David Stein Film Retrospective
—A Memorial. A film series featuring a variety of works by the late Toronto filmmaker David A. Stein, who sadly died this past year at the age of 34. RC Multipurpose Room, 2–5 pm.

Music Research on the Web—Judy Pinnolis arrives Wednesday afternoon and will be available for private sessions on doing music research. [RC or Computer Center?]

Words like Ribbons—Visual Arts Program. Retreat Center, Conference Room 1, 2nd floor, 24/7 access—ask RC Reception for key.

Thursday AM:
AM I: Ari Davidow: “Yiddish Typography”
AM II: Emily Socolov/Vera Sokolow

Friday PM II: We will read/hear 3 scenes by Peretz Hirschbein: 1 harsh, 1 dreamy, and 1 light. We need actors and actresses to read either in Yiddish or in English. Contact Nahma Sandrow.
The following song was the finale at last night’s “East Meets West” concert. It was written by Yevgeniya Lopatnik, and the song sheet was distributed to the audience.

In velt iz alts git!

text & music: Yevgeniya Lopatnik (Kharkov, Ukraine)

Everybody’s complaining, “Oy vey!”
Life is a real pain
And the day is dull and gray
So try to be like this:

Refrain:
Dancing and happy
Laughing and straightforward
Don’t keep your mouth shut
Sing this song
That everything in the world is okay.

Work in the kitchen is hard
The kids are screaming, jumping and crying
And the money disappears really fast
Just do exactly as I do:

Refrain:
Dancing and happy
Laughing and straightforward
Don’t keep your mouth shut
Sing this song
That everything in the world is okay.

Neighbors can be mean and stingy
Your boss yells at you
Milk is expensive at the market—
Just remember really well:

Refrain:
Dancing and happy
Laughing and straightforward
Don’t keep your mouth shut
Sing this song
That everything in the world is okay.

Copyright © 2001 by Yevgeniya “Zhenya” Lopatnik, of the Kharkov Klezmer Band, Kharkov, Ukraine. All rights reserved. This song may not be recorded in any form without the written permission of the author.

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A new piece of musical theatre based on a monologue by Sholem Aleichem, and created by Jenny Levison and Josh Waletzky is coming to life. Since the piece is about a mother getting her son out of the tzar’s army, Jenny and Josh have been gathering oral histories of other draft resisters. Yesterday we printed one story. Here are more.

**Sam Young**

My great grandfather’s name was Abis, and they lived in Russia, and this was, I believe during the time of the Russo-Japanese war. My great grandfather realized that there were a lot of Jews being drafted and very few of them coming back. And he himself was called up. There was another Jew in the village who came back as a corpse. His name was Garber. And my great grandfather took the toe tag basically off the corpse and took that as his name—and as a dead person emigrated to America. So my mother’s family name ever since has been Garber.

**Name withheld by request**

Basically the story begins during the Vietnam War, and my father had seen many of his friends sent away, who were drafted into war, and many of them did not return. And my father being a man that really looks at things and wants to do the right thing, weighs out things in his mind very carefully. What the circumstances are. What is the purpose of the war. And he did not agree with the reasons why people went into Vietnam. And he did not feel that he would be comfortable taking another person’s life. So he wound up going through an entire process that went through the courts and he received a conscientious objector status. And basically what this meant was that through different court appearances he had to plead his case with the courts and state that he didn’t want to kill another human being. In the process he had to become a teacher, and he also had to get doctors’ notes stating that his asthma would be a deterring factor (whether that was true or not, one can speculate.) And he also had to become a member of clergy. And my father is Jewish, and he was born Jewish and he still is Jewish today, but in order to become a member of clergy he subscribed to the Universal Church of Life and he became an ordained minister. He sent in his contribution and he was sent back a certificate that said that he’s an ordained minister and in the process of this he had to ordain somebody else or have some sort of ceremonial procedure. His friend was also going through a similar process, so he ordained his friend and then his friend had to do something, so he married their other friend. So it was interesting what became of this. And actually recently I looked up that organization on the internet, and it’s still there. So hopefully it won’t come to be with the war that we’re in now, but maybe somebody else could use that in the future.

**Renah Wolzinger**

My father’s family is from Burma and India and his mother is born in India and his father in Burma, and they’re Sephardic Jews. During the war they were in Burma and they got bombed out and had to go to London and got bombed out again and ended up in the United States. And his two brothers got drafted. They were in their twenties so it must have been the Korean War. My father’s father got injured. He got a spinal injury and ended up in a wheelchair. My father ended up having to support his mother and the other three children from the age of 18, so they ended up not drafting him out of hardship. So he’s the only one in the family who didn’t get drafted. He ended up working and going to college part time and trying to make a living for everyone else.
Kleznews is published daily during KlezKanada 2005, the 10th anniversary of KlezKanada. Staff include Ari Davidow, Roberta Levine and Rachel Weiss.

Everyone is invited to contribute drawings, writing, and especially reportage in the language in which they are most comfortable. Deadline is breakfast for the daily noon edition. All contents copyright by their creators, and all rights reserved by the creators.

A PDF copy of this newsletter will be available online (as soon as internet connectivity from camp allows!), and HTML versions of the stories and art will be placed online, along with additional materials, in a weblog format to permit comments and participation around the world.

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KlezKanada participant Dr. Sheldon Hershkop, drawn by Netanel Hershkop

Klezmer Coast to Coast
by Keith and Renah Wolzinger

KlezKanada is a great place to make life long friends who have a lot in common—especially musically. That is the case with Renah Wolzinger and Stuart Warshauer. Renah and Stu met several years ago, hanging out at the airport in Montreal, waiting for the camp bus. They played together many times at the Klez Cabaret, and became great friends.

One evening at dinner, Stuart mentioned that he wished he could make a recording of his violin. Luckily, Renah owns RenZone Studios in Southern California, a Digital Recording Studio, and teaches Recording Engineering at Golden West College. She suggested that Stuart fly out to California and record in her studio.

Stu mailed tunes from Florida, and Renah assembled the band—members of the South Coast Simcha Band, which she directs. When Stu arrived in California, it was a mini KlezKanada reunion. We rehearsed the next day, and started recording in the evening. Stuart and Renah collaborated on the arrangements, and a CD project was born—Klezmer Coast to Coast, featuring Stuart on violin, and Renah on clarinet.

It was a wonderful project, which has turned into a great CD of tunes enjoyed by audiences of all ages. It was a great experience and we look forward to sharing our music with everyone as we prepare for our next joint project.