



# KlezNews קלעזנייעס

27th August, 2009 דעם 27סטן אוגוסט 2009

יונגע

מענטשן און זיי אנטוויקלען זייערע  
 פֿעיקייטן און ווייזן אַרויס זייער  
 טאַלאַנטן.  
 אַוויאַ מאָר פֿירט אָן מיט דער  
 פּראָגראַם שוין עטלעכע יאָרן. זי  
 אַרבעט זייער שווער בשעתן יאָר כדי  
 צו פֿאַרזיכערן אַז די פּראָגראַם איז אַ  
 דערפֿאַלג. נעכטן האָט זי צוזאַמען מיט  
 די אַנדערע געשעפט אַ סך נחס ווען דער  
 נשער דור פון געוועזענע סטיפּענדיאַנטן,  
 וואָס אַ סך פֿון זיי זענען לעצטנס  
 געוואָרן די לערערס בנים קלעזקאַנאַדע  
 האָבן געגעבן אַן אויסערגעוויינטלעכן,  
 פּרעכטיקן קאַנצערט.  
 מער ווי 20 מענטשן האָבן  
 ארויסגעוויזן פֿאַרן עולם זייערע  
 אוניקאַלע טאַלאַנטן. זיי האָבן  
 פֿאַרכיטשפֿט די פֿאַרזאַמלטע מיט נשע  
 און טראַדיציאָנעלע ניגנים און לידער,  
 אינספּירירט אונדז אַלעמען און בולט  
 באַוויזן אַז דער נשער דור וועט ממשיך  
 זיין סך מיט טראַדיציע סך מיט דער  
 אַנטוויקלונג פֿון אונדזער רשכער און  
 באַדייטנדיקער ירושה פֿון מיזרח-



Photo: Bob Smolin

## ישר-כּוּחַ, צאָר נשיער צור!

נעכטן ביש נאַכט איז פֿאַרגעקומען  
 אין קלעזקאַנאַדע צום ערשטן מאל גאָר  
 אַן אינטערעסאַנטער קאַנצערט.  
 ס'האַבן אַרויגעטראָטן אויף  
 דער בינע יונגע טאַלאַנטירטע  
 קלעזמאַרים, זינגערס און  
 זינגערינס וואָס כּמעט אַלע  
 פֿון זענען אויפֿגעוואַקסן און  
 אַנטפלעקט זייערע שעפֿערישע  
 פּוּחות דאָ, אין קלעזקאַנאַדע.  
 קלעזקאַנאַדע, אַחוץ  
 אומצאָליקע מעלות, האָט אָן  
 אוניקאַלע פּראָגראַם, וואָס שטיצט  
 ברייטהאַרציק די יונגעלייט אין  
 זייער לערנען מוזיק און קולטור  
 פֿון מיזרח-איראָפּעישן ייִדנטום.  
 אַלע יאָר קומען קיין קלעזקאַנאַדע  
 אַ סך סטיפּענדיאַנטן זיך לערנען

קלעזמער-מוזיק און ייִדיש ליד. די  
 לעצטע פֿאַר יארן קומען מער ווי 75  
 אייראָפּעישן ייִדנטום.



Photo: Robert Blackberg

# עֶחְדֵּךְ Ekhod

lyrics by Sarah Mina Gordon, melody trad Ukrainian-Jewish

Ekhod mi yoydea Ekhod, ekhod mi yoydea Ekhod ani yoydeo Ekhod ani yoydeo	Who knows one? One -- who knows one? I know one. Indeed, I know one.
In vos ken ikh gleybn? Ekhod, ekhod mi yoydea? Ikh ken zayn a maymen Ekhod ani yoydeo	What can I believe in? One -- who knows one? I can believe I know one.
Der nes fun zumer-shprenklen Un di naye kveytn fun an elntn boym Yay day day, der finkl fun mayn trern Ekhod ani maamino	The miracle of freckles And the new buds on a lone tree The sparkle of my tears... I believe in one
Di sharfe layd fun an ershte libe Ani yoydeo Keyn loybbezangn far di griber Ani maamino Der bagin vos efnt klore oygn Oy ikh ken zen Di eynstselne reges vos shafn a leb Ani maamino	The sharp pain of first love I know No eulogies by the grave I believe The dawn that opens clear eyes I can see The single moments that form a life I believe
A shorstik strup af a veykhe vund Ekhod ani yoydeo Der blutik royt fun a geshpaltene floym Ani maamino Der bagin vos efnt klore oygn Oy ikh ken zen Di eynstselne reges vos shafn a leb Ani maamino	The rough scab on a painful wound I know one The blood red of a split plum I believe The dawn that opens clear eyes I can see The single moments that form a life I believe

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“Ekhod” has been recorded by the author on the recent CD “Carnival Conspiracy” by Frank London’s Klezmer Brass Allstars (Piranha CD-PIR190). It was performed as the finale of the *Naye Dor* (New Generation) concert last night. Reprinted with the author’s permission.

## Guitar workshop

by Roger Reid

I made it back to Kanada after a few years away. Rather than bringing a half dozen half constructed (or half baked) tsimbali, I brought a guitar.

I took it up earlier this year in support of a different vocal repertoire. But once I had some open, cowboy chords down, I naturally looked into the common yidish progressions. It turns out that the D/Cm cadence of D Freyghish doesn't just fall under one's finger the way D/A/G does, nor does a Mishaberach Gm/D/Bb.

I took a few lessons, got taught major and minor scales with closed fingerings. Maybe I just reuse harmonic minor at 6 or 7; I thought. But I wanted to get it right, so the guitar came to Klez Kanada, and I joined I wanted to learn to play freyghish and Joey Weisenberg's Plucked Strings class every morning at 9 AM.

In typical Klez Kanada one room schoolhouse fashion, Joey's got a mix. Some truly accomplished players, some have played the instrument for years but don't know the repertoire, and some know the repertoire but not the guitar. He got us sized up and split into appropriate groups. It wasn't only a matter of technical level, it was also blending people who had different parts of the puzzle. That way he could give us a task, and go on to the other group.

For example, I know most any tune likely to come up, but I'm still learning how to hold my hands and myself and smoothly and in time. Someone else will have all that part down, but may be experiencing a scale with a 1.5 step jump for the first time.

We spent the first hour playing a single octave in D Freyghish, on a single string. When I was younger I might have objected: this is just what I want to avoid, the linear, pianistic approach

*Continued, p. 6*

# INTERVIEW WITH MARILLA WEX

By Michelle Wolzinger, Sabu Wex and Mira Netsky

## So how are you enjoying the weather?

I'm getting a bit burnt, but I kind of like it. I've been sunbathing every afternoon on the dock doing my knitting like a scary old lady.

## So you knit and you crochet?

Yes, I am multi-talented.

## What's your opinion about watermelon?

I quite like it, but the pits can be annoying. My sister thinks it has the consistency of human flesh, and she won't eat it. How she would know what human flesh is like, I wouldn't know.

## So do you speak Yiddish?

No. I'm quite happy being who I am and I don't have to learn Yiddish to be married to Michael Wex.

## What do we get from England?

Fish 'n' chips. Mushy peas. Disgusting. Ahh I hate them. My mum loves them.

## Stupid Americans.

You've just described most of my friends.

## Can you flail?

I don't think so. Can you?

## Michelle can, but she needs a beat.

Show me! Boom chicka boom boom boom chicka boom boom. I saw you doing this and I thought you were having some kind of epileptic episode yesterday. The flailing! What is with the flailing?

## Can you tell us about what you've been up to this year?

Yes! I've had an eventful year. It started in January, had a very nicely paid voice over, which was like \$4000 for about an hour's work, but then my puppy made me crash the car, because I was taking her to the store, and I stupidly didn't crate her, and she made a giant poo. And then she ran in the poo, and then she tried to climb onto the passenger seat

covered in poo, and she made me crash the car, which cost \$2000 to fix, so my big fat job turned into a slightly less fat job. And then I had no work for six months. And then I booked a TV show, and a play, and I was doing a stand-up contest all at the same time, which was CRAZY! I came in third out of sixty four comics. I rule!

## How do you feel about "rules" vs. "rocks?"

I rock. I think that sounds too young for me. It sounds like I'm trying to be in the hood and down with the kids. I'm not sure I could like, carry it off. Where as I can say "I rule" and I don't sound like some scary middle-aged woman. Yeah, I couldn't say "I rock." I think it's my accent, as well. There are certain things I say that sound stupid. You know? Like "seriously bro, you've got to check out this new movie." It just sounds silly in my voice. Like "dude." I can't say "dude." It just sounds so stupid.

## So what is this we've heard about a pirate movie?

Nina Becker is making a pirate movie, and it was going to be me vs. Josh Dolgin, like, competing pirates, but then, because I don't play a musical instrument, and I do a lot of voice work, they thought it would be funny if I narrated the film. So I think it's going to be Josh Dolgin vs. Michael Winnograd as pirates. We're going to make that on Saturday, so that's very exciting! Do you know you can make your facebook be in pirate? Like if you go to languages, you can set it to pirate English. And then everything is like, "yar." It's quite funny for about half an hour and then you kind of get sick of it. You need to put your pirate English at least once. It's quite entertaining.

## So – plate tectonics. What do you think of it?

I think they're responsible for a lot of disruption, obviously with earthquakes and with mountainous regions being formed. If they shift too fast, obviously that can be a problem. Ah, you know, lava, seeping through to the upper layers. That's my feeling on plate tectonics.



## So if there was a moose, walking down the street, and he ran into a frog, and the frog invited him over for tea, how would this continue?

I think the moose would have to tread very carefully, because he could easily squash the frog. I think the moose would probably like chocolate milk, but I'm thinking the frog would more want like a soda, maybe a lime soda. I don't know why, the green thing maybe. So they would want different things, and I think the frog's going to have a good collection of things. I think the frog's very outgoing. I think because the moose would be so large, the moose would never be invited many places, so I think the moose would be thrilled, and I think they would form a very close relationship that would last many years, and if the frog had tadpoles, I think the moose would definitely be a G-d parent.

## THE KLEZKANADA FILM CLASS: A BLOCKBUSTER DISAPPOINTMENT

by Louis London

When I originally heard that Klezkanada would be holding a film class this year, I was understandably ecstatic about this event. Like many people my age, you see, I enjoy movies, and the idea of a film class appeals greatly to me. So I decided, as part of a project, to attend this class and see what made it tick. A film class, after all, can only consist of two options: either people are making films, or they're watching films. For the sake of preserving interest, I hoped it was the former.

Right from the get-go, I realized this class might not be as fantastic as advertised. For one thing, the class was scheduled for AM 1 in Conference room 1, yet that is not the case. Neither of those facts are correct. The class is actually in the lounge, at PM 2. If a class starts by giving people a faulty time and address, that should be a huge sign of trouble.

Actually, a day prior to writing this ... exposé, so to speak, I was in the lounge when people started gathering to watch documentaries. If this was the film class—all the adult campers sitting around to look at Klezmer documentaries—then disappointment was certain.

I was able to find the director of the film class yesterday to ask him a few questions, so I could really understand what he was trying to do with the class. Apparently, the

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Stuart Warshauer: Photo: Les Schwartz

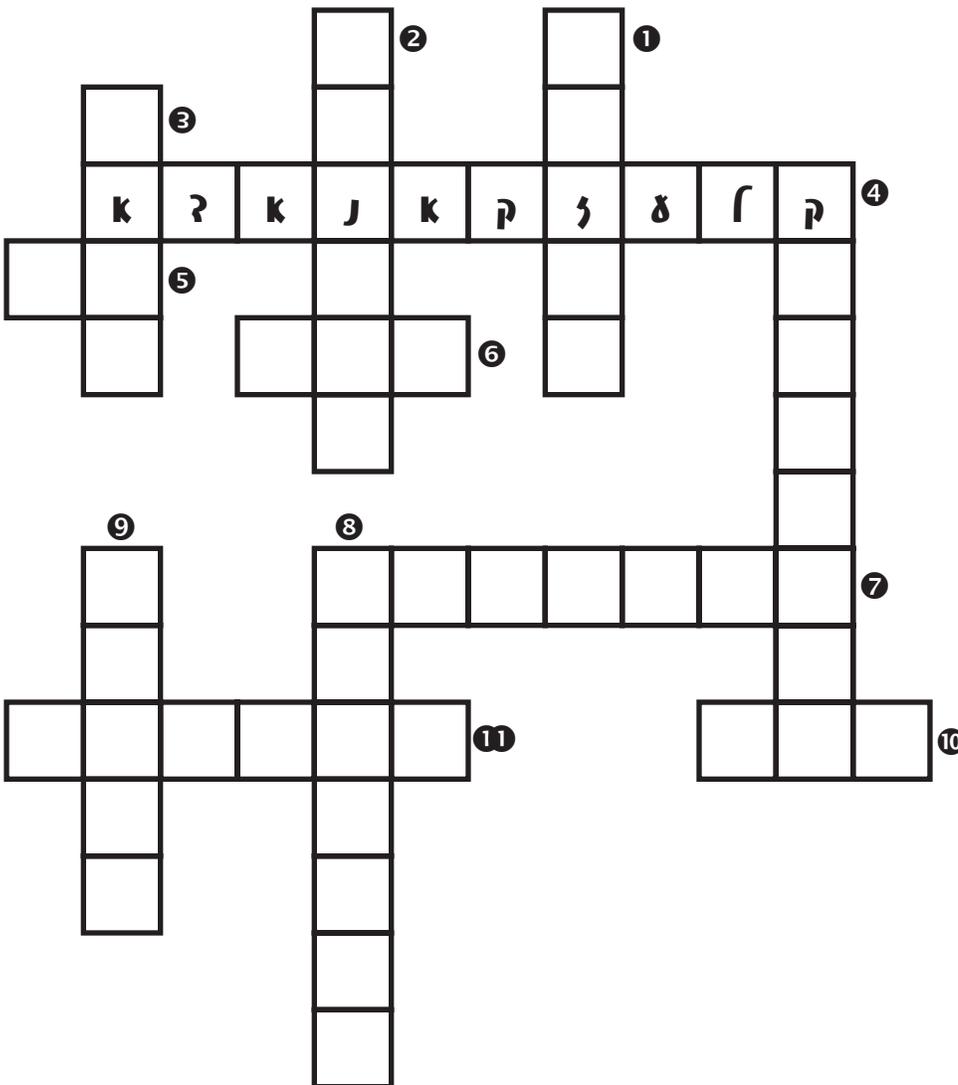


"Learning Dance Moves" Photo: Dan Rosenberg

# קעסטל רעטעניש

## Kestl Retenish (Box Riddle)

by Riki Friedman, Freydi Mrocki, Sophie Creutz



The clues are in English, but the answers are in Yiddish, without nikudot: One box for every sound (e.g., ײ or 11)

### Across

4. The 14th annual \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Just say \_\_\_\_\_. (Wex)
6.  (I'm Sonny to your \_\_\_\_\_.)
7. Go fly a \_\_\_\_\_ (★ 🦋).
10. Peysekh is over so לאַמיר (lomir) \_\_\_\_\_ pizza.
11. "Keep the staff program short so next year we will have more \_\_\_\_\_" (Wex)

### Down

1. If \_\_\_\_\_ be the food of love, play on (Shakespeare, 12th night)
2. "When I \_\_\_\_\_ *lekha dodi* you will \_\_\_\_\_ *chiri biri bim*"
3. (1) "If I can't \_\_\_\_\_ it's not my revolution (Emma Goldman) or (2) "Put on your red shoes and \_\_\_\_\_ the blues (David Bowie)
4. The name of this salubrious publication.
8. The klezmorim are \_\_\_\_\_ before/during/after the gig.
9. Don't just \_\_\_\_\_! Do something!

Solution, and a new puzzle, tomorrow.

Photo: Robert Blackberg





## Erratum

Yesterday, the following caption was misprinted. It should have read:

Steve Weintraub and Michael Alpert work on song and dance moves for KlezKanada. Photos: Robert Blacksborg

### Guitar workshop *Continued from p. 2*

One thing I have learned in half a century, however is Always Do What The Teacher Says At Least At First. So In Joey I Trusted.

After an hour, one of us started playing D Freyghish but staying a third above the rest. Then we did the same on another string. With this down, he showed us a closed, crossing string version and bam! it all came together in my mind.

I knew Freyghish - but now I know it on the guitar finger-board. That's a whole other world from knowing it more linearly such as on a tsimbl. And mostly, we were teaching each other the part we each "got", with Joey coming around with corrections and next steps. This is so helpful in my learning process. I can BS myself about how well I've learned something, but I can't really BS others for long. That's how I end up getting it right.

### Film Class *Continued on page 6*

Conclass is dedicated to a recently deceased documentary artist, and that it is mostly consisting of watching some of his old documentaries. The good news is, people can make films in the class; however, it is not an open class. It is reserved to three scholarship students, selected before KlezKanada started, who make a documentary over the course of the week and then have it shown the following year. Anyone else can only watch the documentaries.

All in all, the class's concept is more disappointing than one could've expected. I came hoping for two things from this class: that I could make a movie, and that I would be able to choose between documentary and home movie. As it turns out, I can't make movies, and I can only see docs.

## Personal Ads & Announcements

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

**Bobby Sandler**, who can carry on a conversation in Yiddish but with some difficulty, is looking for a fluent Yiddish-speaker to converse with occasionally on the phone. If interested, please contact him at the Retreat Centre, Rm 225, or call him when he's returned home at (506) 696 2859, or email him at [bobbysandler@rogers.com](mailto:bobbysandler@rogers.com).

**Online, full semester college-level course in Jewish music.** "Music of the Jewish People." Class start September 30. Taught by Judith Pinnolis, Editor of the Jewish Music WebCenter Intended for individuals who have completed high school and above. Register and pay through the Hebrew College. Available to students anywhere in the world who have internet access. For more information, please contact Barbara Cassidy, 617-559-8643, or [bcassidy@hebrewcollege.edu](mailto:bcassidy@hebrewcollege.edu).

### Did You Know?

When blowing shofar during Elul, Truah is not blown on Friday/Evening Shabbas. The likely reason is Shabbas is joyous while Truah depicts crying—Jerry Alpenstein

If I could make a suggestion for a later film class, I would make it more accessible to other people. Let more people join, and don't limit them to documentaries. It's something to try.

## קלעזנייעס KlezNews

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