welcome anyone but the traditionally initiated. Jewish concepts such as God and brotherly concern are hardly ever mentioned, and the stranger is rarely extended a Sabbath invitation. It is no wonder that so many of our young people are "turned off" to the Jewish establishment.

We at Lincoln Square Synagogue are faced with a particularly crucial challenge during the months to come. Therefore we are inaugurating a Library-Information Center under the leadership of Laurie Kunkel and Ruth Bergman, and we are beginning an intensive Shabbat hospitality program under the guidance of Esther Fertel and Chaya Gortsetman. Anyone who wishes to learn

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Schedule of Services

Friday, February 2

Rosh Chodesh Adar I	
Kindle Sabbath Candles	4:55 P.M.
Mincha and Kabbalat	
Shabbat	5:05 P.M.
Oneg Shabbat	8:30 P.M.

Saturday, February 3 (Mishpatim)

Rosh Chodesh Adar I	
Sabbath Morning Services	8:45 A.M.
Exodus 21:1-24:18, Numbers 28:9-15	
Isaiah 66:1-24	
Talmud Class	4:15 P.M.
Mincha	5:00 P.M.

Friday, February 9

Kindle Sabbath Candles	5:03 P.M.
Mincha and Kabbalat	
Shabbat	5:15 P.M.
Oneg Shabbat	8:30 P.M.

Saturday, February 10 (Terumah)

Sabbath Morning Services	8:45 A.M.
Exodus 25:1-27:19, I Kings 5:26-6:13	
Talmud Class	4:15 P.M.
Mincha	5:00 P.M.

Friday, February 16

Kindle Sabbath Candles	5:12 P.M.
Mincha and Kabbalat	
Shabbat	5:25 P.M.
Oneg Shabbat	8:30 P.M.

Saturday, February 17 (Tetzaveh)

Sabbath Morning Services	8:45 A.M.
Exodus 27:20 - 30:10, Ezekiel 43:10-27	
Talmud Class	4:30 P.M.
Mincha	5:15 P.M.

Friday, February 23

Kindle Sabbath Candles	5:20 P.M.
Mincha and Kabbalat	
Shabbat	5:30 P.M.
Oneg Shabbat	8:30 P.M.

Saturday, February 24 (Kee Tissa)

Sabbath Morning Services	8:45 A.M.
Exodus 30:11-34:35, I Kings 18:1-39	
Talmud Class	4:35 P.M.
Mincha	5:20 P.M.

* * *

Daily Minyan

Weekdays	7:15 A.M. and 7:50 A.M.
Rabbi Riskin teaches daily	
Mishna	7:35 A.M.
Sundays and Holidays	8:30 A.M.
Maariv	only 6:00 P.M.

Important Notice:

The Sabbath is terminated Saturday evenings one hour after the candles were lit on the previous Friday.

What Is Jewish Music?

Strangely enough, at the turn of the 20th Century, most of the musical world refused to believe, or even consider, that there was such a thing as "Jewish Music." Most Musical "authorities" claimed that the Jews never had a music of their own, but borrowed from every nation on the globe as they traveled. After the bitter and sarcastic writings of Richard Wagner — the darling of Western Music — the credibility of Jewish musical origins was literally destroyed. It is only in the past half-century that the musical world is beginning to admit the existence of an authentic, original music of the Jewish people. The world is slowly recognizing that the Jewish people—who have wandered across the face of this earth for two thousand years of scorn and ridicule — have a musical tradition which is the *origin* and forerunner of "Western World" music from its very beginning!

Jewish music begins with the tune of the Torah, which according to tradition, dates back to Sinai. We know as a definite historical fact, that there was a system of music used in the reading of the Torah after 444 B.C.E. when Ezra the Scribe began to read the Torah publicly. In the Holy Temple in Jerusalem, a great choir and orchestra of Levites sang and played a musical arrangement to the Psalms and prayers of the Temple Service, in part adapted from an older tradition of Torah melodies and chants. After the destruction of the Second Temple in 70 C.E., musical instruments were completely abandoned, and only vocal music was retained.

The key is: the origin of our Western symphonic musical tradition. We know that Mozart and Beethoven — who established the "rules" of Western music — based their music on a style and system traceable to Palestrina (d. 1594), the great composer of the Catholic Church. The music of the church evolved from Pope Gregory (d. 604) who standardized the "Gregorian" melodies and modes that the church was to use as a musical foundation for the next 1,000 years of church music. Where did Gregory get his models from which he chose his official tunes and musical modes? These he took from the existent music of the early church in use at that time. He sifted through these melodies, discarding some while maintaining others, and established a set pattern. The crucial question is — where did the music already being used come from? We must remember that a majority of the early Christians were proselytized Jews who converted after fleeing the destruction of Israel in 70 C.E. The only music they knew was that of the Temple and the small synagogues that had grown in Israel during the time of the Second Temple. The hypothesis is that early church music *was* Jewish in origin, and in fact, taken from the Temple itself! Proof to this is offered by Professor A. Z. Idelsohn who, at the turn of the century, made Jewish music his life's work, and wrote a monumental encyclopedia of Jewish music that established it as authentic, historical and worthy of scientific study. He transcribed thousands of Oriental Jewish melodies in his world travels. Most interesting are the sacred melodies of the Yemenites, whose community was cut off from contact with Western Civilization for more than 15 centuries. Their tunes are directly traceable to the songs of Israel in the time of the Second Temple. The amazing discovery was that these Yemenite tunes were in many tens of cases, almost identical to the early Byzantine and Gregorian tunes of the church! We know that the Yemenites never came into contact with these two churches and cultures. Therefore, we must conclude that both are two branches that come from one source: the Holy Temple in Jerusalem and the melodies and chants used there and throughout the land of Israel during the Second Temple period!

Despite the shock into which this revelation would put Richard Wagner if he were to examine this proof, very few musicologists today can deny the inevitable conclusion: That Jewish music is the origin of "Western World" music.

The music of the synagogue today, of course, has undergone many changes since 70 C.E. In contrast to the Oriental Jew, the European Jew added to and infused his music with the elements he found in each country of the exile. However, most of the original musical modes, and many chants, resisted the change of time. At some later date I will discuss the evolving of our present-day synagogue musical tradition, which is a book in itself. Suffice it to say that we can be very proud of our musical tradition, from the songs of the Bible to our present-day Synagogue music.

The Midrash says: "The world was created for the sake of music." For most of our "Western World," this original music was Jewish.

—Cantor Sherwood Goffin

Yahrzeits

FAYE GANZ GOLD

Friday Evening, February 2

Saturday, February 3

DAVID COHEN

Monday Evening, February 5

Tuesday, February 6

WILLI HAHN

Monday Evening, February 5

Tuesday, February 6

ESTHER NEUWIRTH KOVIT

Tuesday Evening, February 6

Wednesday, February 7

DORIS SAPPER

Tuesday Evening, February 6

Wednesday, February 7

MAX KELLNER

Wednesday Evening, February 7

Thursday, February 8

HARRY FEINSTEIN

Thursday Evening, February 8

Friday, February 9

MINNIE MYERS

Thursday Evening, February 8

Friday, February 9

SIDIE SCHREIBER

Friday Evening, February 9

Saturday, February 10

MOSES LANGER

Saturday Evening, February 10

Sunday, February 11

BESSIE BURRIS GOLDSTEIN

Sunday Evening, February 11

Monday, February 12

GOLDIE WALDMAN

Sunday Evening, February 11

Monday, February 12

LOUIS E. ROSENBERG

Monday Evening, February 12

Tuesday, February 13

HYMAN SAPPER

Tuesday Evening, February 13

Wednesday, February 14

PEARL NEUWIRTH

Wednesday Evening, February 14

Thursday, February 15

ANNA ROSENBERG

Wednesday Evening, February 14

Thursday, February 15

ESTHER LOSH SERLIN

Thursday Evening, February 15

Friday, February 16

JACOB JACOBOWITZ M.D.

Friday Evening, February 16

Saturday, February 17

BERNARD KUEHNREICH

Saturday Evening, February 17

Sunday, February 18

GERTRUDE GOLDBERG

Monday Evening, February 19

Tuesday, February 20

LEO SKOLNICK

Saturday Evening, February 24

Sunday, February 25

GERTRUDE MALINA

Wednesday Evening, February 28

Thursday, March 1

From Rabbi's Desk (Cont'd)

about Judaism — even on an informal level — must be able to come to our Synagogue, and anyone who wishes to spend a complete Shabbat must feel free to call our office. We need "volunteer" homes (for eating and/or sleeping), volunteer help (for the Library Information Center) and volunteer funds (for a more extensive Shabbaton program), but with your help and dedication we shall succeed. We must succeed.

Refuah Shleimah:

- Mr. Oscar Wach
- Mr. Nathan Woloch
- Mr. Irwin Helfeld

Condolences:

- Mrs. Max Feingold on the sudden passing of her beloved husband
- Mr. Aaron L. Glickman on the passing of his beloved brother Irwin Glickman

Congratulations and Mazel Tov:

- Rabbi and Mrs. Shlomo Riskin on the birth and circumcision of their son Hillel Seraya
- Mr. and Mrs. Eli Giffler on the engagement of their son Ronald G. Giffler to Diane Kaplan of Petersburg, Virginia
- Mr. and Mrs. James Herlands and Mrs. William B. Herlands on the birth of a daughter and granddaughter respectively
- Rita Baum and Richard Rothberg, two members of our Bach group, on their recent engagement
- Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon Weinreb on the birth of a daughter

Rabbi and Mrs. Steven Riskin wish to thank the entire Congregation for rejoicing with them on the occasion of the birth of their son Hillel Seraya.

OUR BAAL KOREH HAS RUACH

Not only can our Baal Koreh, Chaim (Harold) Fruchter read the Torah with a pleasant and melodious voice, but also he can use that voice to resound with ruach when he sings and plays his 12-string guitar with the Ruach Revival band. For weeks people were talking about the marvelous excitement of the Ruach Revival's music at our Synagogue's Chanukah fiesta supper party. Those of us who heard our Cantor Sherwood Goffin perform on New Year's Eve heard the Ruach Revival accompany him. Now Chaim's talents and the band's uniqueness are permanently recorded on their newly released record album called "Ruchaynu" ("Our Spirit") by the Ruach Revival.

The group lives up to its name by featuring eight newly composed and lively Hebrew ruach songs. The album also includes four slow-tempoed "songs of the soul" reaching out to God. One of the album's highlights is a moving solo by Chaim expressing the dreams of a Soviet Jew to fly "On the Wings of an Eagle" to the Promised Land. Our own Rabbi Riskin wrote a message on the back cover of the album. Members of the Ruach Revival are Joey Fishof, Chaim (Harold) Fruchter, Howie Kahn, Yussie Rosenberg, Steve Schuss, Ira Silber, and Danny Wildman.

All in all, the "Ruchaynu" album is a unique expression of the spiritual and musical spark of the Jewish heart. The Ruach Revival has made it on its own with their new hit album. You will surely enjoy it when you make the album your own! It is distributed by Menorah records and may be purchased at better Jewish bookstores or at the Synagogue on Wednesday evenings.

SYNAGOGUE NEWS AND NOTES

Mazel Tov to Rabbi and Mrs. Riskin, and to Batya and Elana, on the birth of their son and brother, Hillel Seraya. The entire Synagogue acted as though they were genuinely part of a family *simcha*, and over 300 people attended an inspiring and spirited circumcision . . . the Synagogue is truly prolific, with a new girl born to Shellie and Janice Weinrib and another baby daughter to James and Joyce Herlands. Eddie (our former Baal-Koreh) and Meira Davis, presently Rabbi and Rebbitzin of Richmond, Virginia, are the parents of a new son. May the *simchot* continue . . .

Rabbi Mark Angel made us wish we were all Sefardim; Dr. Hoenig cogently explained the functions and possibilities of the Sanhedrin; Mrs. Ruth Jacobson told of the Mizrahi Women's projects in Israel; Rabbi Guidalea Harris enhanced the Rabbi's Shalom Zachor celebration with a discussion of the Israeli (Chief) Rabbinate; Shlomo Carlebach brought his Holy Beggars; and Judy Hauptman spoke of the woman's role in Jewish Law — all providing some fascinating and stimulating Friday evenings . . . Forty-two children are registered in our Nursery for the Spring Term . . . Our Synagogue is truly the place for *simchot*. We rejoiced with Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Orleans as they celebrated their 57th wedding anniversary and with Mr. & Mrs. David Perlman on their Golden Wedding Anniversary. Synagogue dues should go up after 50 years of married life! . . . The Parashat HaShama Group had excellent discussions at the home of Joseph and Sharon Kaplan, (the blessings of Jacob are the blessings of Moses), Glenn and Lenore Richter (Jewish sensitivities to non-Jewish suffering), and Rabbi & Mrs. Herschel Cohen (The Song of Moses). Martin and Chany Weinberger hosted a most important discussion group on "What to tell your children about God." As might be expected, it really dealt with "what do you tell yourself about God!" . . . Bon Voyage to Sue and Jay Golub. Sisterhood's temporary loss may be heartfelt, but it cannot compare to the sorrow of the Second Minyan. Elmer Klein has tried to make it up, but he still refuses to give up his "Torah reading" Monday and Thursday at the first Minyan. Is he preparing for a Synagogue position in Israel?, wonders Louis Goodman . . . Arthur Morgenstern and Stanley Getzler are successfully dedicating Synagogue units and seats. Do you think we might even be in the black before the coming of the Messiah? Hopefully, one of our projects will help bring the Messiah first!



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Bach Reports That...

Just as the Bach Young Singles Group was recovering from its loss by marriage of President Elissa Abelow to Bob Burnett, two other Bachs, Richard Rothenberg and Rita Baum, struck yet another blow at Lincoln Square's most dynamic group by announcing their engagement. Rita and Richard met in our Bet Medrash at one of our Shabbatonim. Simple gratitude, one would think, would demand that they remain within the group for a while, but after only seven weeks, they opted for the Young Couples!

To fill the gap caused by these departures, Melvin Moed, Clarisse Giffler, Debby Fruchter and Marilyn Cohen have vowed to redouble their efforts in Bach's behalf. Other precautionary measures have also been taken. Bachs will henceforth be chaperoned on all dates. If things start to look serious, the wayward Bachs will be brought before a Bach screening committee to determine if they may or may not get married — the critical factors being the couples' desire balanced against the potential adverse effect on Bach. If the marriage is approved, a fine will be exacted. Admittedly, these measures are harsh, but at the present attrition rate the entire group would be dissipated within two years. Considered in this light, as the very existence of Bach was threatened, the edicts are difficult but most necessary.

In another development, last month's Bach Cosmic Superiority Award (to the person who did the most to advance the high ideals of Bach) was awarded to David Derovan for his talk on the significance of names. (Compare, for example, Bach, meaning 'Between man and his friend' to Young Couples, meaning ????) This month, our sincere thanks go to Rabbi Cohen for his Shabbaton *derash*, and all the help he has given us.

Welcome New Members

Mrs. Helen Anton
Miss Gail Aronoff
Mr. and Mrs. Sydney Baker
Mrs. Susan Baron
Miss Rita Baum
Mr. Eric Fettman
Mr. and Mrs. Louis Glick
Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Heller
Mr. and Mrs. George Kafka
Mr. David Kahn
Mr. Michael Lehman

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Nimhauser
Mr. and Mrs. Elie Ohayon
Miss Lillian Rosenberg
Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Leonard Ross
Mr. Richard L. Rothenberg
Mr. and Mrs. Irving Schwartz
Mr. and Mrs. David Z. Soloff
Mr. Herbert Weiss
Mr. Ronald M. Weiss
Miss Linda Yuter
Mr. and Mrs. Richard L. Zinaman

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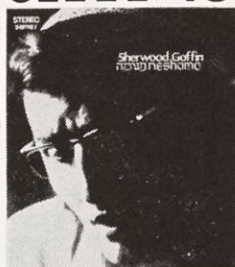
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