

Fifth Annual Delaware Valley
JEWISH CHORAL FESTIVAL



featuring

a gala performance by

THE MOSCOW MALE JEWISH CHOIR
HASIDIC CAPELLA
of Moscow, Russia

Sunday, March 20, 2005

at the JCCs Klein Branch

10100 Jamison Road, Philadelphia

A project of the

ZAMIR CHORAL FOUNDATION

Matthew Lazar, Founder and Director

in association with the JCC's Klein Branch, Gratz College,
and the Jewish Choral Community of the Delaware Valley



THE ZAMIR CHORAL FOUNDATION, founded and directed by Matthew Lazar, is the visionary, leading force in the Jewish world for sustaining and advancing the Jewish choral tradition. In addition, Zamir is at the center of a growing movement that preserves and fosters Jewish choral music, Jewish identity and interdenominational Jewish understanding and cooperation throughout the world.

The Foundation has touched thousands through its outstanding activities, which include:

- Unifying and training the leaders and singers of the Jewish choral movement;
- Fostering Jewish commitment in youth through Jewish choral singing;
- Commissioning and premiering important new Jewish choral works;
- Creating dynamic, cutting-edge Jewish music programming;
- Providing unwavering support for and unflinching solidarity with Israel; and
- Performing in high-profile appearances in prime concert venues throughout the US and Israel

The Zamir Choral Foundation is proud to join Gratz College, the JCCs Klein Branch, and the Jewish Choral Community of the Delaware Valley in presenting today's 5th annual Delaware Valley Jewish Choral Festival, and in presenting the Moscow Male Jewish Choir.

We offer our appreciation to all those whose help made this program possible, and special gratitude to our supporters:

PATRONS

Congregation Keneseth Israel, Allentown, PA, Cantor Ellen Sussman
Old York Road Temple-Beth Am, Abington, PA, Cantor Elena Zarkh
Cantors Council of Greater Philadelphia, Cantor Marshall Portnoy
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PROGRAM

1. Shehecheyonu - M. Mahtenberg, soloist G. Apaykin
2. Le Dor Va'Dor - M. Finkelsteyn, soloist Cantor Lilia Kazansky
3. Kadsheyenu - S. Zim, soloists V. Gutov, M. Rubanov (Cantorial duet)
4. Modim - M. Vladovskiy, soloist G. Apaykin
5. Shen Har Ve Nahi - Georgian, soloist G. Beshitaishvily
6. Avinu Malkeynu – M. Yanowsky, soloist Cantor Elena Zarkh
7. Sheyibone Beys HaMikdash – Moshe Stern, Arr. K. Bodrov, soloist V. Kraytman
8. Sim Shalom - A. Nadel, soloist Cantor Ellen Sussman
9. Hine Ma Tov – S. Kalib
10. Lekhaim Ideleh - soloist V. Kraytman
11. Adon Olam – M. Hitman
12. Hasidic Potpourri, traditional Hasidic

INTERMISSION

1. Yerushalaim Shel Zahav – N. Shemer, Arr. Y. Dubravin
2. A Glezele Lekhaim - Arr. Y. Dubravin
3. A Yiddishe Mama – Arr. K. Bodrov, soloist V. Gutov
4. VeTaher Libeynu - V. Kritz, Hasidic Tune. Choir.
5. Ein Keloheinu – M. Himmelshtayn, soloist Cantor Boris Kazansky
6. Jamaica - Neapolitan song, soloist G. Apaykin
7. Rozhenkes Mit Mandlen - soloists M. Rubanov, V. Gutov
8. Ki Lekach Tov - R. Rumshinskiy, soloist G. Apaykin
9. Tum Balalayka - soloist A. Skenderov
10. Havdoloh – Z. Zilbertz, soloist G. Apaykin
11. Bai Mir Bistu Sheyn - soloists V. Kraytman, V. Gutov
12. Ten Shabbat VeTen Shalom - D Zeltzer, soloist G. Beshitaishvily



Future historians of the Russian Jewish Community will argue about the RJC's role at the end of the 20th century and the beginning of the 21st century. RJC can be perceived as a fund, a federation of communities, or a lobbying or social organization. It is difficult to separate the political, social and religious parts of its work. The Congress raises money and distributes it; initiates international projects and national programs; fights against anti-Semitism; lobbies on behalf of the interests of Russian Jews abroad; and establishes informal but very effective relations between Russian Jewry (and sometimes Russia as a state) and the international Jewish Diaspora and Israeli State. It also participates in the construction of communal institutes on local and national levels within the country.

RJC has a right to be proud of its support for Jewish organizations uniting veterans and prisoners of ghettos and concentration camps, as well as righteous individuals who rescued Jews during World War II. The construction of the Memorial Synagogue and Holocaust Museum on Poklonnaya gora was a symbolic event in Russian history after totalitarianism. The Congress' contribution to the fight against current fascism and to implementation of programs on behalf of tolerance in Russian schools is a very important activity. However we know our debt to the past. Hundreds of thousands of Jews, killed by fascists in Russian territory, are still not buried. The Russian Jewish Congress has a plan to install appropriate plaques at the sites of mass executions and to commemorate Holocaust victims..

From its inception the Congress took care of the elderly, orphans and others in need. The modern infrastructure for well-known Jewish charities was built with a contribution by the Russian Jewish Congress and its strategic partner, the American Jewish Joint Distributive Committee.

Jewish education is the future of the nation. RJC efforts have organized programs for high-school education and science, beginning with "studies for teachers" and initiating a process to establish relations between Hebrew University and Russian Jewish high-school institutes. The Congress has helped to raise scientific projects of the Jewish University in Moscow to the level of the world scientific mainstreams. The academic study of Hebrew has also become a prestigious discipline. The task for the near future is to raise elementary schools to the same high level, based on the Congress' plan to implement modern outfits and technologies at schools and to cooperate with world leaders in the educational field such as ORT.

Children's programs are the subjects of special pride for the Congress. The Children's Club of the Jewish University in Moscow is one of the best in the capital and the Maccabi sports club is one of the few organizations in the country which utilizes the best traditions of Soviet sport. The result is that Maccabi athletes won Russian and Europe championships and received two gold medals in Sydney.

Our support for Jewish print media has allowed the preservation of information across the vast territories of the country. The Internet has provided additional ways to conduct this activity and many leading Internet-projects are financed by the Congress.

RJC has made a huge contribution to the revival of Jewish traditions in all their diversity, including synagogues, and Hasidic, Orthodox and Reform organizations. "Communal building" here means real building: RJC financed the construction of communal centers in Kazan, Chelyabinsk, Yaroslavl and other cities. The Congress also had a key role in financing the FJCR Communal Center in Maryina Rosha and the grand reconstruction of the historic Jewish center in Moscow. RJC was responsible for the dome atop the synagogue in Spasoglinishevsky Lane, and the main communal center in the country has been erected nearby. This cooperative project of the Russian Jewish Congress, the Moscow Jewish Community and the Joint is modernizing one of the most famous Jewish sections in the world.

The Russian Jewish Congress has collected and invested more than \$63 million to create an independent Jewish community in Russia as a solid guarantee for its future. The Russian Jewish community has a unique outlook on its identity, seeing itself as an historic culture and civilization, not just a religion. "Jew" is a nationality for us, and mixed families create positive assimilation into the Jewish community. The State of Israel is considered not so much as a "historic motherland" as an object of vital interest for the many families who have relatives living there.

As we build a future for ourselves and for our children we build it, too, for the country in which we live. We are glad to receive not only Jews in our charitable programs or in our Jewish schools, universities, sports and student clubs. We know that Jews are not alone in wanting to live in a tolerant society, and recalling those who fell in previous generations. For a long time our country had a historic tradition of solving global problems without thinking about small things. Today is the time to build a normal life for Jews and non-Jews. The Russian Jewish Congress is doing just that.

--Bureau of the Russian Jewish Congress