

Miraculous music from Moscow choir

AN unbroken line of traditional Jewish liturgical music came to Manchester on Sunday straight from its Russian roots.

Members of Moscow's Cantorial Art Academy, who came overland across Europe on a bus, delighted the Manchester JNF audience with their novel arrangements of old favourites, interspersed with Russian folk songs and more up-to-date Israeli melodies.

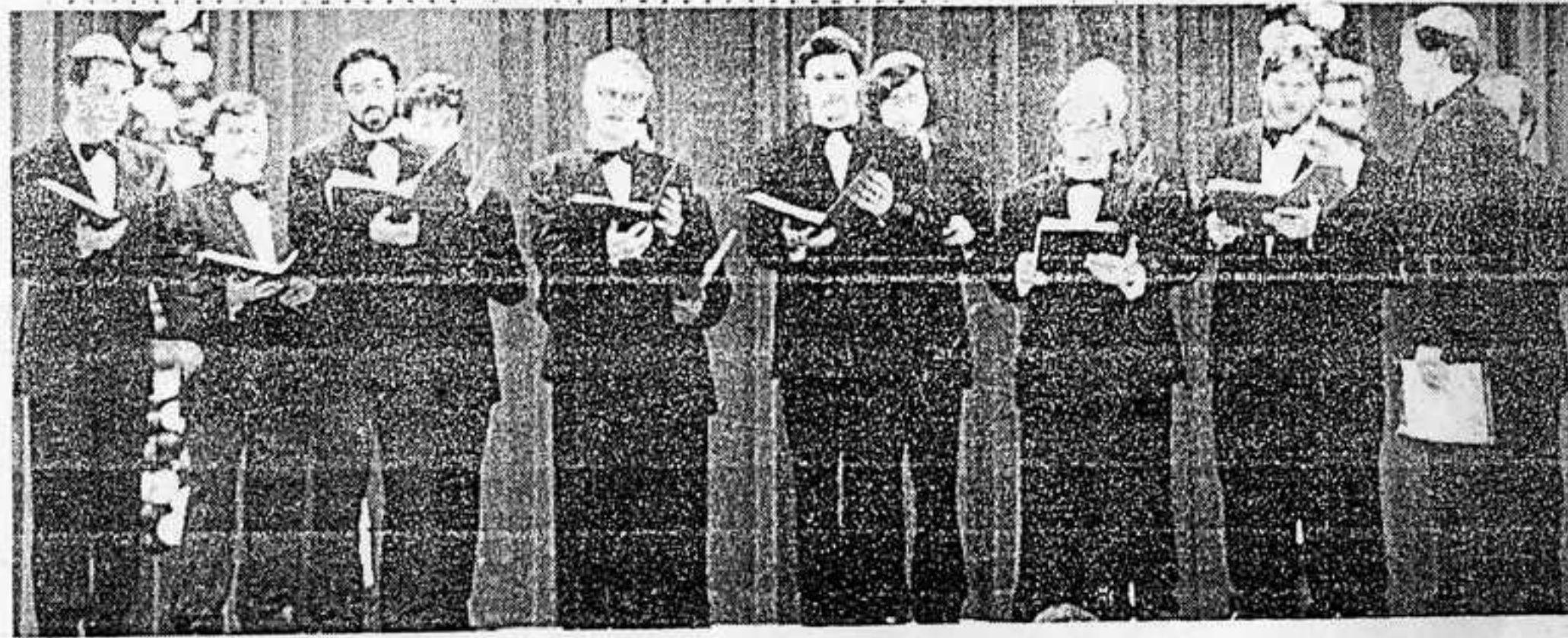
Miraculously the pièce de resistance, the choir accompanying Chazan Mendel Feingold of Whitefield, took place. Chazan Feingold had only received the music by fax just before Shabbat. And it was a magnificent performance! The whole concert was

a miracle, considering that until the late 1980s any Jewish religious expression was forbidden in the Soviet Union.

Yet here were these skilled musicians performing traditional Hebrew and Yiddish tunes as though it was second nature.

The concert proved that whatever may happen in the former Eastern Bloc, Jewish culture is alive and flourishing!

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The Moscow Synagogue Male Voice Choir and Chazan Mendel Feingold entertain at Mamlock House in a concert organised by the JNF Lawyers and Accountants Committee