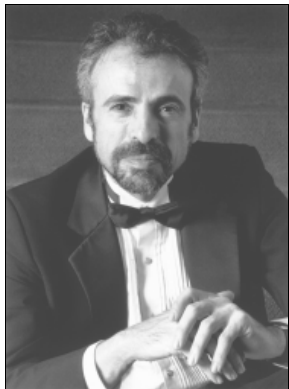




Roots and Wings



*Joshua Jacobson
Artistic Director*

How should we celebrate our 100th birthday? Very few institutions (or people) live long enough to face this question. But ever since I discovered that Zamir origins go back to a movement which began in 1899 in Poland, I have been considering how to mark this significant centenary. A year ago we made our decision: we will return to our roots. Thanks to the untiring work of a dedicated committee, the resources of a wonderful touring agency (ACFEA), the generosity of our friends and gracious invitations from numerous European hosts, the plans are now complete for our 1999 centenary tour.

To share the excitement with our local audiences we are planning a gala 100th anniversary concert on June 13 at Casey Theater in Weston. We hope you will be there to hear "HaZamir," the rousing anthem adopted by all the Polish Zamir culture clubs in the first years of this century. They sang "HaZamir" for nearly four decades, until their voices were silenced by the Nazis. Now, after that silence has stretched on for nearly six decades, we will bring Zamir and its anthem back to its place of origin. We hope that our performances will rouse the hearts of the small but vibrant and growing Jewish communities in Poland.

On this tour, our programs will not be restricted to Jewish music. We will also be singing Polish folk-songs and the vibrant music of American composers Leonard Bernstein and George Gershwin. What a wonderful way to build bridges with the Polish people! What a wonderful way to open a dialogue that needs no words, that can transcend language and religion!

Our repertoire will also include music of two other nations we are visiting, the Czech Republic and Austria. We are reviving Viktor Ullmann's lovely settings of Yiddish folksongs created for a women's chorus in the Terezin concentration camp. At our concert in Weston, you will hear a preview of the very songs that we will perform three weeks later "on location," in the hidden theater in Terezin.

In the second half of the nineteenth-century, Vienna's Seitenstettengasse synagogue was known as the place to go to hear sacred music. Christians as well as Jews came from all over Europe to hear the great cantor Salomon Sulzer and his renowned choir. To celebrate our visit to the venerable Jewish community of Vienna, we will perform a rare gem from the Seitenstettengasse synagogue, a setting by Franz Schubert, in Hebrew, of Psalm 92.

Two other highlights of our program are a new suite from Charles Osborne's moving tribute to the founders of Polish Hassidism, "Souls on Fire" and Yehezkel Braun's gorgeous setting of The Song of Songs, which we recently performed on National Public Radio. To round out the lighter side, we will present popular songs from Israel and America.

This colorful, multi-national program is more than just a concert. It is a celebration of the power of music to transcend time and space. It is a homage to our talented and visionary forebears. It is Zamir's one-hundredth birthday party!

1999 European Tour Schedule

Sunday, June 13, 1999, 7:30 Tour Kickoff Concert at Casey Theater at Regis College, Weston

Tuesday, June 29, 1999, 7:00 PM Jewish State Theater, Warsaw, Poland

Wednesday, June 30, 1999, 7:00 PM City Museum, Lodz, Poland

Friday, July 2, 1999, 5:00 PM Izaak Synagogue, Krakow, Poland

Tuesday, July 6, 1999, 5:00 PM House of Culture, Terezin, Czech Republic

Wednesday, July 7, 1999, 7:30 PM Spanish Synagogue, Prague, Czech Republic

Thursday, July 8, 1999, 7:00 PM Festsaal of the Kultusgemeinde, Seitenstettengasse, Vienna, Austria

Friday, July 9, 1999, 3:00 PM Universitatskirche, Vienna, Austria

August 1, 1999 Tour Finale Concert at the North American Jewish Choral Festival, Nevele Hotel, Ellenville, NY

Tour Update

Heather Zacker
Tour Committee Chair

In Florida in December, I was fortunate to visit with Carol Tellerman, who, as a teenager in the late 1930s, sang with the Zamir Chorale in Lodz. As we spoke, her eyes brightened with the memory of those years. She spoke with great emotion and animation of the performances of opera and those of lighter repertoire, of the concerts in the park on Wednesday nights, of the walks home after rehearsal with friends from the choir and from the theater group that rented space upstairs. She told me of the tremendous warmth and support of her musical community when her mother passed away. In her stories, the promise of the future, the delight in the fellowship, and the power of the music all blended together to create the hopes and joys of a young Jewish woman coming of age in Poland.

We all know that Carol's dreams as she envisioned them during her youth did not come to pass. Hitler had other plans for the Jews of Poland. But we also know that the songs live on, along with the sense of hope in the future, the joy of fellowship, and the transforming power of music. For the past thirty years, the Zamir Chorale of Boston has carried on the tradition of our musical ancestors. We strive to

be a vehicle for expressing the transcendent, individually and communally. Through music, we hope to build a bridge among the different segments of the Jewish community, and a bridge between our communities and the larger world.

For two weeks in June and July, we will have a unique chance to fulfill part of that mission, through Zamir's anniversary tour back to our musical roots. During this thirtieth season for the Zamir Chorale of Boston, we also celebrate the centenary of the founding of the first Jewish chorus, HaZamir, in Lodz, Poland in 1899. More than forty singers will be traveling to Warsaw, Lodz, Crakow, Auschwitz, Prague, Terezin and Vienna. We'll be singing at some of the very sites where the first Zamirs performed, sharing the stage with a Polish choir, meeting with members of the Jewish communities, singing the music of Solomon Sulzer on the premises of the Seitstettengasse Temple where those melodies were composed, honoring the composers and musicians of Terezin through performing their music, singing at the site of the Terezin camp.

We have selected an experienced film production team to accompany the Chorale and document this musical revival. The film, tentatively titled "Zamir: The Songs Live On," will be an exciting and moving record of our anniversary journey as we honor and commemorate our beginnings and carry on the musical traditions of our heritage. The cities

Continued on page 6.



ZAMIR CHORALE

OF BOSTON

Joshua Jacobson
Founder & Artistic Director

Spring, 1999

Board of Directors

Joyce Bohnen, Chair
Joseph Newpol, Treasurer
Peter Finn
Phil Goldman
Andrew M. Greene
Michael Haselkorn
Susan Jacobs
Jeffrey Levine
Elizabeth S. Mandelbaum
Marvin R. Mandelbaum
Gail Newman
Keith Osher
Deborah Raboy
Dr. Jules Rosenberg
Leila Joy Rosenthal
Francine Ferraro Rothkopf
Lawrence Sandberg
Francene Reichel Sokol
Cantor Scott Sokol
Cantor Jodi Lee Sufirin
Scott Tepper
Joseph Tischler
Cantor Louise Treitman
Andrew Wiener
Richard Wilgoren
Lorel Zar-Kessler

Honorary Board of Directors

Hadassah Blocker
Sheila Decter
Virginia Eskin
Hon. J. John Fox
Stanley Hatoff
Hankus Netsky
Cantor Charles Osborne
Cantor Gregor Shelkan
Moshe Waldoks

Founded 1969
Choir-in-residence at
Hebrew College

Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to be writing you at this time, as the Zamir Chorale of Boston celebrates its thirtieth anniversary.

Many of you have been our supporters from the very beginning. You remember Zamir when we were an enthusiastic group of college students rehearsing at Boston University's Hillel House. You came to our performances at Sanders Theater, Kresge Auditorium and Jordan Hall. Well, here we are three decades later. Under Joshua Jacobson's masterful leadership, the chorale has "grown up," and its concert audiences expand beyond the greater Boston community to other cities in the United States, Europe and Israel. The singers have changed, but the energy and intensity of their love for what they are singing remains the same. Jewish music continues to serve as a powerful expression of Jewish identity and commitment.

It is because of your support that Zamir has been able to make such important contributions to the Jewish community. The quality and quantity of its concert performances, recordings and teaching programs for adults and children continue to grow. This summer, as Zamir travels to Eastern Europe on a concert tour that will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the founding of the first Jewish choral group, the Zamir Chorale of Lodz, it will be accompanied by a documentary film crew which will chronicle our journey. The resulting film will provide yet another opportunity to educate people about these places where Jewish musical culture flourished in our history.

As Chair of Zamir's Board of Directors, I want to thank you for your past help. Your contributions have enabled the Zamir Chorale of Boston to become one of American Jewry's treasures. Please consider making a similar or increased gift to the chorus this year. Let's not miss this opportunity to ensure the continued success of the Zamir Chorale in the years to come.

I look forward to seeing you in Weston on June 13 for Zamir's Spring send-off concert.

Sincerely,

Joyce Bohnen

Alumni Notes

Susan Carp-Nesson
Alumni/ae Chair

Mazal Tov to alumni:

Shari Baker on her marriage to Dr. Ross Salawitch, Dec. 13, 1998

Rebecca Gorlin on her marriage to Kimberly Shaw in Sept. 1994. In addition to celebrating her fifth anniversary, Rebecca recently became an adult Bat Mitzvah on Shabbat Shirah, Jan. 30.

Ruth (Birnbaum) and Rabbi Daniel Pernick on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Sarah, May 1999.

Sarah Kashin, who's had a busy few years! In between playing french horn in the Batsheva Symphony Orchestra in Israel, she found time to marry Robert Klein on Dec. 14, 1997, and give birth to son Dov on Oct. 25, 1998.

On a sadder note, Betsy Heilpern Firger passed away on May 22, 1998. A member of Zamir in the early 70's, Betsy spoke of her participation with delight, even to the present time. Her love of singing never diminished and in recent years, Betsy sang with the Beth El Temple choir in West Hartford, Connecticut. Our heartfelt condolences go out to Betsy's family and friends.

Mazal Tov to chorus members:

Sharon and Howie Shore and sister Corey, on the birth of their son (and brother) Ross Glen, on Nov. 13, 1998.

Julia Priest and Thomas Siegel on the birth of their son, Josiah Benjamin, on Nov. 29, 1998.

Lisa Goldberg and Roy Barr on the birth of their son, Jordan Benin, on Jan. 14, 1999.

Suzanne and Phil Goldman on the birth of their grandson, Jason Andrew, in Nov. 1998.

Murray Cion on the birth of his granddaughter, Rhianna Lysse, in Dec. 1998.

Gilbert Schiffer on his marriage to Jill Gopin on Jan. 17, 1999.

We wish Helen Wanderstock and her husband, Dr. Barry Wershil, much happiness on their move to Brooklyn, NY.

Tour Update

Continued from page 2.

and sites we will be visiting lend themselves naturally to film in their color, richness, and historical significance. Far from simply a "concert film," the documentary will capture the range of experiences we will encounter: personal, social, musical, emotional, spiritual, religious, cultural, and historical. From the Warsaw Ghetto to the Terezin and Auschwitz camps, to cosmopolitan Prague, to the famous Seitenstetengasse Temple in Vienna, we will lift our voices in joy and respectful recognition of the Jewish communities who are still there and those whose voices were silenced during the Holocaust.

Co-producers Rob Cooper and Eric Stange and their professional crew have earned widespread recognition and numerous awards as documentary filmmakers. They have produced a special ten-minute preview video that reflects the goal of the film in a vivid context. The final film will result in a vehicle of the highest standards that uses the arts to educate hundreds of thousands of viewers about Jewish culture not only via national broadcast on public television but also by reaching educators and students through classroom videos and Web-based teaching materials. Facing History and Ourselves, a national organization that works with teachers in middle and high schools to educate students about prejudice, antisemitism, and racism, has already lent its enthusiastic support to the project.

We are delighted to work with this team, excited about the vision and experience they bring to the project, and eager to view the final product, which will be broadcast nationally and featured in film festivals.

Our preparations continue. We are working hard on the repertoire for the trip and for the June 13 concert. The tour committee and the tour company are busy finalizing the details of the itinerary and coordinating the logistics. (How does one launder a uniform when performing in Warsaw on Monday night and in Lodz on Tuesday?) We have held two orientation sessions about the communities we'll be visiting, with informative presentations from Jan Darsa, Ingrid Tamm, Peter Gorny, and Joshua Jacobson.

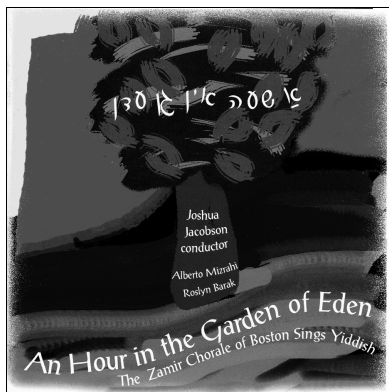
Continued on following page.

Tour Update

Continued from previous page.

Reading packets are being circulated; people are dusting off their college Polish, German and Czech textbooks (and are sure to be fluent any day now). We held musical soirees in two beautiful homes to raise funds for the trip and the film, and thank Robert and Myra Snyder, Nelson and Cara Shaller, and Susie and Fred Jacobs for sponsoring those lovely evenings. We thank the many contributors who have helped make this project a reality. We ask for those who can to help support the film project, so that concert and film audiences alike may share in the joyous and contemplative journey and in the transforming power of our music.

Before we parted, in a strong, lovely soprano voice, Carol Tellerman burst into the closing strains of her choir's anthem, "HaZamir." I joined her, for it is our Zamir's anthem as well. The song is not over.



An Hour in the Garden of Eden

Now available from Zamir

Order your copy using the form on the other side of this page, by visiting www.zamir.org, or by calling 617-325-6113 or 1-800-711-3627.

World-Wide Zamir Andrew Greene

Many of you have visited www.zamir.org, Zamir's website. Having a presence on the World Wide Web has been very helpful to the Chorale. But you are probably unaware of all of the facets of the Zamir website.

We are able to bring our educational outreach efforts to distant places. In addition to visitors from every continent (except Antarctica), who read the articles about various composers or download lists of suggested repertoire for high-school choirs, we have received email from researchers in Australia, Argentina, and Europe. We were contacted by a "Hazamir" chorus in Finland. And when a non-Jewish chaplain stationed in Hawaii found himself responsible for running a seder a few days before Passover last year, he asked us to rush him a copy of our recording *Seasons of our Joy*.

Recently we added the ability to purchase Zamir recordings directly on the website. Tickets for the June 13 concert at Regis College are also available through a secure order form. And, as we've done since we started the website project, we keep an updated performance schedule on our homepage.

The website is also a fundraiser for the chorus. Through an association with Amazon.com, we are able to sell books and other materials, and Amazon gives a percentage of all sales to the Chorale. This is another way that you can support the Chorale, and at no additional expense to you.

Finally, the members of the Chorale use the website extensively for communication within the group. Announcements and handouts are archived in a "private" section. The website allows us to free up more rehearsal time for music, and less for administrative matters.

So, if you're ever wondering when our next performance in your area will be, if you're curious about some aspect of Jewish choral music, or if you want to purchase Zamir recordings or tickets, pay a visit to Zamir.org.

Zamir Chorale of Boston
 P.O. Box 126
 Newton Centre, MA 02459
 www.zamir.org

Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage PAID Permit No. 56361



Funded in part by the
 Massachusetts
 Cultural Council



Supported by
 Combined Jewish
 Philanthropies

Choir-in-
 residence at
 Hebrew College

Zamir Recordings

A Sho'o in Gan Eden (CD)	_____ @ \$15 = \$_____
A Sho'o in Gan Eden (Cass.)	_____ @ \$10 = \$_____
The Majesty of Holiness (CD)	_____ @ \$15 = \$_____
Jerusalem 3000 (Cass.)	_____ @ \$10 = \$_____
Salamone Rossi Hebreo (CD)	_____ @ \$15 = \$_____
Salamone Rossi Hebreo (Cass.)	_____ @ \$10 = \$_____
Hear Our Voices (CD)	_____ @ \$15 = \$_____
Hear Our Voices (Cass.)	_____ @ \$10 = \$_____
Seasons of Our Joy (CD)	_____ @ \$15 = \$_____
Seasons of Our Joy (Cass.)	_____ @ \$10 = \$_____
Lights (CD)	_____ @ \$15 = \$_____
Lights (Cass.)	_____ @ \$10 = \$_____
Zamir 25 (Extended cass.)	_____ @ \$12 = \$_____
The Songs We Sang (Extended cass.)	_____ @ \$12 = \$_____
Sepharad 92 (Cass.)	_____ @ \$10 = \$_____
A Coat of Many Colors (Cass.)	_____ @ \$10 = \$_____

Postage (per order) \$3.00

Please consider adding a gift to Zamir _____

Total \$_____

Please mail this form along with your check to the Zamir Chorale of Boston, P.O. Box 126, Newton Centre, MA 02459. You can also order Zamir merchandise with your credit card on our website, www.zamir.org, or by phone at 617-325-6113 or 1-800-711-3627. Tickets are available on the website, by mailing this order form, or at 617-325-6113. Sorry, tickets cannot be ordered via the toll-free number at this time.

Your gift to Zamir

helps us foster a love for the Jewish heritage, promote awareness of Jewish culture, and keep alive a great musical tradition!

Be our . . .

friend (\$18 or more)

donor (\$50 or more)

patron (\$100 or more)

benefactor (\$360 or more)

Shir Chadash Circle member
 (\$1000 or more)

Tour Sponsorships

Concert Sponsor

(\$10,000 or more)

will sponsor a tour concert to honor or commemorate a person, family, or community

Conductor's Circle

(\$5,000 or more)

Centenary Partner

(\$1,000 or more)

Contributors of \$1,000 or more will receive recognition at our June 13 concert, all tour concerts, and in the film, and will receive a copy of the film.

Zamir is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization.