

workshops with Daniel Kempin

rozhinkes mit mandlen

Jewish lullabies as a mirror of jewish life

This workshop gives an intimate view into jewish system of traditions and values of the "shtetl" in the 18th and 19th centuries, using the example of jewish cradle songs. At the same time the effects of industrialization and class warfare are shown in these songs. How lullabies become an almost grotesque contradictory situation in the face of national socialist brutality in the ghettos will also be covered. We will learn these songs and also get to know through a jewish short story the jewish religious groupings of the 19th and 20th centuries.

shabbat shalom! - khag sameakh!

Songs of jewish festivals.

The Jewish people is not only the people of the book, but also a singing people. Especially on festivals and holidays! On the example of Shabbat, Rosh Hashanah, Chanukah, Purim and Passover, we will learn the songs and their connection to holiday traditions and customs. The songs of the Synagogue, at community festivals, and in the family have in common that many are real folk songs, or became folk songs. The songs make clear what sorts of things jews commemorate in their festivals, and in what way they express their commemoration. We will explore all of this by singing together.

mir hoybn di hent!

Yearning for freedom and revolution in jewish songs

The yearning for physical, spiritual, social and individual salvation has a very great place in Jewish tradition. The expectation of a just social order or a complete reunification of the people and land of Israel is not merely limited to a consolation of better times to come. This yearning is a clear political demand made in the here and now. The sometimes burning songs of the Zionist movement and the Jewish-Socialist Workers Alliance make this clear. Both groups were founded in 1897, and mirror lively internal Jewish controversies, but also the common yearning for freedom grounded in religious tradition. Together we will learn and sing songs that express this yearning.

ani l'dodi vedodi li

A workshop on jewish love songs.

Secular folk songs in the jewish tradition began to have an independent existence from religious songs only after the beginning of the enlightenment movement. Up until the 16th century, folk songs were practically identical with religious songs. Shir Hashirim, the Song of Songs in the Bible, is a perfect example of erotic language as an expression of the love of G"d. The title of this workshop comes from this book. In the workshop, we will sing together Jewish songs expressing the love of G"d, of Israel, of Torah, and the loved one.

Instruments to all workshops are very welcome!

a mol iz geven a nign

A Klezmer workshop with Daniel Kempin and Dimitry Reznik

Klezmer music is "in." Giora Feidman, the legend of Klezmer Clarinet, can be heard in the award winning Steven Spielberg film "Schindler's List." Even world stars of the classical music scene such as Itzak Perlman perform and record Klezmer music and an internet search under "Klezmer" turns up thousands of web sites. But Klezmer, as presented by Daniel Kempin and Dimitry Reznik in this workshop, is far more than just a popular fad among many in today's multi-cultural landscape. The leaders of the course convey the cultural depth and meaning inherent in Klezmer to the participants. Focus of the workshop will be active music making based on traditional Klezmer pieces and will include work on a "Klezmer-Suite." Prerequisite: Basic music skills on one's instrument.

oyfn veg

Exile and Emigration in Jewish Songs

The history of the Jews is an unbroken chain of wanderings. It begins in the Bibel when Abraham is called to leave his land and reaches a climax with the exodus from Egypt. Since the banishment of the Jewish people from the holy land 2000 years ago and even after the founding of the State of Israel, a sense of yearning for return has been and remains a central part of their existence. On the other hand G-d's call to Abraham was also a call for a return to oneself, to leave trusted paths and search for new ones. In this workshop Hebrew and Yiddish songs on this theme will be introduced and learned. Special emphasis will be placed on the historical aspects of modern migration. No previous knowledge of the genre is necessary and participants are invited to bring their instruments.

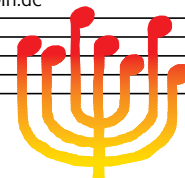
ve'ulay

A Conversational Concert on the history of Zionism with Prof. Micha Brumlik and Daniel Kempin

Zionism – apart from the political reality – has always been the expression of a deep yearning for Jews; a yearning that constantly finds itself in conflict with the political and social reality in the Diaspora as well as in the Land of Israel. This yearning has been expressed through literature, poeise and a vast amount of music: folk, art, and pop songs. In this Conversational Concert singer-songwriter Daniel Kempin, together with Micha Brumlik, Professor of Pedagogics at the Frankfurt University examine the history of the Zionist Movement and the Land of Israel as reflected in these songs. A musical-historical perspective of panoramic proportions arises, from the immigration songs of young Jewish pioneers from Russia in the 1890s to the Mediterranean melodies of the Tel Aviv Disco scene in the struggle for peace in 2000. Construction, destruction, war, defeat and victory, and the unappeasable longing for peace are transformed through this program into something other than what one finds in the history books; something audible and deeply tangible.

Get information about CD publications and material for advertising, press, PR available also at the web page: www.daniel-kempin.de

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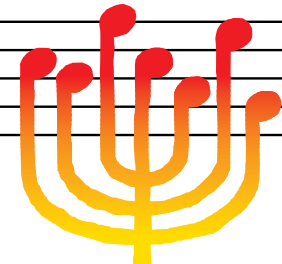
DANIEL KEMPIN

DIMITRY REZNIK



Photo: Simon

Yiddish Songs



www.daniel-kempin.de



The internationally known singer and guitarist Daniel Kempin offers with his partner Dimitry Reznik (violin) various yiddish song programs, that is interesting for those looking for a refined engagement with jewish culture in Eastern Europe. It's not a romantic flash-

back to the past, but rather a historic and cultural look at the roots of jewish culture. This apparently vanished culture is revived to a new life by these two artists.



mir lebn eybik!

[mir 'le:bn 'eybik!]
(We'll live forever!)
lider fun getos un lagern

חיי אנוש אוביוק!
אויב די פון גאט און לאגערן

mir lebn eybik! DUO

Daniel Kempin, accompanied by Dimitry Reznik on the fiddle, describes the particulars of Jewish everyday life. In the first part, the theme is one of cultural identity of jewish life in Eastern Europe, as well as historical stages. Inner-jewish groupings as a reaction to these conditions are explained, and performed with an exuberant, self-ironical style. The second half includes musical selections from the Ghetto diary by the famous Jewish poet and composer Mordechai Gebirtig (1877-1942). These selections were recorded as a CD by invitation from the Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington DC. But also here – as the title of the program and the defiant song from the Vilna Ghetto suggest – there is the expression of a huge will to live and to survive and an almost unbelievable hope.



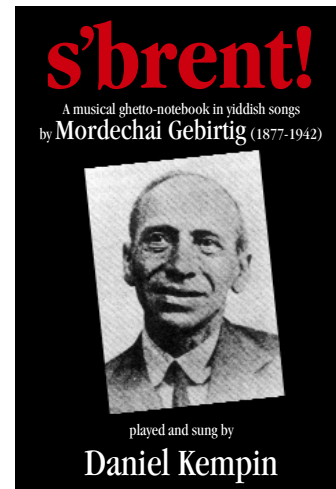
mazl un shlamazl

[masəl un 'ʃla'masəl]
(luck and bad luck)

מזל און שלמזל

mazl un shlamazl SOLO

The solo program with Daniel Kempin begins with the flight of the Jews from Western to Eastern Europe, tells about the living conditions in czarist Russia, of the formation of various jewish religious and political groups, renewed flight and building a new jewish life in the USA, about the Shoah (Holocaust) and includes the state of Israel.



s'brent!

[s'brənt!]
A musical ghetto-notebook in yiddish songs by Mordechai Gebirtig (1877-1942)

s'brent! SOLO

This program is dedicated to one of the most important poets and composers in the Eastern European jewish musical culture, Mordechai Gebirtig (1877-1942). It was developed by invitation of the Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC. In the first half exuberant, loving, ironic songs bring to life an imaginary biography of jewish life and from the time before September 1, 1939. In the second half, songs are performed that he wrote between the invasion of Poland and his death in 1942 – a deeply moving document.

ס'ברענט!



benkshaft

[benk'ʃaft]
(longing)

בענקשאפט

benkshaft DUO

With this program, the duo Daniel Kempin and Dimitry Reznik present songs that have to do with love, work, revolution, the Messiah, liberation, the holidays, America, the Shoah (Holocaust), and the State of Israel, among other Jewish themes.



יודישע פראלעטאריע:
אלער לענדער פערזינליכע:
אייד אונטער דער פאדנע:

mir hoybn di hent!

[mir 'hoibn di 'hent!]
Messianic yearning for freedom and revolution in jewish songs

mir hoybn di hent! SOLO

1997 is the 100th anniversary of the Social Democratic Union Alliance, der *yiddisher algemeyner arbeterbund*, for which Daniel Kempin developed this solo program. Songs from the freedom festivals Passover, Chanukah, and the Sabbath will be heard, as well as burning songs and hymns of the alliance. The Program shows that the Jewish workers movement can be seen as a logical further development of jewish religious tradition and the messianic tradition of a just ordering of society.

חיי הויבן די הענט!