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B'nai Torah Congregation

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B'NAI TORAH CONGREGATION

PRESENTS:

THE 2005 CONCERT

and CULTURAL ARTS SERIES

SPONSORED THIS YEAR BY ELEANOR and PAUL WEINER

B'NAI TORAH'S 12<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONCERT SERIES

Tonight

*The Grand Cantorial Concert of the Season*

*Master Cantors*

*Avi Albrecht, Joseph Malovany  
& Benjamin Warschawski*

*The Florida Jewish Philharmonic Orchestra*

*Maestro Andrew Kurtz, Music Director*

*The Moscow Jewish Male Choir*

April 13, 2005

*An Evening of Classical Gems*

*with the Florida Jewish Philharmonic Orchestra*

*conducted by*

*Maestro Andrew Kurtz*

*Bill Forster, Chairman of the 2005 Concert and Cultural Arts Series Committee proudly and fondly dedicates this concert to Carol Wolfe-Wallach, Concert Coordinator. For her 10 years of service to the concert series and her dedication to bringing the series to its current level of success we honor Carol tonight.*



## Grand Cantorial Concert Program

### Tonight

#### FEATURING

Cantors Avi Albrecht, Joseph Malovany & Benjamin Warschawski  
Moscow Male Jewish Choir with Sasha Tsaliuk, Choir Director  
Florida Jewish Philharmonic Orchestra with Andrew Kurtz, Conductor

Welcome - Rabbi David Steinhardt

Introduction - Bill Forster, Chair

Avinu Shebashamayim

Eli, Eli

Hashem, Hashem

Vos is Gevorn

Mimkomcha

Songs of Hope

Al Tiro

Etsel Hakotel

If the World Had Cried

Va Havieynu

Kvodo

Simchu et Yerushalayim

Al Hanissim

Israeli Medley

**Cantor Avi Albrecht** - Cantor Avi Albrecht has sung in every major city in the United States, Canada and Israel, enjoying the accolades and standing ovations in each concert hall along the way. He has performed from the east coast of Portland, Maine to the west coast of Portland, Oregon; from the northern icy plains of Edmonton, Canada to the warm southern shores of Miami, Florida with hundreds of stops in between. Avi sings for some of the grandest national conventions, including Hadassah, United Synagogue of America, Council of Jewish Federations (General Assembly), American Sephardi Federation, CAGE, Cantors Assembly, American Conference of Cantors and the Ellis Island Celebration. He has appeared in Carnegie Hall, Radio City Music Hall, the 92nd Street Y Concert Hall, Merkin Concert Hall, Walt Whitman Hall, Colden Center and LeFrak Concert Hall. This season, Avi appears with the Prague Symphony in Czechoslovakia, The Baltimore Symphony in the U.S., and recently performed with the Jerusalem Symphony in the midst of the intifada to an enthusiastic sold-out audience. In addition, he has participated in every Cantorial Cruise (6 to date) under the auspices of The American Society for the Advancement of Cantorial Arts. Today, he is the Cantor of Beth Tfiloh Congregation in Baltimore, has a dozen CDs and cassettes to his credit and is the composer of many Sabbath melodies that are sung in congregations throughout the country. His first collection of original selections for voice and piano, *SONGS FROM THE SOUL*, is fast becoming a favorite collection for laity and professionals alike.

**Cantor Joseph Malovany** - Cantor of New York City's prestigious Fifth Avenue Synagogue for 26 years, Cantor Joseph Malovany has showcased his brilliant musical and cantorial skills and talents in synagogues and concert halls all over the world. He has been asked to perform at many world events of historical importance, such as the official opening in Philadelphia of the American celebrations commemorating Israel's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, where he was the guest soloist with the Israel Philharmonic and the Philadelphia Orchestras - conducted by Zubin Mehta. In May 1998 he performed with the Israel Philharmonic at the memorable concert at Yad-Vashem's Warsaw Ghetto Square in Jerusalem. In addition, he has performed as tenor soloist with many of the great orchestras in major symphonic, operatic and oratorio performances. Cantor Malovany is always acclaimed for his cantorial talent. His beautiful, powerful, and superbly cultured tenor voice, along with the *kavanah* that he brings to the liturgy, justifies his position as one of the world's greatest *chazanim*. As a representative of world Jewry he has performed at Joint Sessions of Congress and at major events on behalf of the State of Israel and events commemorating the Holocaust.

Holding the highest artistic diplomas from the Music Academy in Tel Aviv and from Great Britain's Royal Academy of Music, along with the title of Fellow of the Trinity College of Music, he is a noted music academician who has many important positions as an educator. Among them, he has the position of Distinguished Professor of Liturgical Music at Yeshiva University in New York, where the Choir of Advanced Studies in Jewish Liturgical Music was named in his honor in 1997, and he is the Dean of the J.D.C. Moscow Academy of Jewish Music. Cantor Malovany has been extremely motivational and instrumental in the renaissance of Jewish culture, specifically Jewish music, in Eastern Europe. In fact he was greatly responsible, through his efforts with the Joint Distribution Committee and the Soviet Government, back in 1989 - 1990, for creating and organizing the Joint Moscow Academy of Jewish Music which ultimately formed the Moscow Synagogue Jewish Choir, under the direction of their esteemed and talented conductor, Misha Touretski.

This is the second time we've combined the talents of Cantor Malovany and the Moscow Synagogue Jewish Choir at B'nai Torah. We delight again in this reunion and hope our concert goers will also be musically and Jewishly delighted.



**Cantor Benjamin Warschawski** - Cantor Benjamin Warschawski began his unexpected journey to the pulpit at fifteen years of age singing in the prestigious Beth T'filoh Choir in Baltimore, under Dr. William Milner and Cantor Abraham J. Denburg. In 1997, Benjamin Warschawski received the title of Reverend Cantor from the Cantorial Council of America at the Belz School of Music, Yeshiva University. That same year he took over the pulpit at The Ner Tamid/Greenspring Valley Synagogue in Baltimore, a post he held for five years. Since 1997 renowned Cantor Warschawski has concertized extensively with almost every major cantor and renowned Jewish singer singing today. Benjamin Warschawski has performed with Sherrill Milnes, Jerome Hines, Aprile Millo, Dominic Cossa, Sharon Christman, Brent Ellis, Pamela Armstrong, Mark Delavan, and William Warfield. A winner of the Metropolitan Opera Regional Auditions, Mr. Warschawski has also appeared in the Rosa Ponselle Competition Winners' Concert for three years, both in Baltimore and in New York at Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall.

Benjamin Warschawski recently concluded a triumphant season appearing as Alfredo in *La Traviata* and Pinkerton in *Madama Butterfly* at New York City Opera at Lincoln Center. During the same year he sang the title role in Puccini's *Edgar* with Dicapo Opera, Cavaradossi in *Tosca* with Augusta Opera, and concert engagements with the Great Neck Opera, North Arkansas Symphony Orchestra, and recitals in New York, Miami, Boca Raton, Los Angeles, Montreal and Toronto. Mr. Warschawski has sung numerous leading operatic roles to critical acclaim. Recent productions have included the leading tenor roles in *Rigoletto* with Annapolis Opera, Augusta Opera, Austin Lyric Opera, and Opera Illinois, *Werther* with DiCapo Opera, *Lucia di Lammermoor* with Sarasota Opera and Nashville Opera, *Carmen* with Tri-Cities Opera, *La Traviata* with Opera Delaware, and Boheme Opera New Jersey, *Madama Butterfly* with Augusta Opera, and Capitol City Opera, *La Boheme* with the Newton Symphony Orchestra, *Un Ballo in Maschera*, *Dialogue of the Carmelites*, and *L'incoronazione di Poppea* with the Israel Vocal Arts Institute.

The tenor received and continues his technical training with Sicilian baritone Casper Vecchione. Mr. Warschawski held a full Creative and Performing Arts Scholarship at the University of Maryland where he completed his formal studies with Metropolitan Opera baritone Dominic Cossa. Since 1997, he has released three CDs with XLNC records. Currently, he holds the post of Cantor at the prestigious B'nai Torah Congregation in Boca Raton, FL where he resides with his wife Chana and newborn daughter Adina.

#### CHOIR MEMBERS

**Alexander Tsaliuk - Conductor**

**Vladimir Kravtman - Soloist, Gia Beshitaishvili - Soloist,**

**German Apaykin - Soloist, Valentin Goutov - 1<sup>st</sup> tenor, Mikhail Chesnokov -**

**1<sup>st</sup> tenor, Valeriy Pekourovskiy - 1<sup>st</sup> tenor, Denis Katonov - 1<sup>st</sup> tenor, Roman**

**Kurovtsev - 2<sup>nd</sup> tenor, Dmitri Zinkov - 2<sup>nd</sup> tenor, Roman Lavretski - 2<sup>nd</sup> tenor,**

**Konstantin Kozakevich - 2<sup>nd</sup> tenor, Roman Maslennikov - Baritone, Mikhail**

**Ashurov - Baritone, Maxim Koulich - Baritone, Anatoli Semine - Baritone,**

**Andrei Skenderov - Bass, Mikhail Roubanov - Bass, Vladimir Kozhevnikov -**

**Bass, Ivan Barykin - Bass**

**Alexander Borisovich Tsaliuk** - As a conductor of the Jewish Male Choir, Mr. Tsaliuk has prepared many programs on a high professional level of Jewish liturgical music, Jewish and Russian folk music, and classical music. He has performed in over 500 concerts as a conductor in Russia, CIS, and 12 Western European countries in prestigious concert halls such as the Small, Great, and Rachmaninov Halls of the Moscow Conservatory, Tchaikovsky Hall, Columned Hall in Moscow, Munich Academy of Music, Carl Orff Hall in Munich, and Theatron Yerushalayim in Jerusalem. Under his leadership the Choir gave concert performances in the presence of the Danish and Norwegian Royal Families for the anniversary of the Danish King saving Jews during the Second World War.

The Jewish Male Choir won first prize at the International Competition of Folklore Choral Collectives in Moscow in 1996. They have recorded and released at the Russian department of the Universal Music Company (PolyGram) two compact discs, two audio cassettes, and a video film from the concert of the choir with the Chief Cantor of New York, J. Malovany and Svetlanov's State Symphony Orchestra at the Great Hall of Moscow Conservatory. This concert was dedicated to the 3000<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Jerusalem.

**Maestro Andrew Kurtz** - Andrew Kurtz, a native Philadelphian, is Artistic Director and founder of the *Center City Opera Theater*, a professional opera company now performing in the Perelman Theater in the Kimmel Center, where he has led productions of *Don Pasquale*, *La Boheme*, *Don Giovanni*, *La Traviata*, *Le Nozze di Figaro*, *Amahl & the Night Visitors*, and *Rigoletto*. Kurtz's conducting has been called "passionate, expansive, expert, and so honestly musical." Kurtz's repertoire encompasses a wide range of music styles from baroque to contemporary, and multiple genres including opera, symphonic, musical theater, jazz, cantorial, and symphonic pops.

Kurtz begins his tenth season as Music Director and Conductor of the Gulf Coast Symphony in Fort Myers, Florida and is in his second season as Music Director of the Florida Jewish Philharmonic Orchestra in Boca Raton. His interest in Jewish music comes naturally; his grandfather was a veteran of the Yiddish Theater.

He is Producing Artistic Director of Synergy Productions, a professional musical theater company located on Sanibel Island, Florida. An avid arts educator, Maestro Kurtz is Resident Music Director of the Luzerne Music Center, where he leads the student orchestras and teaches conducting.

Kurtz's 2004-2005 season includes eight concerts with the Gulf Coast Symphony during their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary season, six with the Florida Jewish Philharmonic Orchestra, his debut with the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra, and a new production of *La Traviata* in June 2005 at the Kimmel Center with the Center City Opera Theater.

In 2003-2004 Kurtz made his New York City conducting debut with the Metropolitan Repertory Ballet in a Jazz Ballet, "Sinatra & Swing" at the TRIBECA Performing Arts Center. Maestro Kurtz was music director as well as stage director for multiple performances of *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*; *They're Playing Our Song*; and *Marry Me A Little* with Synergy Productions.

As a 2001 First Prize winner of the Accademia Dell'Arte di Firenze International Conducting Competition, Kurtz made his European conducting debut with the Dell'Arte Symphonietta in Florence, Italy, and he is a former staff conductor at the Israel Vocal Arts Institute in Tel Aviv.

Highlights of the various conducting posts to his credit include work with the Metropolitan Opera Guild, The Pennsylvania Opera Theater, The Pennsylvania Ballet, the Ash Lawn-Highland Opera Festival, and the Ocean City Pops.

A graduate of Philadelphia's Central High School, Andrew Kurtz is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of Virginia where he received his Master's degree in Music History and a Bachelor of Arts in music and drama. Kurtz completed his Doctoral studies in conducting at the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore, MD.

### AN EVENING OF CLASSICAL GEMS WITH THE FLORIDA JEWISH PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 2005 7:30 PM

Join us for the Florida Jewish Philharmonic Orchestra's debut Classical Performance. B'nai Torah is proud and honored to be involved in the development and nurturing of this wonderful orchestra and to be part of its history.



**Florida Jewish Philharmonic Orchestra** - The Florida Jewish Philharmonic Orchestra, under the direction of Music Director Dr. Andrew Kurtz, is one of only two orchestras of its kind in the United States dedicated to performing music of Jewish composers and on Jewish themes. The mission of the FJPO is to perform serious orchestral works of known, as well as not commonly recognized Jewish composers; to perform and keep alive the music of Cantorial and Yiddish musical traditions; establish opportunities for the presentation of new compositions by Jewish artists; serve as a professional resource for aspiring Jewish and non-Jewish musicians; and act as an educational medium for Jewish music and composers. The FJPO chooses a repertoire that spans the richness of Jewish music throughout the centuries to the present time.

**Violin 1**

Bugumila Zgraja  
Alexander Zhuk  
Gallina Aronin  
Sylvia Kim

**Bassoon**

Luciano Magnanini  
Geoff Hale

**Violin 2**

Marian Myszko  
Elaina Dumitrescu  
Suzanne Walter Geisler

**French Horn**

William Schulman  
Holly Ballard  
David Peel  
Eric Kurly

**Viola**

Galina Dennison  
Chris Petruzzi

**Trumpet**

Chaz Reskin  
Adam Luftman  
Aaron Mahnken

**Cello**

Ian Maksin  
Benjamin Salisbury

**Trombone**

Steve Sigmun  
Jason Pyle  
Jeremy Levy

**Bass**

Hideki Sunaga

**Tuba**

Calvin Jenkins

**Flute**

Ronnie Rothchild  
Jennifer Magnussen

**Harp**

Deborah Fleisher

**Oboe**

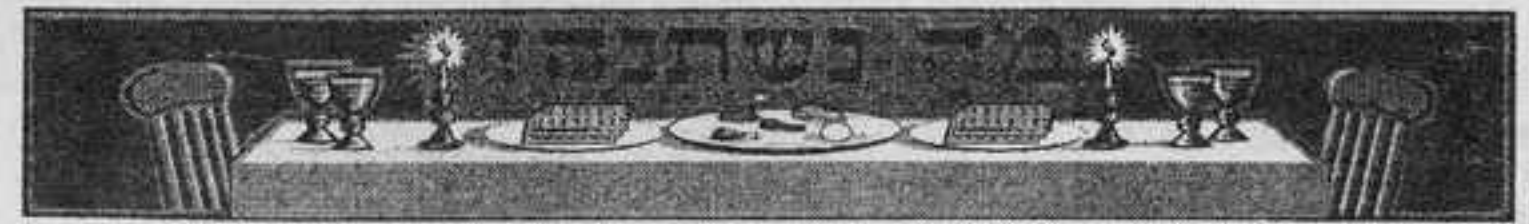
Jeffrey Apana  
Sarah Kennedy

**Percussion**

Shannon Wood  
Gary Mayone

**Clarinet**

Richard Handcock  
David Pharris



*Share Passover With  
Our B'nai Torah Family!*

*1st Seder (Catered Full-Service)  
Saturday, April 23rd ~ 8:30 p.m.  
Conducted by  
Cantor Benjamin Warschawski*

*2nd Seder (Catered Full-Service)  
Sunday, April 24th ~ 7:00 p.m.  
Conducted by  
Rabbi David Steinhardt*

**CREATIVE FAMILY-STYLE PESAH SEDA**

**Sunday, April 24th at 5:00 pm**

in the

**Eleanor & Paul Weiner Cultural Center**

**Hosted by Rabbi Amy Rader**

**and Cathy Berkowitz**



*Please make your reservations  
with your payment by April 13, 2005*



**Book a group event of 15 or more rooms  
at the Marriott in Boca Raton  
and receive 1 complimentary room.**

*Offer valid only upon availability, black out dates apply, new  
contracted business only and taxes and gratuity are not included.  
Business must be booked and consumed by 10-30-05.*