



קלעזנייעס KlezNews

2007 אָגוסט 23סטן דעם 23rd August, 2007

מיזרח און מיטל-מיזרח טרענדס

מיטוואך, דעם 22סטן אויגוסט איז פֿאַרגעקומען אין קלעזקאָנאָדע אַ פּרעכטיקער קאָנצערט-פּראָגראַם "מיזרח און מיטל-מיזרח טרענדס מערב". די פּראָגראַם האָט באַשטאַנען פֿון 3 טיילן. אין ערשטן טייל האָט דער עולם געזען די ווונדערלעכע אַרויסטרעטן פֿון די קלעזמאַרים פֿון ישראל. מען האָט חנאַה געהאַט פֿון פּישוֹפֿדיקן זינגען פֿון וועראַ לאַזינסקי, וואָס איז געקומען קיין ישראל פֿון מאַלדאַווע און האָט זיך געלערנט דאָס זינגען פֿון ייִדישע לידער מיט אַ באַוויסטער זינגען-לערערין נחמה ליפּשיץ. זייער חנעוודיק האָבן געשפּילט און געזונגען די קלעזמאַרים פֿון "אוי דיוויזיע" קאָפּעליע. באַזונדערס רירנדיק איז געווען דער אַרויסטרעט פֿון אַרקאַדי גאַלדענשטיין, אַ פּלימעניק פֿון אונדזער באַליבטן גערמאַן גאַלדענשטיין, א"ה, וואָס האָט געווידמעט זיין קאָמפּאָזיציע צו זיין פֿעטער.

בשעת דעם 2טן טייל האָבן די קלעזמאַרים פֿון געוועזענעם ראָטן-פֿאַרבאַנד אַרויזגעוויזן זייערע גלענצנדיקע טאַלאַנטן: סיי אין שפּילן מוזיק סיי אין זינגען. דער ניוואַ איז געווען הויך-פּראָפּעסיאָנעל און די צוקוקער האָבן געשעפּט אַ סך נחת פֿון דעם. בעתן -3טן טייל האָט טעאַדאָר ביקעל אינספּירירט און באַגייסטערט דעם עולם מיט זיין אויסגעצייכנטער פּראָגראַם פֿון וועלט באַוויסטע לידער (ווי למשל, אַ שטיק פֿון "פּידלער אויפֿן דאַך", וואָס ער האָט געזונגען אויף ייִדיש) ווי אויך לידער אויף לאַדינאַ, העברעיִש און רוסיש. דער קאָנצערט וועט בלייבן אין זכרון אויף אַ לאַנגער צייט.



Staff Profile: SoCalled

by Reuben Cohen

KlezKanada faculty member Josh Dolgin is a rapper, DJ, accordionist, and producer who makes quality Jewish music under the codename of "SoCalled." SoCalled recently released his third album, "Ghetto Blaster," and he had a few things to tell me about the album. On the album, he collaborates with many great artists, such as Theodore Bikel, Stuart Brotman, Susan Watts, David Krakauer, Frank London, and Irving Fields, but he says the person he had the most fun with was popular funk trombonist Fred Wesley, most famous for his extensive work with James Brown in the 1970's. "He's really my idol," Dolgin says. The album took 2 years to record and produce, which Dolgin says wouldn't always have been so. "Danny Rubinstein, his album took one day to make. That's because the band worked together every day, so they could just go into the studio, and Bam! There's your record."



Behind the Scenes at KlezKanada Artin Djevalikian

by Ezra Gliner

Birthday cakes are always a delight to eat, but rarely are they as wonderful to look at as the violin cake made for Hy Goldman's 80th birthday. Fortunately, KlezKanada has the benefit of Artin Djevalikian, a professional pastry chef whose creations have become a prominent feature of CBB special occasions. Known affectionately by his friends as 'Arty the Party,' Artin is a Lebanese-born, Brazilian raised, Armenian baker whose beautiful cakes and deserts are enjoyed by CBB guests and staff each summer. A graduate of the Hotellerie de Quebec, Artin has spent more than forty years crafting innovative deserts at such notable Montreal establishments as the Ritz-Carleton and Queen Elizabeth hotels. Now back at CBB for the second consecutive summer, Artin delights in creating colourful deserts for both campers and klezmorim. Keep an eye open throughout the week for more of Artin's beautiful creations.



Meshugeh enough to start a youth klezmer program? Here are 10 things you need to know

by Eric and Mindy Zaidins

In 2001, 10-year-old twin brothers decided that they wanted to play klezmer music at their b'nai mitzvah. They convinced five of their friends to join them—with the promise of getting "mitzvah credit" from their Hebrew school—and their parents hired a teacher. The Westchester Klezmer Program was born. Today, WKP is tuning up for its eighth year, under the music direction of Kenny Green (aka at KlezKanada as "Big Guy"). Expecting



over 60 musicians from age 11 through "too old to mention," WKP has trained at least 150 musicians from over 20 shuls in Westchester County, New York. What are some of our insights regarding the success and longevity of our program?

- 1. A dynamic music director.** Kenny Green teaches music to young children at six area synagogues. Because he has a magnetic personality, he is our strongest marketing tool. In fact, our musicians say that jamming with Kenny is their primary reason for joining WKP.
- 2. Community support.** The program was awarded an operating grant from UJA Federation of New York during its third and fourth years. Not only did this grant allow WKP to provide more community performances, but it also helped give the program credibility within the Jewish community.
- 3. Synagogue support.** WKP rehearses free of charge at two area synagogues. While we attract a disproportionate number of musicians from those shuls, synagogues and clergy throughout the county help promote WKP by publicizing notices in their print and email newsletters.
- 4. An inclusive synagogue community.** Synagogue members don't think twice about rehearsing at someone else's shul.
- 5. "Family support."** From almost its inception, the program has welcomed adults, both in their own band and also as "helpers" in the youth bands. Many of our core players are in WKP with siblings and/or parents. We also strongly encourage joining with friends.
- 6. Community service credit.** WKP promotes most heavily to 11- and 12-year-olds entering the two concentrated years of preparation for their bar/bat mitzvah. Most of our participating shuls (reform, conservative, and orthodox) have approved WKP as a pre-bar/bat mitzvah community service project. Area high schools likewise accept participation toward community service credit.

continued page 8

MICHAEL WEX

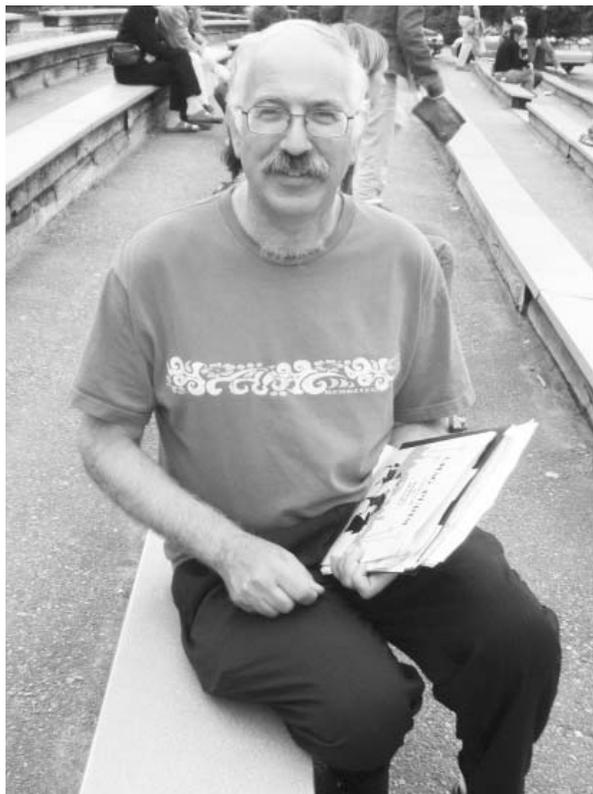
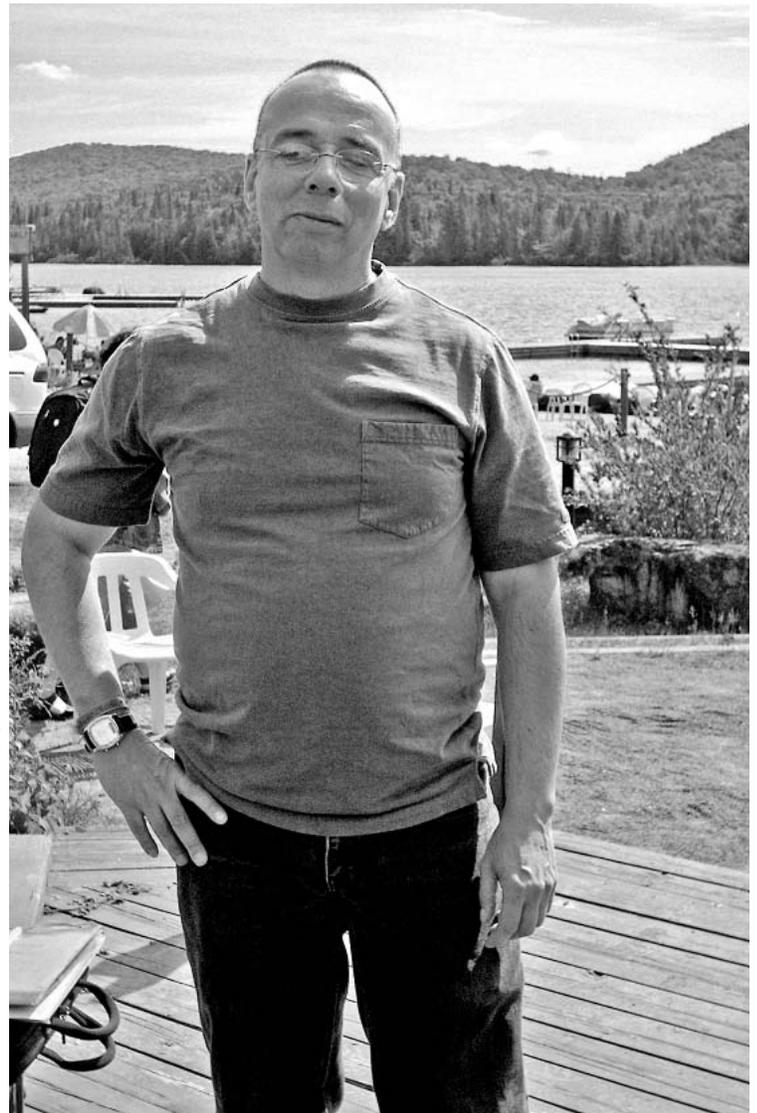
by Reuben Cohen

If you go to the KlezKanada gift shop, you will find many books written by or about KlezKanada faculty members. The most prominent pile of books there is the stack of the surprise bestseller *Born to Kvetch* by KlezKanada faculty member, author Michael Wex. After his great lecture Wednesday morning, I managed to corner him and get all of the juicy details behind this author's great success.

This year, Wex is giving a three-part lecture about odd rituals performed on Jewish holidays, and their influence outside the holiday itself. As always, he is very funny.

In addition to giving lectures this year, Wex is the official director of concerts for KlezKanada. This means that he has to "make lists of performers and the order that they will perform in, then I have to tell Bruno and the other technical people what tech needs people have, like if one group needs 12 mics then I tell Bruno that, then I've got to make sure the performers are there when they're supposed to be and make sure they don't go overtime so that the concert ends on time." On top of all that, he is the MC of all the concerts, showcasing his comedic talent even more.

This year, KlezKanada members get a special treat; on Saturday, Michael Wex will read from his two new books, *Just Say Nu: Yiddish for Every Occasion (When English Just Won't Do)* and *The Adventures of Micah Mushmelon, Boy Talmudist*, and the chance to purchase the two books afterwards. The books are going to be released together, but



they will not be available to the general public until after Rosh Hashanah.

Master of Musicals: Morton Hyams

by Reuben Cohen

One reform synagogue in Marblehead, Massachusetts, is very fortunate to have KlezKanada participant Morton Hyams as their musical director. Hyams is the musical director of Temple Emmanu-El in Marblehead, and he is also the author of many musicals. One of them, "The Light that Shines on Jerusalem," is being performed right now. It is about a family that goes to Israel. They challenge the chil-

dren to create a story saying what could have happened in Israel in ancient times. He has a demo recording of this play available by email at lynn.hyams@comcast.net. He is currently working on musicals about classical composers Johann Sebastian Bach and Claude Debussy. In the past, he has also written a musical called "Chag Purim," which is available from Tara Books.

אַ לעגענדע-פֿאַרבעסערט אין קלעזקאַנאַדס

פֿון דבורה בערמאַן

געלט. ער איז געפֿאַרן קיין אַמעריקע. לייזיק איז געוואָרן אַ ייִדישער העלד, די נשמה פֿון דעם ייִדישן פֿאַלק. "מען זאָגט ער איז געווען איידל און ווי אַזון, "האַט געזאָגט נעמי. "ניין" האָט געזאָגט שפּרה לוסטגאַרטן, "ער איז געווען איידל און שטרענג. איך האָב לייזיקן געקענט אַז קינד. מײַן טאַטע איז געווען אַ ייִדישער פּאַעט, י.י. סיגאל. לייזיק איז געקומען צו אונדז צו גאַסט אָפֿטמאַל."

"דאָס איז בעסער" האָט געזאָגט נעמי. "דערציילט אונדז וועגן דעם לייזיק וואָס איר האָט געקענט."

מיר אַלע זענען לערערס אין "קלע-זקאַנאַדאָ." עטלעכע שטודירן טעקסטן. און אַנדערע האָבן געקענט די לעבעדי-קע לעגענדעס.

נעמי סאַנדראָוו, אַ לערערין, פֿון טעאַטער האָט אונדז דערציילט אַן אמתע לעגענדע. ה. לייזיק, איינער פֿון די גרעסטער ייִדישע שרייבערס, איז געבוירן געוואָרן אין רוסלאַנד אין יאָר 1888. אַ יונגער רעוואָלוציאַנער, האָט מען אים פֿאַרשיקט אין סיבער צוויי מאָל. לייזיק איז געווען יונג און דין און שוואַך. דאָס צווייטע מאָל וואָס מען האָט אים אַרעסטירט האָט דער ריכטער געהאַט רחמנות אויף אים. האָט דער ריכטער אים געזאָגט: זאָג נאָר אַז דו האָסט חרטה. לייזיק האָט נישט געוואָלט זיך אָנשולדיקן און איז פֿאַרשיקט געוואָרן נאָך אַ מאָל אין סיבער. ייִדן איבער דער וועלט האָבן אים שוין דעמאָלט ליב געהאַט און אים געראַטעוועט. זיי האָבן אים געשיקט אַ שליטן און

אונדזער אוצר: אַברהם (אַרקאַדי) גענדלער

פֿון איציק גאַטעסמאַן

צום ערשטן מאָל איז געקומען אין קלעזקאַנאַדע דער פֿאַלקזינגער קאַמפּאַזיטאָר און לערער - אַברהם (אַרקאַדי) גענדלער. אין זײַן טעגלעכער סעסיע אין דער פֿרי מיט מישיקע אַלפּערט און אַסיאַ וויסמאַן דערציילט ער פֿון זיין לעבן אינעם באַסאַראַבער שטעטל סאַראַקע וווּ ער איז געווען איינס פֿון צען קינדער. פֿון זענע עלטערע ברידער און שוועסטער פֿון חברים און פֿון פֿרײַנד פֿון דער משפּחה האָט ער זיך געלערנט ייִדישע לידער. היינט פֿאַרמאָגט ער אַ זעלטענעם רעפּערטואַר פֿון ווייניק באַקאַנטע לידער. מיטוואַך האָט ער געזונגען דאָס ליד "מאַנגערס צוואה" וואָס ער האָט אַליין געהערט פֿון מאַנגערן אין סאַראַקע. כאַטש דאָס ליד געפֿינט זיך נישט אין קיין זאַמלונג פֿון מאַנגערס פּאַעזיע האָט זיך באַוויזן נאָך אַן עדות אינעם קלאַס אויך פֿון באַסאַראַביע (בריטישאַן) וועלכער האָט באַשטעטיקט, אַז מאַנגער האָט טאַקע מחבר געווען דאָס ליד אין דער זעלביקער סעסיע האָט גענדלער געלערנט מיטן קלאַס דאָס ליד "דער קראַגן" וואָס זײַן שווער האָט געשאַפֿן פֿאַר דער אויפֿפֿירונג פֿון אַ גאַלדפֿאַדן פּיעסע.

היינט ווינט פֿרײַנד גענדלער אינעם אוקראַינישן שטעטל זאַפּאַראַזשיע וווּ ער איז דער ייִדיש-לערער אין דער אַרטיקער ייִדישער שול. דאַנערשטיק אין קאָליע באַראַדאָלינס "באַגעגענישן אויף ייִדיש" וועט ער ארומרעדן דעם מצבֿ פֿון ייִדיש אין זײַן שול. גענדלער ווערט פֿאַרבעטן אויף פֿאַרשיידענע פֿעסטיוואַלן און זומער-פּראָגראַמען. דעם זומער איז ער אויפֿגעטראַטן אין דער ווילנער זומער-פּראָגראַם אין דער ווימאַרער ייִדיש-פּראָגראַם אין דעטשאַלאַנד און אין דער פּעטערבורגער קלעזפֿעסט. וווּ ער טרעט אויף זינגט ער נישט נאָר די לידער וועלכע ער

המשך זײַט 8



Sylvia Lustgarten

“I was Born at a Very Early Age”

Words of Wisdom by Elaine Watts

by Richard Kurtz

Hankus Netsky, Henry Sapoznick and Sherry Mayrent all know that Elaine Watts has been a key link to past klezmer music. They know of Elaine's talent and her importance as a role model for aspiring klezmer percussionists. Their recognition of Elaine was put into concrete terms when they wrote letters of recommendation to support Elaine's nomination by the Philadelphia Folklore Project for the United States National Endowment for the Arts, Heritage Fellowship Lifetime Achievement Award. This past May Elaine received a call from the director of the NEA to let her know that she indeed was chosen as a recipient of the award. This recognition is a *BIG* deal and it left her feeling proud and happy.

She makes a point that this recognition was not just for her but was a tribute to her family roots in Philadelphia as well as the artists, such as those at Klez Canada and Klez Kamp who have been so supportive of her work.

Elaine has been surrounded by music all her life. She explains that there was no Klezmer revival in her life. As far back as she remembers klezmer was just there. Her father Jacob Hoffman was a fixture on the Philadelphia music scene. He was a percussionist who first learned to play music in the 1920s at the Settlement Jewish music school in South Philly. He played piano at silent movie theaters. He worked in the Philadelphia orchestra, played opera, worked on the radio, and of course he played for Jewish simchas. Elaine's father taught her beats and found teachers to help her learn the drums. When she was 10 years old her father took her with him on jobs at a local shul in West Philadelphia. Elaine played drums for the band for a few songs at each simcha.

At an early age something began to emerge for Elaine that has followed her throughout her life. She got stares and questions about the fact that she was a female playing the drums. This happened a lot--during her single days, when she was on stage pregnant, and sometimes even now from people who do not know her. Her first gig on her own was at 12 years old when she and a group of fellow junior high school students played at a church dance. She remembers playing Irving Berlin's tune, "Blue Skies." At 18 Elaine entered the



prestigious Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia as the first female percussionist. At Curtis her timpani teacher, David Grupp, inspired her and gave her the confidence to attain her musical goals despite the obstacle of being a woman percussionist. When she was 22 a violinist asked her if she wanted to meet her handsome cousin Ernie Watts. "sure, why not?" she replied. She spoke to Ernie and invited him to meet her at a performance she had at a local venue. It turns out that Ernie helped her schlep her equipment. As she said, she got a 2 for 1 deal: a date and a roady all in one. Elaine and Ernie got married on Sept. 5, 1955 and Ernie has been schlepping drums ever since. As she and Ernie shared their wedding memories with me they remembered how after the local musicians all over Philly finished their jobs they came to their wedding where Elaine played the drums in her wedding dress.

The Watt's have 3 daughters who live near Elaine and Ernie. It is common for them to have their daughters and 5 grandchildren congregate at Elaine's house for holidays and music gatherings. Their youngest daughter Susan, a Klez Kanada teacher and an extraordinary talented trumpeter and singer has taken on the family musical tradition. At 7 years old little Susan found her father's old unused trumpet in the closet, she took it down and began to toot on it and decided that this was her instrument.

Until the late '90s few musicians had heard about Elaine or Susan and the Hoffman family legacy. That all

Continued page 8



זײַט שוין גרייט-לויף צונויף

Get Ready for the 3rd Annual Loyf Tzunoyf

by Elaine Cooper

“Be prepared.” That is the boy scouts marching song. “Be prepared as through life you march along...” (Some of you may remember the Tom Lehrer version and you can fill in the blanks).

Prepare yourself for the Third Annual KlezKanada *Loyf Tzunoyf*. If you are a walker, first you need to register. Cost is Chai or \$18.00, if you are so inclined you could make it double chai. If you are a contributor sponsor a walker or make a donation to Loyf Tzunoyf. Last year the walk raised over \$3600.00 Canadian dollars. This year our goal is \$5000.00

From the T shirt logos that are worn around KK many of us have walked marathons to raise monies for the Heart and Stroke Foundation, some have completed the RUN for the Cure and some like myself have completed the 60 K Walk to raise money for research to find a cure for Breast Cancer. Walking in a group is not only fun, you hear new jokes, the latest gossip and meet new people ... and if you walk 10,000 steps a day, you are guaranteed to lose weight.

If you want to do a practice walk meet Gilda Jubas and I at 7.30 Thursday morning at the flagpole across from the dining hall and we will complete the 2.5 loop.

You don't have to be the Energizer Bunny to do this walk. Speed absolutely not the issue. The only necessary piece of equipment are walking shoes. So rise and shine on Friday morning, hydrate, have an energy bar or half a bagel so I'll see you there.

To register for *Loyf Tzunoyf*, see Joanne Borts. We will meet at 6:30am in the Retreat Center. The starting gun will amble off at 7pm sharp.



In the absence of weight-lifting facilities, here are a few suggestions:



double-arm
clarinet raise
(advanced-use
trombones)



accordion-case
triceps dip



reclining
cello leg-extension
(advanced-use
double bass)

Next week:

piano-lift technique (beginner)

S. Herktop.

KLEZKINDER WITH BRULI AND LISA

KlezKanada is the
only place we can:

Learn Ukranian

exercises with

Arkady Gendler

Eat fried salami

sandwiches at

3:30 by the lake

Zing Yiddish songs

for everybody at

the flagpole

Kvell over Avi Young

playing Sheyn vi

di Levone at the

Kabaret

Improve our violin,

clarinet, trumpet,

keyboard, flute

and fife playing

Never never never

go to sleep

Draw Pincus books

with Shari and

Evelyn

Eat more fried

salami sandwiches

at 3:30 by the lake

Realize how lucky

we are...

ODE TO HY GOLDMAN

by Penny Meshwork

On the occasion of reaching that important
milestone “Four Score”
I write this poem to help me say “Brovo”!
Wishing you many more

You are a man for all seasons—a man for all
time
As you get older you get better like a good
bottle of wine

Your accomplishments are so many—you
are so unique
And still you haven’t even reached your peak
You continue, night and day to tend to your
young patients
Always calm, so kind and never ever tense

The children adore you and so they should
Cause bottom line you are the one that makes them feel good

The rest of your hours you fill with your passion
The “KlezKanada Festival” with its lofty mission

Your dedication is an example for many to follow too
Everyone is so amazed at how much you really do

For 12 years now you have filled the dales and hills
With Yiddish music and culture that really thrills

Creating the youth scholarship program truly exemplifies
Your deep desire that history and plaintive sound never dies
Hundreds and hundreds of young artists come and learn so
much
About their roots and a language with which they have lost
touch

You’ve given so much to many children, women, and man
And God has repaid you, as only He can

With a wonderful and loving Eschet Chayil Sandy always at
your side
Who joins you completely on your merry-go-ride



And with children who love, are so proud and cherish you so
And support you in whatever you decide to do or wherever
you go

As a dad and granddad you’ve set the bar so very high
For Ilan, David, Ronit, Noah, Tyler, Isaiah and baby Ely

So now that you’ve reached a milestone age
Much that is wonderful has been written on your page
“As you continue to paint your canvas of today”

Remember to brush in lots of happiness and light
And continue to make everyone’s days joyful and bright
Skilled as you are with your life’s brush, continue to portray
And create a fulfilled and happy picture on your canvas of
today

May your future years be filled with pleasures galore
Good health, and once again, may you enjoy many many
more

Yasher koach, as they say in Hebrew
You walk very tall as a many and a Jew



Elaine Watts *from page 5*

changed because of the opportunity that Klez Kanada opened up. In 1999, Philadelphia born Hankus Netsky, brought Susan and Elaine and of course Ernie the roady, to Klez Kanada. People were impressed by their talent, enthusiasm, the experience of Elaine, and the pure-tone talent of Susan. Getting the recognition at Klez Kanada was a highlight for Elaine and it gave Susan the forum from which she launched her Jewish music career. Klez Kanada offered the Hoffmans the exposure that was needed to let the world know about these 2 generations of klezmer musicians.

Look out for Elaine's grandsons: drummer Bradley; trombonist-pianist Douglas; and cellist-pianist Jonathan, as they continue the traditions of this fine family. Elaine will officially receive her Heritage Fellowship Award on September 20th at Strathmore Hall in North Bethesda Maryland. She will be performing a klezmer piece with her daughter Susan and some of her fellow artists and friends. We all have benefited from Elaine's talent, humor and inspiration and as she says that she has gained so much from the people she has worked with at Klez Kanada since 1999.

Klezmer Program, from page 2

7. Performance opportunities. WKP's mission is to perform in the community for nursing homes, adults and children with special needs, and synagogues. Each year, our musicians have the opportunity to perform at least half a dozen times.

8. Building music skills. Most of our musicians learned to play using sheet music and initially are not comfortable playing by ear. Kenny uses very skeletal sheet music, Sherry Mayrent's *Klezmer for Everyone* books, and gradually teaches musicians how to improvise and ornament with their sheet music as a framework.

9. Exposure to the klezmer world at large. WKP hosts professional klezmerim who conduct workshops with our

Josh Dolgin, from page 1

Dolgin is a big fan of Rubinstein's, and played a major role in getting him to

גענדלער פֿון זייט 4

געדענקט פֿון דער היים נאָר אויך
זינע אייגענע קאָמפּאָזיציעס וועלכע
ווערן זייער וואַרעם אויפֿגענומען ביים
עולם.

אַז מע כאַפט אַ שמועס מיט
גענדלערן פֿאַרשטייט מען באַלד
וואָס פֿאַר אַן אוצר מיר האָבן אין
קלעזקאָנאָדע. אין מין קלאַס וועגן
פֿאַלקס-מעשיות האָבן מיר גערעדט
וועגן דער מעשה "בעבעלע" אַ קינד
וואָס ווערט נישט גרעסער פֿון אַ
בעבעלע. ווי אַ רעזולטאַט פֿון אונדזער
שמועס האָט ער אונדז געלערנט
קינדער-ציילענישן פֿון די פֿינגער און
אַנדערע קינדערשפּילן. וואָס פֿאַר אַ
פֿראַגע מע זאָל נישט שטעלן גענדלערן
וועגן דעם ייִדישן לעבן אין מיזרח-
אייראָפּע קען ער באַלד גיבן אַ משל
- אַ ליד, אַ גראַם, אַ וויץ. זאָל ער זיין
געזונט און קומען אויף נאָך אַ סך
קלעזקאָנאָדעס!

Personal Ads

To submit a personal advertisement, accompany it with a \$5 (or more) contribution to the KlezKanada Scholarship fund.

I am doing some research

on the Montreal Jewish neighborhood known as Papineau, between the years

of 1925-1942. If you lived there, or know of people who did, please leave me a note on the bulletin board in the Retreat Center. Peter Teitelbaum, travelclinic@rogers.com

10. Dedicated administrative leadership. Our executive director and secretary (parents of WKP's "founders") put in many hours each week scheduling rehearsals, communicating with musicians and parents, organizing the performance schedule, updating the website (www.klezkidz.org), and networking with area shuls. WKP is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit with directors that meet regularly during the year.

come to KlezKanada this year. "Ghetto Blaster" is Dolgin's favorite of his own albums. About his music, he says "Yeah. It totally reflects me." He says



Heard on the street: "I've noticed two things about KlezKanada. There is a lot of chopped meat for dinner. And there are no cats on campus."

Missing: A Black mountain bike with the label "Specialized Hard Rock." Had a hot pink bell. If found, please contact Hy or Sandy

that he would buy "Ghetto Blaster" even if it weren't his own album. He jokingly remarked "It's the greatest Jewish music ever created."