biographies of key participants



european cantors association www.cantors.eu



Cantor Joseph Malovany has been the chazan at Manhattan's Fifth Avenue Synagogue since 1973. Born in Tel Aviv, by the age of seven he was a member of the Bilu Synagogue choir, at 12 he became its director, and by 16 he was leading the High Holiday services. His first professional position was in Johannesburg, South Africa, at age nineteen. Five years later, he became the chazan of the Edgware Synagogue in London, where he also earned a degree from the Royal Academy of Music before moving to New York. As well as an illustrious cantorial, recording and concert career, Malovany has dedicated himself to promoting Judaism and Jewish traditions throughout the world, particularly in Eastern Europe and Russia. He helped establish the Moscow Academy of Jewish Music. He has promoted and sung in many countries with the Moscow Jewish Male Choir conducted by Alexander Tsaliuk.



Cantor Aaron Bensoussan comes from an illustrious family of Moroccan Sephardi Jewry. At a young age he learned to play the oud (an Arabic lute). He came to the United States in 1968 and studied at several prestigious orthodox Talmudic Academies with the aim of becoming a Rabbi. He soon developed a fascination for Ashkenazi chazanut. He decided to change course and pursue cantorial studies with such great masters as David Koussevitzky and Max Wohlberg. During his Ashkenazi chazanut studies he was persuaded to record for posterity the intricate modalities, patterns, and tunes of his family's Sephardi traditions. Bensoussan is thus a unique phenomenon among today's cantors—equally versed in both traditions. Bensoussan has served several important pulpits and been guest cantor in the USA Canada South America, Australia, Israel and the Eastern Block. He has made several recordings and participated in prestigious concerts all over the world.



Cantor Yechezkel Klang was born and raised in Brooklyn, NY. His father Rabbi Eliyahu Klang is a chazan and composer of note, and strains of Modzits and Rosenblatt were the musical background of his childhood. After serving as chazan on the High Holidays for over two decades, Yechezkel began appearing on the cantorial concert stage, while completing his studies of chazanut and music with Cantor Naftali Herstik and some of the foremost teachers of our time at the Tel-Aviv Cantorial Institute. Yechezkel has performed at concerts of Jewish liturgical music around the globe. His forte, however, remains at the synagogue pulpit. Skillfully combining traditional nusach and Chasidic melodies with musical versatility, he creates a prayer atmosphere reminiscent of the cantors of old. He teaches cantorial arts and vocal technique at the Petach Tikva Cantorial School and privately at his Jerusalem studio.



Alexander Tsaliuk PhD Artistic Director Moscow Male Jewish Choir 'Hassidic Capella' Graduate cum laude of the Moscow Conservatory with a Master's degree in choral conducting, Alexander Tsaliuk co-founded the Moscow Male Jewish Choir 'Hassidic Capella' in 1989 at the Moscow Academy of Cantorial Art. The ensemble has appeared in hundreds of programmes of Jewish liturgical music, Jewish and Russian folk music, and classical music in prestigious halls in Russia and the West. Under the leadership of Tsaliuk the choir performed for the Danish and Norwegian royal families for the anniversary of the Danish king saving Jews during the Second World War. The Choir won the first prize at the International Competition of Folklore Choral Collectives in Moscow in 1996 and at the Zimriya Festival in Israel. They have performed with orchestras and famous cantors in Russia, Germany, Israel and the USA. Since 2010 Tsaliuk has been working as a chief of the conducting department teaching conducting and opera-choral classes at the State Musical Academy in Moscow, (named after Maimonides).

LAUNCH OF THE EUROPEAN CANTORS ASSOCIATION MONDAY 2 JULY 2012 - MANCHESTER

We are all aware of the importance of the cantor in the community, as a guardian of the tradition and liturgy of our people, as a bond between our modern civilization and the religion of our fathers and as a channel between the congregation and the Almighty.

It is to draw attention to and safeguard our marvellous musical traditions, to give a platform to those who practice them and a voice to all those that love them that we take pleasure tonight in launching the European Cantors Association.

We are privileged to have three distinguished people to say a few words on this momentous occasion.

Cantor Joseph Malovany, cantor of the 5th Avenue Synagogue in New York and co-director of the Moscow Academy of Jewish Music will speak about the re-awakening of Jewish life in Europe after the Holocaust

Dr Simon Hochhauser, immediate Past President of the United Synagogue will tell us what the United Synagogue and maybe able to do to help focus attention on the role of the chazan

Alex Klein, Convenor of the European Cantors Association and of the Cantors Convention will tell you of the positive stes he hopes that cantors will make to reinforce their role in the future of our communities.



Aaron Bensoussan of Toronto and Yechezkel Klang of Jerusalem as well as Joseph Malovany and also a new generations of cantors who are the delegates to the Convention



european cantors association

A forum for cantors and prayer leaders to enhance the practice and appreciation of traditional and contemporary Jewish synagogue music. Membership of ECA is open to all interested in synagogue music and the role and art of the cantor

ECA AIMS TO

- 1. Provide a forum for cantors and lay prayer leaders to meet, network and to act on matters relevant to their calling.
- 2. Interest and inform the Jewish community particularly children and youth in the beauty and spiritual power of synagogue prayer modes and melodies
- 3. Encourage rabbis and bodies involved with synagogue services to recognise the beneficial role of music and the cantor
- 4. facilitate training and inspiration for cantors and prayer leaders
- 5. Make Jewish synagogue music known and appreciated by the wider public

ACTIVITIES WILL INCLUDE

- 1. workshops, lectures, seminars, conventions
- 3. on-line activity

- 2. concerts and recordings
- 4. Lobbying and fundraising for the above

Following the successful activities of the JMI Synagogue Music Section's Cantorial Branch which saw the establishment of Cantorial Summer Schools in 2003 and the European Cantors Conventions from 2006, the European Cantors Association is established in 2012

PATRONS:

Naftali Herstik (Head of the Tel Aviv Cantorial Institute)

Simon Hochhauser (former President of the United Synagogue UK)

Cantor Joseph Malovany (New York) Sol Zim (Cantor and professor New York)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Alex Klein ECA Convenor, Manchester

Adam Caplan cantor, Treasurer Manchester

Edwin Ross legal Manchester

David Prager Secretary and Publicity London

Victor Tunkel educator, London

Steven Leas Cantor functions and work with young people London

EUROPEAN ASSOCIATES:

Michael Dushinsky (Rabbi Prague)
David Schwezoff (Cantor Budapest)

Alex Tsaliuk (Choir leader Moscow)

MESSAGE FROM CANTOR NAFTALI HERSTIK

Judaism has a long and glorious tradition of sung prayer going back centuries, to the time of the Temple itself. But there is a real danger that through ignorance and misunderstanding, the cantorial tradition may become an endangered practice and that our musical treasures may be lost. I congratulate my dear friend Alex Klein of Manchester and all concerned on the launch the European Cantors' Association. With its annual convention and training programmes, this will give cantors a strong platform from which to ensure that the chazan can continue his prime role and duty — to spiritually connect the congregation with the Divine.

membership form

Name	Tel
Address	
	Postcode
E-mail	
I enclose annual donation (min) £10 And /or I enclose a donation of £50/£100/£250/£500/£1000 I enclose a cheque (made out to 'ECA') for a total of	f.
or debit my Visa or MasterCard: card no:	<u>-</u>
or activity visa of matericard, card no.	expiry date:
	last 3 Security numbers on back of card:
I would like to donate annually by direct debit - please sen I am a UK tax-payer - please treat my donation under the of the limit of	gift aid scheme ne money in my will
Signed	Date
Please send to Alex Klein ECA Convenor 3 Lancaster Drive, Prestwich, Manchester M25 0HZ Please let us know of your experience of leading congr	Tel: 0161 798 7631 Mob: 07792 494 584 or by email to: alex@cantors.eu
I am currently employed as a cantor (if yes full time /part	time)
I was previously employed as a cantor (if yes when/full tim	ne /part time)
I am called upon to lead services (regularly/ infrequently)	
I am paid for this service	
I would like to be called upon to lead services	
Someone in my family was a cantor or service leader who?	
Or/lam not a practitioner I just want to support those wh	
My wish for cantorial music in the UK and Europe is:	DR.