KLEZMER, BAROQUE AND TARTAN
A Jewish Musical Odyssey
THE ADRIANNE GREENBAUM TRIO/QUARTET:
SCOTSHNE AND FLEYTMUZIK SCOTTISH TOUR,
14TH TO 21ST SEPTEMBER 2014

ADRIANNE GREENBAUM (FLUTE)
MICHAEL ALPERT (FIDDLE, VOCALS AND PERCUSSION)
LEV ATLAS (VIOLIN/VIOLA)
AND DAVID MCGUINNESS (KEYBOARD)

A CONCERT OF BAROQUE GYPSY MUSIC,
CLASSICAL HEBREW SONGS
ALONGSIDE TRADITIONAL SCOTTISH FOLK TUNES
WITH A HEFTY AMOUNT OF FOOT-STOMPING KLEZMER!

DUNDEE Sun 14th September, 8pm * Synagogue, St Mary Place 07779 206522
GLASGOW Mon 15th September, 7.30pm * Glasgow University Chapel 07779 206522
INVERNESS Tues 16th September, 7.30pm * Merkinch Community Centre 01463 239563
ABERDEEN Wed 17th September, 12.45pm, Art Gallery 07779 206522
Followed by a chance to see the exhibition of photographs by Judah Passow: ‘Scots Jews: Identity, Belonging and the Future’ at Aberdeen Central Library
EDINBURGH Thurs 18th September, 7.00 pm, The Kalpana Restaurant, Dinner and Concert (booking essential) 07779 206522
AYR Sun 21st September, 12.30 pm, Rozelle House, Lunch and Concert 01292 443708 (booking essential) Followed by a chance to see the exhibition ‘Cultural Connections’ at the Maclaurin Gallery
GIFFNOCK Sun 21st September, 7.30 pm, Giffnock Synagogue 0141 577 8250
* preceded by ‘Meet the Band’ session and kosher buffet

Tour coordinated by SCoJeC with financial support from BEMIS Scotland through Homecoming Scotland 2014. Multicultural Homecoming is a partnership between BEMIS Scotland, Visit Scotland & The Scottish Government.

Scottish Council of Jewish Communities, 222 Fenwick Road, Glasgow, G46 8UE
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The Scottish Council of Jewish Communities (SCoJeC) is SCIO no. SC028438
www.scojec.org
ADRIANNE GREENBAUM

Adrienne Greenbaum is internationally known as the pioneer of the klezmer flute tradition, performing on historical instruments of the 18th and 19th centuries. Her recordings and performances of FleytMuzik have garnered special attention from audiences and critics who appreciate her raw passion, her elegance and her soaring tone that is achieved on a variety of wood flutes. She has also enjoyed a full career as Professor of Flute at Mount Holyoke College in Massachusetts and as Solo Flutist in two fine orchestras. She also enjoys leading dancing for celebrations and concerts and hopes that, wherever she is performing, you, the audience, will join in!

LEV ATLAS.

Lev Atlas has enjoyed an outstanding career as a classical musician in his native Russia, America and the UK. He was a member of the award-winning Rostov String Quartet and the Rachmaninov Trio and he is currently Principal Viola of the Scottish Opera Orchestra. He is renowned as a virtuoso Klezmer and Eastern European folk music performer and has influenced musicians across Europe. He is also a living encyclopedia of hundreds of traditional tunes. He has recently completed his PhD on Russian Chamber Music at the University of St. Andrews and the Royal Scottish Conservatoire.

MICHAEL ALPERT

Michael Alpert is a klezmer singer and multi-instrumentalist and has been called a key figure in the klezmer revival of the 1970s and 1980s. He has been a pioneering figure in the renaissance of East European Jewish klezmer music for over 30 years. Raised in a Yiddish-speaking family, he is noted for his original Yiddish songs. His appearances include concert venues throughout North America, Europe, Israel, and Australia.

DAVID MCGUINNESS

David McGuinness (playing at Dundee, Glasgow, Ayr and Giffnock concerts only) divides his time between historical Scottish music and contemporary work. As director of early music ensemble Concerto Caledonia he has made eleven albums, mostly of newly-rediscovered repertoire. David has been a music producer and composer on several seasons of E4’s TV drama Skins. He is senior lecturer in music at the University of Glasgow, and principal investigator on the AHRC-funded research project Bass Culture in Scottish Musical Traditions.
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The Adrianne Greenbaum trio/quartet*: Scotshne AND Fleytmusic

Scottish Tour, 14th to 21st September 2014

A concert of baroque gypsy music, classical Hebrew songs alongside traditional Scot folk tunes with a hefty amount of foot-stomping klezmer adds up to supreme traditional entertainment, however you slice it! Presenting TWO ensembles in ONE: Scotshne and Fleytmuzik, led by klezmer and classical flutist Adrienne Greenbaum, with Michael Alpert (fiddle, vocals, and percussion), Lev Atlas, (Violin/Viola), and David McGuinness (keyboards) - will trace the musical influences of the Eastern European Jewish community as they travelled west from Slovakia to Scotland and everywhere in between.

This program connects dots. Adrianne Greenbaum loves connecting dots. Read on!

Scottish, Celtic, Klezmer, baroque, and gypsy dance tunes are rather surprising dots to connect. Found fairly recently is a large volume of music, a notebook filled with 350 scratchily-penned dance tunes. This Uhrovska Collection, named for the town in Slovakia where it was found, contained tunes that serve as an important catalogue of melodies and dances of the gypsy itinerant musicians. These were Hungarian, Czech, and Polish tunes for dancing and for listening. The prolific eighteenth century baroque composer and multi-instrumentalist George P Telemann himself was fascinated and delighted by such tunes as these, proclaiming in writing that he enjoyed the "barbaric beauty" of the music performed by the klezmer. In one of his autobiographies, Telemann also exclaims that a skilled composer could gain enough musical inspiration so as to last a lifetime, listening to gypsy musicians, referring to the klezmer as well. Perhaps a leap of faith, but my thinking is that these tunes, or like tunes, were what Telemann was referring to as “music of the klezmer.” Our Telemann selection offers a glimpse into this appreciation.

Let us now skip over to an area of the world where similar music is being composed and performed: Scotland. A Scottish Jewish history? Read the many sources that inform us of where Jews settled, why, and how Scotland – for the most part – welcomed them. What music did they enjoy? We feature in this program Scottish composer, Isaac Nathan. Here was a man who was quite eager to make a pound or two by composing music of his own people. A proposal to collaborate with Lord Byron - albeit Byron needing to be asked a few times before accepting - and we have a shiddukh of two men eager to publish for their own reasons, money notwithstanding. Byron states that he is always interested in bettering the oppressed, and the Jewish people had his heart. Nathan was having some difficulty getting a clear response from Byron. He decided to send a package with this letter in hopes of spurring a commitment to his project:

My Lord, I cannot deny myself the pleasure of sending your Lordship some holy biscuits, commonly called unleavened bread, and denominated by the Nazarites Motsas, better known in this enlightened age by the epithet Passover cakes; and as a certain angel by his presence, ensured the safety of a whole nation, may the same guardian spirit pass with your Lordship to that land where the fates may have decreed you to sojourn for a while.
Byron wrote back:

My dear Nathan, – I have to acknowledge the receipt of your very seasonable bequest, which I duly appreciate; the unleavened bread shall certainly accompany me on my pilgrimage; and, with a full reliance on their efficacy, the Motsas shall be to me a charm against the destroying Angel wherever I may sojourn; his serene highness, however will, I hope, be polite enough to keep at desirable distance from my person, without the necessity of besmearing my door posts or upper lintels with the blood of any animal. With many thanks for your kind attention, believe me, my dear Nathan,

Yours very truly,

BYRON.

Other Scottish tunes on the program will represent what the Jews in Scotland might have enjoyed and played at the time of Byron and Isaac Nathan. And so, complete the connections with klezmer and we have found musics that not only entertain but tell a great historic tale of wandering, hidden Jewry throughout Great Britain, Ireland and Scotland, with klezmer coming full circle to what we know it in the 21st century.
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Adrianne Greenbaum (flute) with Michael Alpert (fiddle, vocals, and percussion), Lev Atlas, (Violin/Viola), and David McGuinness (keyboards)

A concert of baroque gypsy music, classical Hebrew songs alongside traditional Scot folk tunes with a hefty amount of foot-stomping klezmer

Sunday 14 September: 8 p.m. Dundee. Hebrew Congregation Hall, 9 St Mary Place, Dundee DD1 5RB  (preceded by kosher buffet and ‘meet the musicians’ for the local Jewish community and friends at 6.30 p.m.)*

Monday 15 September, 7.30 p.m. Glasgow. Glasgow University Chapel, West Quadrangle, University of Glasgow, Glasgow G12 8QQ

Tuesday 16 September, 7.30 p.m. Inverness. Merkinch Community Centre, Coronation Park, Inverness, Highland IV3 8AD tel 01463 239563. Programme includes traditional Scottish songs performed by Merkinch Community Centre Choir.  (preceded by kosher buffet and ‘meet the musicians’ for the local Jewish community and friends at 6 p.m.)

Wednesday 17 September, 1.00 p.m. Aberdeen. Art Gallery, Schoolhill, Aberdeen AB10 1FQ. Followed by kosher buffet and a chance to see the exhibition of photographs by Judah Passow: Scots Jews: Identity, Belonging and the Future. Aberdeen Library, 2.30 p.m.

Thursday 18th September, 7.00 p.m. Edinburgh. Dinner and concert, The Kalpna Restaurant, 2-3 St Patrick Square, Edinburgh, Midlothian EH8 9EZ  (booking essential.)*

Sunday 21st September, 12.30 p.m. Ayr. Kosher lunch and concert, Maclaurin Gallery, Rozelle Estate, Monument Road, Ayr, KA7 4NQ. 01292 443708 or email maclaurinfestival@gmail.com

Sunday 21st September, 7.30 p.m. Giffnock. Giffnock Synagogue, 222 Fenwick Road, Giffnock, Glasgow G46 6UE  tel 0141 577 8250

(*to book and for further details, contact Fiona Frank, Fiona@scojec.org , tel 07779 206522).

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