



קלעדנייעס KlezNews

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INTERVIEW: AVIA MOORE

by Mira Netsky, Sabu Wex and Michelle Wolzinger.

You're going on a fellowship in London, so can you tell us what a fellowship is?
Well actually, I'm not going on a fellowship in London, I'm going to graduate school at Dartington College for the Arts, in Devon, England.

So you're smart I guess..

It has been said of me but I don't like to say it of my myself.

So you, did you like get on a scholarship there or do you have to pay?

I'm on partial scholarship and I've been saving money to pay for grad school.

That's really smart because I don't save my money for college.

Well you've got a few more years.

So are you coming back to klezkanada next year then?

Everything is unknown. I'll probably be at KlezKanada but not in the same capacity.

I'm gonna continue coordinating the scholarship program, but um....

What do you do right now if it's not coordinating the scholarship program?

Right now I coordinate the scholarship program, I'm also the administrative director of the organization, and I do all the graphic designs and I'm teaching
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Photo: Avia Moore

Pete Sokolow A Lifetime of Achievement

The first of the KlezKanada faculty concerts was held last night. As usual, faculty members demonstrated the skills that have made them valuable teachers. Among the numbers, Joanne Borts did a wonderful tribute to the recently passed Bruce Adler.

The most moving moment, however, was the presentation of the Lifetime Achievement awards. Herschel Segal and David Sela, who have supported KlezKanada as an integral and ever-growing part of the Yiddish/Jewish Renaissance in Montreal were honored first. Then, Hy introduced Hankus Netsky, who fêted Pete and spoke of the many years that they have worked together. Pete calls himself the youngest of the old guys—the generation that included Dave Tarras, Max Epstein, Danny Rubinstein, Sid Beckerman, Paul Pincus, and so many others—many of whom are now gone. As Hankus pointed out, however, it was Pete who bridged the gap between those generations. He not only wrote down hundreds of tunes, and personally taught, and continues to teach, hundreds of musicians. He also brought people like Max and Sid together with the revivalists.

After Hankus spoke, Danny came up and spoke about being accompanied by Pete hundreds of times over 44 years. "Pete is the best of them all," he said.

After speaking briefly to thank KlezKanada for the award, Pete played a medley of tunes from the man he regards as his mentor and teacher, Max Epstein. It was with amusement and appreciation, that we noticed that after several tunes and several minutes, Pete somehow drifted into his beloved Dixieland jazz.

Photo: Ezra Gliner



two classes, a theatre class and a dance class.

So, what's your favourite fruit?

Oh, raspberries.

They're really good. Have you ever had a raspberry smoothie? I really like how the little raspberry things come out!

I love raspberry smoothies! Do you know what I had recently that was really good? Was a raspberry lemon tart.

Oh, that sounds so cool!

It was sooo good. You know one of our film scholarship students made it?

Is he ... or she ... gonna be a chef?

No, he's not gonna be a chef, he's gonna be a film maker, but....

He should be a chef.

He should be a chef.

So, do people, like, bribe you to get scholarships?

No....

Do people, like, try to get on your "good side"?

Absolutely!

That's cool ... so is everyone, like, really, really nice to you here? Do you feel, like, weird about it? Do you feel like they're only nice to you 'cause of your position of power?

Actually I joke with my friends all the

time a lot, like Winograd, that as soon as I'm not in this job they're not gonna wanna be friends with me anymore, but I don't think that's true, I think they're actually my friends.

So, what do you do when you're not at Klezkanada?

Well this year I work for Klezkanada, but a lot of the time I do theatre and I direct plays.

That's so cool. Are you making a movie?

No, I direct plays for the stage. The post modern ones.

Maybe one day I'll hear your name, like Steven Spielberg.
In lights.

OhmyG-d! You should be on the Canada Walk of Fame! I heard it's on, like, Monday night. I didn't really wanna watch it.

Where is the Canada Walk of Fame?

I dunno, in Toronto somewhere.

Oh, that's not too interesting. I think they should put the Canada Walk of Fame in Paris.

But Paris isn't in Canada....

Yeah, but it's a lot prettier than Toronto.

Pause while Avia helps someone ... what a wonderful job she does!

When was the last time you caught a frog?

When I was about 8 years old.

Paused for Avia helping another faculty member

OhmyG-d! I have a hole in my sweater! Do you sew?

Yes, I can sew. I can also knit.

You look like you DIY a lot. Do you DIY a lot?

DIY like do it yourself? Yes, I do. I don't sew with a sewing machine. I'm good with a needle and thread.

Do you, like, take a pair of jeans and then you get, like, lots of crazy things and glue them on? And then you get like, jewels, and go like, woo!

I've certainly changed jeans into skirts before. But I don't think I've ever put jewels on them before. I should, though.

I saw that once, on, like, "Art Attack". But I didn't want to ruin them.

You have to get a pair of jeans from a second hand store that is specifically to change into a skirt and then you haven't paid \$70 for jeans.

You pay \$70 for jeans?

No, I don't ever. I go to second hand stores.

Oh, that's like really nice to the needy! How so?

I dunno ... isn't it if you're going to second hand stores you're helping the needy? Like Goodwill?

I got to more vintage second hand stores.

You match very well.

Thank you.

Do you have a mirror in your cabin?

No.

OhmyG-d we should totally get them here! I totally cannot do an outfit without them!

Okay, I'll work on that for next year.

Thank you so much for your time!

No problem!



Photo: Truda Bloom

The Yiddish Nature Walk

Yiddish writers are fond of saying that there are no words for trees or other flora and fauna in Yiddish, because Yiddish-speakers are book people, not nature-people. This, perhaps, reflects intellectual thinking in general, but doesn't reflect Yiddish linguistic reality in particular. When it comes to Eastern European plants, Yiddish has no lack of words, and often, no lack of regionally-specific words.

On Wednesday morning, Itzik Gottesman led a short walk around KlezKanada, giving us the names of many of these plants, and discussing some variants. Thursday, at 6pm, a second walk will be held. Nature-lovers, as well as the merely curious, will gather at the flagpole in front of the dining hall. The tour, itself, is in both Yiddish and English. Here are some of the terms we gathered today. The Yiddish terms were caught by Notes from Itzik Goldenberg, who kindly loaned me his notebook:



pine	סאַסנע	sas-neh
needles	נאָדלען שלאָף-עפעלער, -קעפלע	nodlen
mushroom (or sponge)	שוועמל	shveml
branch	צווייג	tsveig
root	וואַרצל	vortzl
clover	קאַנעשענע, קלעווער	ku-neshe-ne
bark	קאָרע	kore
fir tree	יאָדלע	yod-le
spruce	טענענבוים	tenenboym
buttercup	ראַנונקל	runoonkl
goldenrod	גינגאָלדעלע	gingoldele
maple	(געזבוים) קליאַן	klee-on
raspberry	מאַלינע	mulee-ne
berry, strawberry (but we didn't see any of these)	יאַגדע	yugde
blueberry	אַפֿענע	uf-ene
daisy	מאַרגאַריטקעלע	margaritkele
vetch	וויקע	veeke
leaves	בלעטער	blehter
flowers	בלומען	blumen
weed	ווילדגראַס, בוריאַנע	veeld-groz
poison ivy	סמבלעטער	sam-bleter
oak	דעמב	demb
basswood	לינדנבוים, ליפע	lindn-boym
blackberry	אָזשענע	ozshene
trail	סטעזשקע	stezhshke
fern	פעדערבלעטער	feder-bleter
birch	בערעזע, שבוועות-בוים	bereze
moss	מאָך	mokh
stump	פיען	fi-en
lichen	לעשייעס	leshai-es
grass	גראַס	groz
plantain	באָפקע	bofke
sorrel	שטשאַוו, כטשוף	shtshav
spider web	פאָוועטיניע, שפינוועב	foveteenee-a
holly	שאַרפֿבלעטער	sharf-bleter

Signs Would Be Nice

By Joyce Romoff

Where is the music room? I can see it on the map but the perfectly marked map trails don't appear to exist in reality. I don't believe in Astrology but a sign, any sign, would be terrific. Luckily, a new found friend and I found the unmarked grass trail between the Tzofim cabins and found the music room at the end; sort of like finding the gold at the end of the rainbow. What is a Tzof, anyway?

There, we had the pleasure and privilege to attend Elaine Hoffman Watts' "Girls Don't Play Drums!" workshop. Did you say "Hands On" workshop? Absolutely. I confess not to know much about the history of Klezmer but, according to the brochure, Elaine Hoffman Watts "is the heir to the three-generation Hoffman Klezmer tradition of Philadelphia." OK, I'm from Philadelphia but, obviously, not from the "right" side of the tracks because everyone else, but me, appears to know her and her grandfather very, very well. Note to everyone: Elaine's daughter, Susan Watts, another worthy heir, is also not to be missed; she played at the staff concert with Joanne Borts and the "Vikings" (better than the "Pussycats"). But, back to Elaine's workshop.

Have you ever had a teacher who is so excellent at her chosen subject (in Elaine's case, drums), that all you can do is gape and feel humbled? That's sort of what happens when we learn from Elaine. She is an excellent teacher but, more than occasionally, she would launch into one of her complex riffs and then try to convince the rest of us that, someday, we too, could emulate her. I don't think so.

Still, it is much fun to try to keep up the rhythm with the trombonist (I'm sorry but I didn't get your name) and Mary Rose (no last names, please) who was

a talented sight-reader. We learned the Mommy-Daddy, 9 stroke, and 5 stroke rolls. Also the flam. And then there was the 2 part or 3 part or 4 part rhythms that all I could do was improvise.

You don't carry drums around in your luggage? Not to worry. Elaine had more than enough drums although she was short a few drumsticks- there will be more, she promises. No prerequisites are required but a willingness not to take yourself so seriously and a willingness to learn is required. Also, "you have to count your tushy off", says Elaine, in order to keep time. Although my tushy is substantial (unfortunately), I don't count well. Therefore, I'm off to learn more about counting, today.



Daily Acts of Loving Kindness

Photo: Klezkanada Photographer

By Elaine Cooper

Whom among us has not lost a loved one ... a parent, a child, a partner? Nobody knows when it will be our turn.

How many of us have found comfort and solace in saying *Kaddish* in the comfort of others? During periods of mourning one of the greatest gifts that I received was having friends coming unasked to the morning and

afternoon *minyans* to make sure that would always be ten people. Last night Michael Wex asked for people to come ... and this morning there were 10.

Most of us would agree that an important *mitzvah* to do an act of loving kindness (*chesed*) where the giving may be anonymous and where there may not be thanks. Making sure that there is a quorum of ten people falls into that category. To-morrow morning the Torah will be read ... the *minyan* will begin at 7.15 am, Friday will be at 7.30 am. There are *tallits* and *kippahs* and *siddurs* are available. One size fits all.

to be continued!

Photo: Truda Bloom