

honorable menschen

Chanukah Concert 5765

December 11, 2004

7:30 pm

Temple Beth Shalom
of Cambridge



THE MENSCHEN

Soprano: Alison Lobron
Deborah Sager
Erica Schultz

Alto: Tamar Engel
Karen Livescu
Deborah Melkin

Tenor: Jay Hancock
Adam Roberts
David Sadownick

Bass: Daniel Ozick
Yonah Schmeidler

THE PROGRAM

Nachamu

Traditional arr. Debbi Bohnen, ed. Justin Miller

CONDUCTOR: LYRICS: Isaiah 40:1-3

*Dabru al lev Yerushalem
V'ki-ru eleyha
ki malah tzva'ah
ki nirtzah avonah
ki lak-cha miyad ha-Shem
kiflayim b'chol-chatoteha*

Nachamu, nachamu ami, yomar Elokeichem

Speak to the heart of Jerusalem
and say to her
that her time of service is accomplished,
that her guilt is paid off;
that she has received of the Lord's hand
double for all her sins.

Comfort, comfort my people, says your G-d.

Kol koreh:

*Bamidbar panu derech la-Shem,
Yashru ba-aravah m'silah l'Elokeinu*

A voice calls out:
Clear the way for the Lord in the desert,
Make a path through the wilderness,
a highway for our G-d.

Hinei Ma Tov

Abayudaya melody arr. Daniel Ozick

CONDUCTOR: Daniel Ozick

The Abayudaya are the Jewish people of Uganda.

*Laba bwekulyokulungi bwekusanyusa
Abaluganda okutula.*

*Hinei ma tovu u-ma naim u
Sheveti achim gami yachadu.*

The Luganda words mean essentially the same as the Hebrew: "See how good and happy it is for brothers and sisters to sit down (together)."

Creole Love Call

Duke Ellington arr. Paul Kuhn

CONDUCTOR: LYRICS: Billy Strayhorn

You Are My Beshert

John Denver arr. Jay Hancock

CONDUCTOR: Jay Hancock LYRICS: Alison Lobron

Joshua

Traditional arr. Yonah Schmeidler

CONDUCTOR: Jay Hancock

Chanukah Singalong

Maoz Tzur (Rock of Ages)

*Ma'oz tzur yeshu'ati
Lecha na'eh leshabeach
Tikon beit tefilati
Ve-sham toda nezabeach
Le'eit tachin mat be-yach,
Mi tsar ham'nabeach
Az egmor beshir mizmor
Chanukat hamizbeach*

Rock of Ages let our song
Praise thy saving power
Thou amidst the raging foes
Wast our sheltering tower.

Furious, they assailed us,
But thine arm availed us.
And thy word broke their sword
When our own strength failed us.

Mi Yimalel

*Mi y'maleil g'vurot Yisraeli? Otan mi yimneh?
Hein b'chol dor yakum hagibor go-eil ha-am. (x2)*

Sh'ma!

Bayamim ha-heim bazman hazeh

Makabi moshia ufodeh

Uv-yaminu kol am Yisraeli,

yit-acheid yakum v'yi-ga-eil.

Who can retell the things that befell us,
who can count them?
In every age a hero or sage came to our aid.

Hark!

In days of yore in Israel's ancient land
Brave Maccabeus led the faithful band.
But now all Israel must as one arise,
Redeem itself through deed and sacrifice.

Uf Gozal

Miki Gavrielov arr. Jesse Rodin

CONDUCTOR: LYRICS: Arik Einstein

SOLOIST: Deb Melkin

Hagozalim sheli azvu et haken

parsu knafayim ve'afu

Va'ani tzipor zkena nisharti baken

mekave me'od shehakol yihe beseder

My chicks left the nest
Spread their wings and flew away
I am an old bird left in the nest
I hope that all will be well

Tamid yadati sheyavo hayom

shebo tzarich lehipared

Aval achshav ze ba li kacha pit'om

az ma hapele she'ani ktzat do'eg

I always knew the day would come
to say good bye
But now when it is here
no wonder I am worried

Chorus:

Uf gozal, chatoch et hashamyim

Tus le'an sheba lecha

Rak al tishkach yesh neshar bashamayim

Gur lecha

Fly away chick, cut the sky
Fly wherever you want to
Just don't forget there is an eagle in the sky
Be aware

Achshav nisharnu levadenu baken

aval anachnu beyachad

Chabki oti chazak tagidi li ken

al tid'agi beyachad kef lehizdaken

Now it is only us in the nest
but we are together

Hug me tight, say yes,
don't worry, it's fun growing old together

Uf gozal....

Ani yode'a shekacha ze bateva

vegam ani azavti ken

Aval achshav ksheba harega az

machnik ktzat bagron

I know it is the way of nature
I left a nest as well
But now when the time comes
I feel a lump in my throat

Uf gozal....

Na'ar Hayiti

Traditional arr. Justin Miller

CONDUCTOR: Adam Roberts

Na'ar hayiti, gam zakanti,

ve-lo ra'iti tzadik ne'ezav

ve-zar'o mevakesh lachem.

I once was young, and have grown old,
and have not seen a righteous man forsaken
or his children begging for bread.

Ha-shem oz le-amo yiten;

ha-shem yevarech et amo va-shalom.

The Lord will give strength to His people;
the Lord will bless His people with peace.

By the Rivers of Babylon

Traditional arr. Karen Livescu/Adam Roberts

CONDUCTOR: Karen Livescu

SOLOISTS: David Sadownick, Erica Schultz (*understudy for Karen Livescu*), Deborah Melkin, Deborah Sager

The lyrics to this song are mostly based on Psalm 137, except the last verse ("So may the words of our mouths...") which is based on Psalm 19. Various versions of the lyrics have been used in different contexts, among them the music of the Rastafarians, who saw their situation as similar to that of the Jews in Babylon.

In arranging this tune, we listened to a wide variety of versions and were inspired largely by Boney M, a disco-inflected group from the '70s and '80s, and Juba, a six-part Canadian a cappella group.

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