

MAYOR OF LONDON

KLEZMER IN THE PARK

SUNDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 2009

1.00PM – 6.00PM

REGENT'S PARK BANDSTAND

Comedian Dave Schneider introduces seven leading UK Klezmer bands. Enjoy vibrant, contemporary music and dance from Jewish roots to jazz, gypsy and world music. Free event – including exhibitions and children's activities.

www.klezmerinthepark.org.uk

Presented by **The Jewish Music Institute** on behalf of **Jewish Culture UK**, in association with the **Mayor of London**. With participation and support from B'nai B'rith UK, Jewish East End Celebration Society, **Jewish Museum London**, Jewish Music Distribution, Jewish Renaissance, London Jewish Cultural Centre, The Spiro Ark, the London Jewish Forum and The Royal Parks. Supported by the Shoresh Charitable Trust. Media sponsor **Jewish News and Media Group**

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The Association of UK Jewish Culture Providers

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KLEZMER IN THE PARK 2009

For the first time ever, seven of Britain's most famous klezmer bands will perform on one stage – on Sunday 6 September from 1.00pm to 6.00pm – illuminating the variety of klezmer music today from its centuries old Jewish roots to links with contemporary jazz, Latin, gypsy and world music.

'Klezmer' is the name given to vibrant and soulful music played for Jewish weddings and parties across large swathes of Eastern Europe in times past. It is enjoying a world-wide revival and is now one of the most popular genres in world music, reaching well beyond its Jewish origins.

The Mayor of London is joining with a wide range of Jewish organisations and the Royal Parks, to present London's largest public celebration of British Jewish Musical Culture – connecting London's diverse Jewish communities to the life of this great multi-cultural city.

"It's great to see 'Simcha on the Square' re-emerging as 'Klezmer in the Park' this year".

London Assembly Member, Nicky Gavron

ALL AFTERNOON:

- **Hopkele!** Dance callers Ilana Cravitz and Guy Schalom help you dance your socks off
- **Jewish Museum Art Tent** free activities for children of all ages – make musical instruments and paper crowns from recycled materials. Drop in, no need to book
- **Jewish Museum Exhibition** 3½ Centuries of British Jewish Life. See how one of Britain's oldest minorities met the challenges of maintaining its distinctive religion and identity while playing an active role in society
- **See displays** about Jewish culture organisations
- **CDs for sale** in the Jewish Music Distribution tent
- **Programme for the day** published in the Jewish News – get your copy in the marquee.

BANDSTAND PROGRAMME:

Dave Schneider, comedian, actor, and Yiddishist, introduces the UK's leading and distinctive Klezmer bands as well as some of his own inimitable 'shtik'.

1.00pm

Lucie Skeaping and The Burning Bush
Exotic traditional instruments

1.45pm

Stewart Curtis' K-Groove
Klezmer blended with Modern Jazz

2.30pm

Shir
Israeli Yiddish and Simcha music

3.15pm

Gregory Schechter's Klezmer Band
Fiery Russian spirit

4.00pm

Moishe's Bagel
Folk frenzy from Scotland

4.45pm

The Merlin Shepherd Quartet
Greek and Turkish influenced klezmer

5.30pm

She'Koyokh Klezmer Ensemble
Klezmer with Balkan infusions



DAVE SCHNEIDER – COMPERE



Dave Schneider researched a PhD in Yiddish drama at Oxford before coming to

prominence as a writer, actor and comedian in award winning TV comedy shows such as *I'm Alan Partridge*, *Knowing Me Knowing You*, *The Day Today*. He has written and appeared in plays, films, and numerous TV and radio programmes.

LUCIE SKEAPING AND THE BURNING BUSH



Since the early 90s Lucie's ensemble perform foot-tapping klezmer, Hassidic melodies and Judeo-Spanish ballads on a plethora of traditional instruments with breathtaking virtuosity. *'An absolute joy - grace, passion and virtuosity'* **Glasgow Herald**

STEWART CURTIS' K-GROOVE



Formed in the mid 90s K-Groove plays Klezmer blended with modern jazz. Winners of the JC

klezmer Idol in 2007. *'A jittery band who attacked their numbers like Greek-taverna entertainers on hallucinogenic hummus'*

Evening Standard

SHIR



Formed in 1997 by Maurice Chernick, Shir, meaning 'song' in Hebrew, plays Klezmer, Israeli, Yiddish and Sephardi instrumental and vocal music, providing an energetic, soulful musical experience for any Simcha – Jewish party. *'The difference between a good Simcha and a great Simcha is Shir!!!'*

GREGORY SCHECHTER'S KLEZMER BAND



Established in 1991, Britain's first Klezmer band retain their Russian intensity.

'Schechter's clarinet conveyed the full gamut of human emotion, sometimes melancholic and sobbing, at other times uplifting as it picked up the giddy tempi of Yiddish dances'

The Times

MOISHE'S BAGEL



Formed in Edinburgh in 2003, Moishe's Bagel, comprising some of Scotland's best instrumentalists, combines the energy and passion of Eastern European folk music with the excitement and soul of improvisation. *'exhilarating, full-flavoured stuff, often breath-takingly intricate but played with jubilation'* **The Herald**

MERLIN SHEPHERD QUARTET



Internationally acclaimed clarinetist Merlin Shepherd and his new quartet, explore with original

repertoire the music of Jewish Eastern Europe, Greece and Turkey. *'He colours and shapes every phrase... providing spiritual and emotional heart'*

London Evening Standard

SHE'KOYOKH



Established in 2001, the award-winning klezmer ensemble, of eight musicians in this well knit group *'have plainly got rhythm in their bones, and all displayed an amazing ability to characterise the music by enhancing the normal range of their instruments'*. **Oxford Times**

HOPKELE!



Ilana and Guy lead Yiddish circle and line dances. No experience necessary. *'They got the crowd going'*

The Jewish Chronicle

3½ CENTURIES OF BRITISH JEWISH LIFE


See the Jewish Museum exhibition which explores how one of Britain's oldest minorities met the challenges of maintaining its distinctive religion and identity while playing an active role in society.

More information on bands and klezmer music www.klezmerinthepark.org.uk

Learn Klezmer music, song and dance at JMI summer programmes and evening classes www.jmi.org.uk

Klezmer recordings www.jewishmusic-jmd.co.uk

Book klezmer bands for your party: jewishmusic@jmi.org.uk



**KLEZMER
IN THE PARK**

SUN 6 SEPT 2009 • 1-6PM
REGENTS PARK BANDSTAND
WWW.KLEZMERINTHEPARK.ORG.UK

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GETTING TO REGENTS PARK

The Bandstand is opposite the café on the Inner Circle or reached via the entrance nearest Baker Street Station

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Regent's Park - Bakerloo line

Great Portland Street -

Hammersmith & City, Circle & Metropolitan lines

BUSES:

2, 13, 18, 27, 30, 74, 82, 113, 139, 189, 274, 453, C2