

REACHING THE SOUL: What Is Prayer in the 21st Century?

A three-day challenging adventure into the music and leadership
of Jewish prayer

with special guest presenter from New York
RABBI IRWIN KULA

London, Sunday 2– Tuesday 4 November, 2008
SOAS University of London Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, London WC1H 0XG

The dynamic and absorbing Rabbi Irwin Kula, President of the Centre for Leadership and Learning in New York (CLAL), has been invited to London to lead a three-day seminar on creating meaning in prayer for today's congregations. This event is for cantors, rabbis, lay leaders, choir leaders, choristers, synagogue officers and congregants – anyone with a passion for the music of Jewish prayer.

Presented by the European Academy for Jewish Liturgy together with the Jewish Music Institute

Presentations include:

SUNDAY 2 NOVEMBER

- Keynote address by Rabbi Kula: 'The Leader of Prayer as "Meaning Maker"'
- Live music that moves people spiritually from different faith groups
- Panel discussion on 'Reaching the Soul Through the Music of Prayer' chaired by Dr Alexander Knapp with Rabbi Kula and faith leaders

MONDAY 3 AND TUESDAY 4 NOVEMBER

- Interactive learning sessions on the *nuscha'ot* of Shabbat and the High Holidays facilitated by well-known British cantors
- The Leader of Prayer as Meaning Maker – Rabbi Kula builds on the learning gained in earlier aspects of the seminar
- Developing the future of Prayer Leadership
- 'Pray Tell' sessions on problems and solutions in today's congregations facilitated by Rabbi Kula and others
- How to get kids and young people involved
- And more...

Fees: £210 for the full three days including meals and refreshments Students £120

Daily rates: Sunday 2 November, £85 (includes lunch and supper) Students, £45

Monday and Tuesday, £75 per day (Students £35)

Some scholarship available

Registration and Booking:

T 020 8909 2445 F 020 8909 1030 jewishmusic@jmi.org.uk or www.jmi.org.uk

Programme

Sunday 2 November: 11.00am – 9.30pm

11.00	Registration and coffee
11.30	Introduction – Cantor Jaclyn Chernetz, Director, European Academy for Jewish Liturgy
11.45 – 12.45	RABBI IRWIN KULA – Opening remarks: PRAYER IN THE 21 st CENTURY
12.45 – 2.00	Lunch
2.00 – 3.00	Three presentations (Sufi, Catholic, Jewish)
3.00 – 3.15	Break
3.15 – 4.15	Three presentations (Buddhist, Gospel, Jewish)
4.15 – 4.30	Tea
4.30 – 6.30	Panel discussion with Rabbi Irwin Kula (Chair: Dr Alexander Knapp)
6.30 – 7.30	Light supper
7.30 – 9.00	RABBI IRWIN KULA KEYNOTE LECTURE AND DISCUSSION THE LEADER OF PRAYER AS MEANING MAKER Rabbi Irwin Kula poses challenging new questions
9.00 – 9.10	Closing remarks: Geraldine Auerbach MBE, Director, Jewish Music Institute

Monday 3 November 10am – 5.30pm

10.00 – 10.30	<i>Nigunim</i> – songs without words
10.30 – 11.15	What is the role of the Leader of Prayer – Rabbi Irwin Kula picks up on issues that arose on Sunday and leads an interactive session
11.15 – 11.45	Coffee break
11.45 – 1.00	What is <i>nusach</i> and why is it relevant today – introduction by Rabbi Kula followed by interactive learning session on the nusach for Shabbat with well-known British cantors
1.00 – 2.00	Lunch and <i>Mincha</i>
2.00 – 2.30	Favourite and new congregational melodies
2.30 – 3.45	How do I get children to sing in my synagogue/youth group? Modelling best practice
3.45 – 4.15	Tea
4.15 – 5.30	'Pray, Tell' – share what works well for you, and your problems and solutions

Tuesday 4 November 10am – 5.30pm

10.00 – 10.30	<i>Nigunim</i> – songs without words
10.30 – 11.15	What is the role of the Leader of Prayer – Rabbi Irwin Kula picks up on issues that arose on Monday and leads an interactive session
11.15 – 11.45	Coffee break
11.45 – 1.00	Interactive learning session on the nusach for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur with well-known British cantors Part 1
1.00 – 2.00	Lunch and <i>Mincha</i>
2.00 – 2.30	Interactive learning session on the <i>nusach</i> for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur with well-known British cantors Part 2
2.30 – 3.45	How do we get and keep young people involved? Modelling best practice
3.45 – 4.15	Tea
4.15 – 5.30	Enhancing the Leadership of Prayer. How can we together develop a meaningful future?

(programme may be subject to change)

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The Jewish Music Institute in partnership with the European Academy for Jewish Liturgy presents a multifaceted programme in **Synagogue Song** with dynamic and challenging Rabbi **IRWIN KULA**, President of CLAL, the National Center for Leadership and Learning, USA.

This composite event starts with a **full day and evening Seminar on Sunday 2 November** (11am – 9.30pm) at SOAS, University of London presenting a plethora of spiritual music of different faiths including Islamic Sufis, Chinese Buddhists, Catholic Gregorian Chant, Gospel music and different Jewish groups. A leader from each group will join a panel with Rabbi Kula, chaired by eminent Jewish musicologist Dr Alexander Knapp, on 'Reaching the Soul through the Music of Prayer'. Rabbi Kula will give the Keynote address on 'The Leader of Prayer as 'Meaning Maker'

The **Seminars on Monday 3 and Tuesday 4 November** from 10am – 5.30pm bring two days of singing, learning and innovation with Rabbi Irwin Kula, and well-known British cantors. The two days include: Interactive sessions on the leadership of Kabbalat Shabbat and aspects of the High Holydays; 'Pray Tell' sessions on problems and solutions in today's congregations; getting children and young people to sing in the synagogue; sharing favourite and new melodies; and more.

This event is for cantors, rabbis, lay leaders, choir leaders, choristers, synagogue officers and congregants – anyone with a passion for the music of Jewish prayer.

Cantor Jaclyn Chernetz, Director of the European Academy for Jewish Liturgy, says: 'It is the responsibility of the leader of prayer to constantly engage in personal soul searching. Only when the leader is moved and inspired will the congregation also be moved and inspired.' Geraldine Auerbach, Director of the Jewish Music Institute, says: 'This is part of our mission to enrich the spiritual life of the community by working with outstanding leaders.'

To book for the Seminar, contact JMI 020 8909 2445 or see the JMI Website: www.jmi.org.uk

Rabbi Irwin Kula

Known as both a provocative religious leader and a respected spiritual iconoclast, Irwin Kula has inspired thousands across America using Jewish wisdom in ways that speak to modern life. A renowned thinker, teacher and rabbi, he is the author of *Yearnings: Embracing the Sacred Messiness of Life* (Hyperion, Sept. 2006) – winner of a ‘Books for a Better Life’ award and selected by *Spirituality & Health* magazine as one of the ‘10 Best Spiritual Books of 2006’ – and was featured in a national public TV pledge special, ‘The Hidden Wisdom of Our Yearnings’, in the USA. A leader of religious pluralism, Kula says: ‘The freedom and openness of America invites us to bring our traditions to the marketplace of ideas. The challenge is to translate these wisdoms into accessible American idioms that inspire and improve our personal and public lives.’

A regular on NBC-TV’s ‘The Today Show’ and co-host of the popular weekly radio show, *Hirschfield and Kula*, airing on KXL in Portland, Oregon – one of the top 25 markets in the USA – Kula offers a perspective often missing in the media. Named by both *Fast Company* magazine and ‘Religion and Ethics Newsweekly’ (PBS) as one of the new leaders shaping the American spiritual landscape, he was ranked No.7 in the Top 50 Rabbis in America’ as listed in *Newsweek*.

In 2004, he wrote and was featured in *Time for a New God*, an acclaimed documentary shown at film festivals throughout the USA. Filmed as a moving monologue along the beaches, wharves and roller coasters of Coney Island, he offers religion as a ‘giant tool box’ for personal and social transformation. In 2003, he hosted a first-ever 13-part public TV series produced by JTN Productions, ‘Simple Wisdom with Irwin Kula’, using Jewish wisdom to explore such life issues as relationships, money, work and sex.

Kula is the President of CLAL–The National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership, a leadership training institute, think tank and resource center. Recently on ‘The O’Reilly Factor’ (Fox News), he is panelist for the *Washington Post/Newsweek* online column, ‘On Faith’ and is a regular on the Hallmark Channel’s ‘New Morning’ show and Westwood One radio’s ‘The Lars Larson Show’. A repeat guest on ‘The Oprah Winfrey Show’, he was featured on ‘Frontline’ (PBS) on the anniversary of 9/11. Frequently quoted in the press, he is in great demand by leaders from such diverse fields as business, technology, relationships and religion.

A nationally recognized educator and lecturer, Kula serves as a consultant to both corporate and family foundations, as well as to religious and philanthropic institutions and non-profit agencies on compassionate leadership development and institutional change. A sought-after speaker, he has appeared with such luminaries as the Dalai Lama and Queen Noor in a variety of forums.

Kula is the co-editor of *The Book of Jewish Sacred Practices: CLAL’s Guide to Everyday & Holiday Rituals and Blessings* (Jewish Lights, 2001) and co-founder of the Aitz Hayim Center for Jewish Living in Chicago. He received his B.A. in Philosophy from Columbia University, his B.H.L. from the Jewish Theological Seminary of America (JTSA) in New York and his M.A. in Rabbinics and Rabbinic Ordination from JTSA. He has served as rabbi of congregations in St. Louis, Missouri; Queens, New York; and Jerusalem, Israel.

Dr Alexander Knapp

Alexander Knapp is a graduate of Selwyn College, Cambridge, with MA, MusB, and PhD degrees in music; he has also been awarded ARCM, LRAM and HonARAM diplomas. In 1974, he was appointed a Winston Churchill Travelling Fellow in the category of ‘Religious Art’, and over a period of more than 35 years, he has published and lectured on the subject of Jewish music in the UK, Ireland, Holland, Sweden, Germany, Switzerland, Hungary, Romania, Greece, Israel, USA, Russia, and China. As well as composing, arranging, conducting, broadcasting and performing as pianist in the UK, Germany, Hungary, Lithuania, Russia and USA, Alexander Knapp has been involved as consultant and accompanist to cantors and choirs on several commercial recordings of Jewish music. His set of *Four Sephardi Songs* (arranged for voice and

piano) was published in New York in 1992, and his *Elegy for String Orchestra* in Jerusalem in 1997. In 1998, his anthology of essays on Jewish music was brought out in Chinese by the Music Research Institute of the Chinese Academy of Arts in Beijing under the title *Youtai Yinyue Lunwenji*. Among numerous other articles, he has contributed entries on aspects of Jewish music to *The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians* (second edition). He has been appointed to academic and administrative positions at Wolfson College, Cambridge, and at London's Goldsmiths' College, Royal College of Music and City University. He most recently worked at the School of Oriental and African Studies as Joe Loss Lecturer in Jewish Music between 1999 and 2006.

Cantor Jaclyn Chernett

Jaclyn Chernett is a founder and Vice-President of the Assembly of Masorti Synagogues in Great Britain. She is a past Vice-President of Masorti *Olami* (the World Council of Synagogues), the international arm of the Conservative Movement. She is also founder and Honorary Life President of Edgware Masorti Synagogue and one of the founders of its new sister congregation, Kol Nefesh Masorti – a fully egalitarian community in which she participates as *Chazan* (Cantor).

Jaclyn is a Jewish musicologist and educator. Her MPhil thesis was devoted to Ashkenazi biblical chant and she teaches, writes and lectures on Jewish religious issues and in particular liturgical studies. She received cantorial *semicha* (ordination) in 2006 from Rabbi Dr Martin Cooper, Chazan Sol Zim and Chazan Ken Cohen at the Academy for Jewish Religion, a pluralist Rabbinical and Cantorial School in New York.

Jaclyn's current work includes the foundation of the European Academy for Jewish Liturgy, a multilevel, multinational and multimedia teaching facility for leaders of Synagogue prayer.

She is married to Brian and their three daughters and sons-in-law have provided the blessing of nine grandchildren.

The Jewish Music Institute

The driving force for Jewish music in the UK
informing, teaching, performing, inspiring

The Jewish Music Institute (JMI) encompasses the music of the Jewish people wherever they are and wherever they have been. Based at SOAS, University of London, it provides comprehensive resources for study, research, training and performance at all levels from primary school to post-graduate. It deals with Jewish music in all its diversity from the home to the synagogue and from the wedding canopy to the concert stage. It is a platform for new creativity, drawing upon an ancient tradition, and brings this into mainstream British cultural life.

JMI has a clear mission to preserve and develop the Jewish musical heritage and to continue dialogue and exchange with many cultures for the benefit of present and future generations.

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To find out more about Jewish Music Institute programmes or how you can help:
Tel 020 8909 2445, e-mail jewishmusic@jmi.org.uk

Website www.jmi.org.uk



EUROPEAN ACADEMY FOR JEWISH LITURGY

EAJL provides an innovative and immediate facility that enables lay prayer leaders to serve their congregations with inspiration and devotion through personal professional mentoring, supported by seminars and resources.

EAJL serves emerging Jewish communities in all parts of Europe, who need to sustain religious services in order to thrive.

EAJL works in conjunction with the Cantors Assembly, the largest organisation of chazanim in the world.

THE EUROPEAN ACADEMY FOR JEWISH LITURGY is a company limited by guarantee in England and Wales and is currently being registered as a charity in the UK with seed funding from Masorti Olami and the WZO.

Director: Chazan Jaclyn Chernett

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