



New Orleans International Jewish Music Festival

Goldring-Woldenberg Jewish Community Campus • Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Building
3747 W. Esplanade Avenue, Metairie, LA 70002 • TEL 504.780.5612 • FAX 504.780.5601

NEW ORLEANS INTERNATIONAL JEWISH MUSIC FESTIVAL: A JOURNEY OF CELEBRATION, TRADITION AND HOPE

Festival To Take Place April 1-2 in The Big Easy; Exclusive Show Set for March 30

WASHINGTON, D.C., March 21, 2006 – For two days next month Jewish-Americans and music enthusiasts will be gathering in The Big Easy to celebrate Jewish culture and rebuild New Orleans' Jewish community in the wake of Hurricane Katrina's devastation.

Many of the top names in Jewish music will be performing at the first-ever New Orleans International Jewish Music Festival being held April 1 starting at 8 p.m. at The Howlin' Wolf and April 2 beginning at noon at Tulane University's McAlister Hall. Tickets and hotel rooms are still available.

"The New Orleans International Jewish Music Festival will be a two-day extravaganza with some of the world's most acclaimed Jewish musicians," said Washington, D.C.-based Judaica artist Gary Rosenthal, who along with other Jewish community leaders initiated the festival. "We urge Jewish-Americans from the Gulf States and other nearby communities to participate in this inaugural event to revive Jewish culture, music, and traditions in one of the areas most devastated by Hurricane Katrina."

SATURDAY, APRIL 1 AT THE HOWLIN' WOLF (907 SOUTH PETERS STREET)

DOORS OPEN AT 7 P.M.

The Saturday concert will feature five musical acts: **Blue Fringe**, **Neshama Carlebach**, **Gershon Veroba**, **Sam Glaser** and **RebbeSoul**. Saturday evening will begin with an all-star Havdallah service at 7:45 p.m.

SUNDAY, APRIL 2 AT TULANE UNIVERSITY'S MCALISTER HALL (MCALISTER DRIVE)

DOORS OPEN AT 12 P.M.

The Sunday show will feature a mix of U.S. and international stars, including **Stacy Beyer**, **Voices for Israel**, **Yom Hadash**, **Efim Chorny** and special guests, the **New Orleans Klezmer All-Stars**. Comedian **Joel Chasnoff** will host Sunday's show.

The Saturday, April 1 show is \$15 and the Sunday, April 2 show is \$10. A \$5 discount is available for both shows with valid student ID. A \$250 patron ticket (reserved seating) also is available.

(more)

Celebrate Jewish Music New Orleans-Style!
www.hiddurmitzvah.org

April 1-2: New Orleans International Jewish Music Festival
Page – 2

Additionally, the New Orleans Klezmer All-Stars will be holding a special performance Thursday, March 30 from 6-8 p.m. at the Ogden Museum of Southern Art (928 Camp Street). This exclusive concert is limited to New Orleans International Jewish Music Festival ticket holders and Ogden Museum of Southern Art members.

Just prior to Hanukkah last year, Rosenthal spearheaded a nationwide arts enrichment initiative that inspired Jewish communities to create more than 500 menorahs and dreidels that were donated to families affected by the natural disaster. That event led to the creation of the New Orleans International Jewish Music Festival.

The Hiddur Mitzvah Project from The Gary Rosenthal Collection, in conjunction with Moment Magazine, the Jewish Federation of Greater New Orleans, Whitney National Bank, Ogden Museum of Southern Art, OffBeat Magazine and the New Orleans Hillel, is sponsoring the festival. A portion of the proceeds will support Jewish education and cultural enrichment activities in the greater New Orleans area. Tickets are available through TicketWeb.com or by calling (866) 666-8932.

For air travel planning and special hotel rates, please contact Jackie Gothard at Town & Country Travel at (504) 838-8702 or at jg.tctvl@vacation.com. Rooms are available at the Renaissance Arts Hotel at (800) 468-3571 and at the Hilton Garden Inn at (877) 782-9444. Make sure to mention the New Orleans International Jewish Music Festival for special rates.

Individuals or corporations interested in sponsoring or participating in the New Orleans International Jewish Music Festival are encouraged to visit The Gary Rosenthal Collection's Hiddur Mitzvah Project Web site at www.hiddurmitzvah.org or to contact Shelley Middleberg at (504) 780-5612 or sgmiddle@bellsouth.net.

###

For media inquiries:

Alan Greilsamer / Communications Resources, LLC™
Phone: (703) 760-7007 / Mobile: (703) 201-2508
E-mail: agreilsamer@communications-resources.com