



## Architect Gehry and Rep. Lowey Honored

# Annual Dinner Raises More than \$1 Million

Perseverance, pride and protection were at the heart of the celebration at the Pierre Hotel on May 2, 2002, as 450 people gathered for YIVO's 77th Annual Benefit Dinner, raising more than \$1 million. YIVO honored Congresswoman Nita Lowey (D, NY) and architect Frank Owen Gehry

with Lifetime Achievement Awards.

YIVO Chairman Bruce Slovin, emceed the evening, terming YIVO "an institute with a resilient past and a commanding future." Slovin urged the guests to read the YIVO Board statement that was distributed with the program. Entitled *Rising Anti-Semitism: A Threat To Us All*, the statement expressed alarm over recent "outbursts of anti-Jewish expression and violent anti-Semitic incidents across Europe." (The full text appears on page 8.)

"These are extraordinary times and we must not hide our heads in the sand," Slovin declared.

Dr. Leon Botstein, President of Bard College and Music Director and Principal Conductor of the American Symphony Orchestra, was the featured speaker. He commended YIVO's great strides in protecting our ancestral heritage and keeping Jewish culture alive and strong. He introduced

[continued on page 9]

Frank O. Gehry (L) receiving YIVO's lifetime achievement award from Board Chairman Bruce Slovin, along with a framed 1930s Roman Vishniac photo of the Jewish Quarter of Bratislava, Czechoslovakia.



## YIVO and U. Penn to Begin Year-Long Collaboration

During the coming academic year (2002-2003) YIVO will embark on an exciting and unprecedented collaboration with the Center for Advanced

Judaic Studies at the University of Pennsylvania. The Center, the major American institution in the field of post-graduate Jewish Studies, sponsors a Fellowship Program that annually hosts leading academics from around the world to share their research in a distinct area of Judaica scholarship. The year's Fellowship Program theme is to be "Jewish History and Culture in Eastern Europe, 1600-2000," and more than 20 of the world's leading scholars in that field, from Europe, Israel and the United States, will be coming to the University of Pennsylvania for a year of shared learning and collaboration. Given YIVO's

unmatched archival and library resources in this area of Jewish scholarship, it was only natural for YIVO to become involved in next year's Fellowship Program.

Discussions concerning possible joint collaboration began last december at the 33rd Annual Meeting of the Association for Jewish Studies in Washington, DC. It was there that YIVO's Executive Director, Dr. Carl J. Rheins, met with Dr. David Ruderman, the Center's Director, to suggest a variety of collaborative efforts. The results are expected to foster extensive, intensive and highly productive cooperation between the two institutions. [continued on page 6]

### CONTENTS:

Chairman's Message . . . . .2	YIVO News . . . . .12
Executive Director . . . . .3	Max Weinreich Center .14
Development . . . . .4	Technology . . . . .16
Planned Giving . . . . .5	Library . . . . .17
Food as Roots . . . . .6	Archives . . . . .20
International Women's Division . . . . .7	New Accessions . . . . .23
Trustees Statement . . . . .8	Preservation . . . . .27
Benefit Dinner . . . . .9	YIVO Donors . . . . .28
Publications . . . . .10	Letters . . . . .30
EPYC . . . . .11	YIVO in History . . . . .31
	Yiddish . . . . .32-40

## YIVO News

Founded in 1925 in Vilna, Poland, as the Yiddish Scientific Institute and headquartered in New York since 1940, YIVO is devoted to the history, society and culture of Ashkenazic Jewry and to the influence of that culture as it developed in the Americas. Today, YIVO stands as the preeminent center for East European Jewish Studies; Yiddish language, literature and folklore; and the study of the American Jewish immigrant experience.

A founding partner of the Center for Jewish History, YIVO holds the following constituent memberships:

• American Historical Association • Association for Jewish Studies • Association of Jewish Libraries • Council of Archives and Research Libraries in Jewish Studies • Research Library Group (RLG) • Society of American Archivists and • World Congress of Jewish Studies.

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## From the Chairman of the Board

# The Future is Now

So much has happened in the past six months: the world has changed in ways we cannot yet count or articulate. In the face of the uncertain world situation it is more important than ever to be strong, both as individuals and as a Jewish community. Please read the new Board statement on the rise in anti-Semitism (page 8). I hope

I can count on you to stand with us. We need you!

I also want to thank each of you for your support.

Because of

good friends like you — with generosity, ideas and spirit — YIVO is experiencing a rebirth of involvement by younger people. We are expanding our library and archives and building new partnerships and connections with other research and academic institutions. This makes me proud.

Our May 2002 Annual Benefit Dinner, I think all would agree, was a true celebration of YIVO and the strength of our Jewish community.

We at YIVO have crafted an excellent vision for the future — and we want you to be a part of that future. Standing together, celebrating together in our forever-changed world, we must not be intimidated by hatred or violence! In recent months YIVO has striven to meet the regular demands of researchers, scholars and the public, while working hard to secure the Jewish cultural treasures at YIVO. We continue to work to make YIVO's books and archival materials accessible to all who want and need them. This is a tremendous responsibility.



**Bruce Slovin**

Looking to the future, YIVO has begun work on an exciting new publication, *Jews in Eastern Europe: The YIVO Encyclopedia*, under Dr. Gershon Hundert, Editor-in-Chief, of McGill University, with

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*"As we celebrate our history, our courage, our survival and our true interconnectedness as Jewish people, we are stronger through unity."*

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Managing Editor, Peggy Hermann. It will be a practical gift from us to future generations!

As a survivor from Vilna told me recently, "Who could know better than those of us from Eastern Europe what it means to be a Jew and what it means as a Jew to be up against the wall and facing seemingly insurmountable odds?"

Planning for YIVO's financial future is also key to our success. With this in mind I am glad to welcome Donna Lippman on board as YIVO's Planned Giving Officer.

Today as we celebrate our history, our courage, our survival and our true interconnectedness as Jewish people, we are stronger through unity. These are difficult times, but together, as we live our daily lives, we can work to keep our history and culture alive.

## **Remember YIVO in Your Will.**

For information on YIVO planned giving options, please turn to pages 4 and 5.

# Planning for the Next Generation

In the face of a rapidly changing American Jewish landscape, one of the most pressing tasks facing YIVO is the need to develop a strategic plan for the coming decade. As a distinguished visitor recently noted, "The YIVO Institute remains one of the great resources of the global Jewish community.... YIVO's assets include an illustrious name, a rich history and tradition, world-class library and archival collections, an internationally recognized staff and an exquisite new facility in New York City. At the same time, the Institute's core membership is aging; its fellowship programs and archival collections are underfunded; and its future revenue streams are uncertain."

To meet these challenges, the Institute has undertaken an ambitious, year-long effort to produce a strategic management plan for the coming decade. Funded by a generous grant from the Stanley and Ethel Glen Family Foundation

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## Ellen Berland Gibbs Elected to YIVO Board

Ellen Berland Gibbs, a long-time friend and supporter of YIVO, was unanimously elected to the National Board of Directors on April 23. She becomes the 30th Board member and the fifth woman to serve.

Gibbs manages CRI Media Partners, LP, an investment partnership that specializes in publicly held media and communications companies. Before starting CRI in 1987, she worked on Wall Street for 13 years. Her last position was vice-president in the investment research department of Goldman, Sachs & Co. Earlier, Gibbs was a vice-president of Paine Webber Mitchell Hutchins, Inc., specializing in media stocks: newspapers, broadcasting and cable television.

*Institutional Investor* has repeatedly ranked Gibbs among the nation's top media analysts. She has appeared twice on *Wall Street Week*. Gibbs often makes presentations to managements of companies on media industry trends. She also provides expert witness testimony in media-related litigation and appears before government panels and hearings.

Gibbs is a member of the Board and the Finance Committee of the Foundation for Child Development. She also serves on the Audit Advisory Committee of the New York City Board of Education.

Congratulating Gibbs, Board Chairman Bruce Slovin said, "Her expertise and experience — and her warmth and commitment — are needed as we plan for the future."

Gibbs' professional memberships include the Association for Investment Management and Research, The New York Society of Security Analysts, the Media and Entertainment Analysis Association of New York, the International Radio and Television Society, and the New York New Media Association. She holds a B.A. from Barnard College and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Columbia University. She is married to Bud H. Gibbs.



of New York City, the Institute has retained the services of two distinguished consulting firms, Ukeles Associates Inc. and The Gottesman Group of New York City, to help guide YIVO's transformation into a more highly effective mission-based, member-responsive, performance-driven organization.

To oversee the project, the Board of Directors has appointed a distinguished "Blue Ribbon" Committee, chaired by national YIVO Board Member Jacob Morowitz of Chicago. Other members of the committee are Rosina K. Abramson, Co-Chair; Jerrold Fuchs; Max Gitter; Doris Payson; Charles J. Rose; and Bruce Slovin, Chairman of the Board.

Questions that the Committee will consider include: What should be the Institute's major priorities in the coming decade? What functions should YIVO perform in light of its pre-1940 European mission? Whom will YIVO serve in the year 2012? How can YIVO expand its fund-raising base?

Even before the "Blue Ribbon" Committee was created, the Board had started preparing YIVO for the future. On May 17, 2000, the YIVO Executive Committee established the Institute's first International Academic Advisory Council, composed of ten distinguished scholars from the United States and Canada. The Council advises the Board on YIVO's instructional programs and academic publications, as well as recommending new directions for the archives and library. Council members are likely to play a key role in the Board's year-long strategic planning exercise. Similarly, in September 2001, the Board approved a bold five-year plan of proposed new media projects. Under the leadership of YIVO's Director of New Media, Roberta Newman, the Institute plans to upgrade the 1980s Video-disc program, "People of a Thousand Towns"; to digitize over 3,000 78-rpm recordings of Yiddish theater, cantorial and children's music; to begin the digitization and migration to the Internet of several thousand historically important posters; to create an online index to all 77 years of published YIVO scholarship, including books, pamphlets and periodicals; and, finally, to create an Internet version of *The Jews in Eastern Europe: The YIVO Encyclopedia*.

Critical questions of mission, new academic initiatives and media projects are only part of the task ahead. With over 40 percent of all senior American librarians and archivists expected to retire during the next decade, serious attention must be paid now to recruiting, in the coming years, the most promising new graduates in Library Science and Archival Studies, professionals who possess not only command of Yiddish, Hebrew and other European languages, but also a keen understanding of the Eastern European Jewish experience over the past 1,000 years. These are profoundly difficult questions that will require great imagination and hard work to be answered successfully.



Dr. Carl J. Rheins

*Development and External Affairs*

# Looking Ahead with Pride and Courage

by Ella Levine, Director of Development and External Affairs



Ella Levine

The recent outbursts of anti-Semitism and anti-Zionist expression, as well as world hatred directed at the State of Israel, strengthens YIVO's mission as never before. Our commitment to studying and preserving the history, memory and culture of the vanished Jewish communities in Eastern Europe is expanding its horizons through new programs designed to

involve those who want to explore their roots.

YIVO's commitment to making our history come alive was exemplified by the 2002 Annual Benefit and the Women's Luncheon. These events showed the diverse and important roles that members of our community play in America.

The 2002 Annual Benefit gave us the privilege of presenting Frank Gehry and Nita Lowey with Lifetime Achievement Awards, with Leon Botstein as guest speaker. These three individuals, who are prominent in architecture, politics and education respectively, exemplify what our community can achieve. Their creativity, intellect and dedication to their work and to our culture are a testament to what YIVO represents.

For the second year in a row, the Women's Luncheon attracted our most committed core supporters from the older generation, together with their children and younger guests who helped make the event a tremendous success. Two new annual awards were introduced — *Me' dor Le'dor* and the Vilna Award. They will recognize outstanding people who have demonstrated lifelong commitments to the enrichment of Jewish life and to the continuation of our legacy.

In addition, with the generous support of Sima Katz and Eta Wrobel, and the tireless work of Ruth Day — all members of our Women's Committee — we found Southern Florida's Jewish community to be strongly committed to YIVO. Our March Palm Beach event was attended by active members of Jewish communities who work to keep *yidishkayt* alive. To continue this new initiative, we need financial support and call

on every *Yedies* reader in Florida to contact us.

Dr. Adina Cimet Singer, head of YIVO's innovative Educational Program in Yiddish Culture (EPYC), has just returned from Lublin, Poland, where she met with scholars working on the EPYC curriculum (see related story on page 11). Directed at high school students, EPYC is critical to our future and helps us raise consciousness while demonstrating YIVO's contemporary meaning.

With the help of Mimi Sheraton, former *New York Times* food critic and longtime YIVO member, we brought another aspect of YIVO's vast treasure back to life. In the *Food as Roots* program, 70 men and women gathered to learn and reminisce through cooking. Sheraton bridged culture and food, showing that they play essential roles in a Jewish home. Acclaimed chef Katja Goldman led the first cooking class, and the second was held at Sima Ghadamian's house. These classes showed that there are no boundaries to Jewish culture. It is just up to us to explore.

Finally, I call upon each of our long-time supporters to ensure YIVO's future by making a planned gift. This investment nets the investor additional income while ensuring YIVO's future. The funds help every aspect of YIVO — archival preservation, program development and graduate student training. Please, remember YIVO in your will and help us continue expanding, reaching future generations, and keeping our vibrant history and culture alive. Join us in celebrating Jewish values and culture.



**YIVO Institute for Jewish Research**  
15 West 16th Street, New York, NY 10011-6301

I want to help YIVO preserve our Jewish heritage.

- \$54 – Entitles you to YIVO's newsletter, *Yedies*, in Yiddish and English.
- \$100 – Poster reproduction from YIVO's collection.
- \$180 – A packet of YIVO postcards
- \$360 – A Yiddish recording
- \$500 – A book from YIVO
- \$1000 and more – All of the above and a listing in *Yedies*.
- Other

Enclosed is my contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.  
Please charge my gift to:

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Please make checks payable to YIVO Institute for Jewish Research. Your gift is tax deductible.

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Planned Giving: New Opportunities Opening

# A Building Block of YIVO's Future

by Rosina K. Abramson, Planned Giving Committee, YIVO National Board of Directors



Rosina K. Abramson

September 11th, 2001, and the long days that followed have taught us many things, key among them the need to learn about and preserve our cultural heritage, civilization, education and identity. As Jews, we've seen all too often how fragile life can be.

It is vital that we document our contributions as a people while also countering the smears and lies that have emerged from anti-Semitic parts of the world where we thought we'd never see another swastika or anti-Israel slur. Among the world's many Jewish organizations, only YIVO preserves, documents and celebrates Eastern European culture and the Yiddish language; it is a Library of Congress of our history and heritage.

The universality of Eastern European culture and connection was brought home to me this *Peysekh*, which I celebrated with cousins in Israel. Their *mishpokhe* (those who survived the war) emigrated from Kovno, Lithuania, as did mine. Though raised in different hemispheres, the seder plates and dinner were instantly recognizable — chicken soup and *kneydlekh* (with *gribenes*), gefilte fish, chopped liver, the most powerful *khreyn*, *flanken* and *kompot*. Since I speak no Hebrew, our common tongue was Yiddish. It was also the language of the lullabies they sang to their children,

hushing and comforting them after we learned of the bombing in Netanya. In that bombing, a more distant cousin — older and originally from Eastern Europe — and his wife were killed. That's how I learned that our funeral customs are similarly familiar.

This experience reinforced my view that the heritage YIVO preserves is not archaic; rather it is a common bond that embraces so many communities worldwide. With your support and hard work, we will enjoy some *nakhes* by re-opening YIVO affiliates in Israel, Mexico, South America and wherever else our remnants have taken root.

But documenting our Eastern European heritage is an expensive proposition, made possible only through generous contributions from YIVO's friends and benefactors.

Please support YIVO — its library, archives, public programs, EPYC Program, *The YIVO Encyclopedia*, research projects, language instruction and all the many other activities we conduct. Also, please consider making a Planned Gift to help ensure YIVO's long-term future.

**YIVO annuity schedule:**

If you are	You can receive:*
65	6.7%
70	7.2%
75	7.9%
80	8.9%
85	10.4%
90	12.0%

To learn more about YIVO's charitable gift annuity program, please call Donna Lippman, YIVO's Planned Giving Officer, at (917) 606-8293. She will be happy to discuss charitable annuities and other planned giving opportunities that can help you and YIVO.

\*Rates are based on single life. Annuities for two lives also available. This information is not intended as tax, legal or financial advice. Please seek the counsel of your advisors.

"YIVO Enriches My Soul"

## Nathan Goldstein's Planned Gift Yields Fixed Income for Life

Nathan Goldstein of Skokie, Illinois, has become the newest participant in YIVO's Charitable Gift Annuity Program. Goldstein's donation will provide him with a fixed payment for his lifetime while helping to support YIVO's mission of preserving *yidishkayt* for future generations. A portion of the income is also tax-free.

Born in 1924, Goldstein says he was raised with "Yiddish in my life." Yiddish was the spoken language of his parents and in his home. Following in the footsteps of his father, Isidore (Itzhak Leyb), who for more than 30 years was an

active member of the Chicago chapter of YIVO, Goldstein celebrates the spirit and traditions of his parents who hailed from Sakai, Lithuania, and Mozyr, Belorussia.

"YIVO enriches my soul," he explained, "and that is the most important reason for my donating this money. In addition, my retirement will be secured, as I will receive fixed payments, at an attractive rate, for my lifetime. By establishing a charitable gift annuity, I am helping myself while helping YIVO. I hope others will join me in supporting this wonderful organization."



Nathan Goldstein

# Leadership Forum Holds First Annual Food As Roots Series

YIVO's Leadership Forum held its First Annual *Food As Roots* Series with more than 75 attendees at two special culinary experiences. Katja Goldman demonstrated traditional Eastern European cooking at her home, and Sima Ghadadian prepared traditional Persian cuisine at hers. Renowned food critic and author Mimi Sheraton attended Katja's class.

Leadership Forum Chair Cathy W. Zises said, "It was great to share the memories of our mothers and grandmothers and renew our commitment to the Jewish community. By talking and sharing these poignant memories, we honor and celebrate our roots and heritage — what is past, what is current, and what is our future. Through a new Culinary Committee created by the Leadership Forum, we will share our common interest in



Cook and hostess Sima Ghadadian (L) and Leadership Forum Chair Cathy Zises.



*Food As Roots* Chair Mimi Sheraton with Katja Goldman, hostess and Chef.

culture through food and the Jewish home. This will be a powerful link in the chain of continuity. Preserving our people's history and its past will be our gift to the future."

The First Annual *Food As Roots* Series helped raise money for the Educational Program on Yiddish Culture (see EPYC, page 11), a comprehensive high school level curriculum currently being developed for a

variety of different academic settings to familiarize students with the rich and dynamic culture and history of East European Jewry.

Mimi Sheraton has agreed to chair the *Foods As Roots* series, which will now become an annual event. Helen Nash, long-time YIVO friend and supporter, gourmet kosher chef and noted philanthropist, has agreed to host a future class.

Please log onto our website at [www.yivoinstitute.org](http://www.yivoinstitute.org) for copies of the menus from both sessions of the *Food As Roots* series.

## YIVO and Penn [continued from page 1]

"Fellows at the Center for Judaic Studies will receive special access to YIVO's collections and the privilege of visiting-scholar status at our library and archives," Rheins noted. "YIVO's academic staff members have, in turn, been invited to participate fully in the Center's weekly seminars, in which the fellows share and discuss their latest research. This fine and timely plan will benefit us all."

Additionally, YIVO and the Center for Advanced Judaic Studies will cosponsor a year-long lecture series featuring some of the most distinguished international scholars in the field of East European Jewish Studies. A spring conference at YIVO will showcase the program's work.

Among the questions the seminar will consider are: What historical factors made the rise of modernism possible among East

European Jews? What were the lines of influence between Jews and their mostly Slavic neighbors? How have the pioneering figures of Jewish scholarship in Eastern Europe, including the founders of YIVO, shaped the field's intellectual lineage? In what ways did East European Jewry remain a coherent entity across the periodic re-castings of political boundaries in the region? To what degree does the phenomenon of "crisis" adequately define the roots of the radical changes that characterize the modern period of East European Jewish history?

The collaborative effort will be jointly supervised by Prof. Benjamin Nathans of the University of Pennsylvania, this year's Fellowship Program Coordinator, and Prof. Allan Nadler of Drew University, YIVO's Coordinator of Academic Affairs.

## In Honor, In Memory

Dear Friends:

Think about honoring the memory of a loved one, or paying tribute to a family member, relative or friend, by erecting a memorial plaque in the Kovno, Shavl, Bialystok or Vilna rooms. Your support will help carry on YIVO's mission and ensure that the culture and life of Jews in East Europe will live forever. Your plaque will help sustain the important work that began over 75 years ago in Vilna for generations to come.

For more information, call Ella Levine at: (212) 294-6128.

# Wrobel, Abramson and Van Doren Honored by International Women's Division



Honorees Eta Wrobel, Rosina K. Abramson and Mira Jedwabnik Van Doren.

Eta Wrobel, Rosina K. Abramson and Mira Jedwabnik Van Doren were the guests of honor at YIVO's Second Annual International Women's Division Luncheon. Held at the Center for Jewish History and entitled "A Heritage Journey — *Me'dor Le'dor*," the April 14th event was chaired by Fanya Gottesfeld Heller and co-chaired by Cindy K. Stone and Jonathan I. Mishkin.

Wrobel, founder of YIVO's International Women's Division and an activist for *yidishkayt* and the Jewish people worldwide, received the Lifetime Achievement Award. She is National Vice President of AKIM, founder of the Survivors' Chapter of



Fanya Gottesfeld Heller, chair of the Second Annual Women's Division Luncheon and a longtime member of the YIVO Board of Directors.

Hadassah in Queens and a supporter of Israel Bonds.

Born in Lukow, Poland, Wrobel escaped to the woods with her father as the ghetto was burnt to the ground, and by the age of 21, she joined a partisan group, serving as both a rescuer and a fighter. (See article on Partisans, page 12)

Abramson, a dedicated YIVO Board Member who serves on the Governance and Planned Giving Committees as well as the ad hoc Strategic Planning Committee, received the first *Me'dor Le'dor* Award. Abramson and her family helped create YIVO's Kovno Memorial Room.

A lawyer and mediator committed to public service, justice, equity and "making a difference," Rosina also is Director of the Civil Rights Division of the Anti-Defamation League.

Mira Jedwabnik Van Doren, an artist and filmmaker whose work has been widely exhibited, is working on the documentary entitled "Vilna: The Vanished City," which tells the story of the Jewish

community that existed between the two world wars. Jedwabnik Van Doren received the first Vilna Award. A native of Vilna, she left with her parents in 1939 on the *Stefan Batory*, the last ship out before the Second World War. Mira heads The Vilna Project, Inc., and is dedicated to preserving and documenting the richness and diversity of Jewish Vilna and to disseminating its cultural legacy.

Guest Speaker Naomi Levine, Special Assistant to the President of New York University, discussed the importance of educating our youth in the fundamentals of Jewish history to help protect our culture.

"It is a responsibility we all share," Levine said, "and YIVO is a powerful force in moving us forward."

YIVO's Second Annual International Women's Division Luncheon helped raise money for the Educational Program on Yiddish Culture. (See related article on EPYC, page 11.)



Guest speaker Naomi Levine



Event co-chairs Cindy K. Stone and Jonathan I. Mishkin.

# Rising Anti-Semitism: A Threat to Us All

The trustees of the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research view the recent worldwide emergence of virulent anti-Semitism with genuine alarm. YIVO is dedicated to studying and preserving the history, memory and culture of the vanished communities of East European Jewry. That the very dark forces responsible for the brutal eradication of European Jewish civilization have once again raised their ugly heads is a matter of the gravest concern to us all.

As representatives of a Jewish academic institution of European origin — founded in 1925 in Vilna, Poland — that was destroyed by the Nazis in 1941, we at YIVO are appalled by the recent outbursts of anti-Jewish expression and violent anti-Semitic incidents across Europe. Synagogues in France and Belgium fire-bombed and burned; Jewish youth in Paris attacked during soccer practice; Jewish school buses stoned; Jewish schools and cemeteries defaced; yeshivas and kosher butcher shops fired at; and Jews beaten on the streets of Berlin, Paris and Kiev. Moreover, demonstrators all across Europe parade with banners equating the Star of David with the swastika. In times such as these, we dare not be silent! Nor can we accept the simplistic excuse that these and countless more assaults on Jews and Judaism are a response by the Arab citizens of European lands to the current tragic situation in the Middle East. In fact, some of the worst expressions of anti-Semitism have emerged from the highest political, intellectual and social quarters in Europe.

Members of European governments, the press and leading academic institutions, who must know better, have contributed in an unconscionable way to these dangerous trends. The examples are as widespread as they are disturbing. The French government's envoy to London recently referred to the State of Israel in the most disparagingly vulgar terms, implying that it was threatening a third world war. More than 120 European academics signed a full-page ad in the British daily, *The Guardian*, calling for a boycott of all scholarly exchanges with Israeli academic institutions. The Danish Skilled Workers' Union enacted a boycott of all Israeli businesses. A senior Berlin police spokesman recommended that Jews in Germany not appear publicly in distinctive Jewish attire, such as yarmulkes or stars of David. The liberal Italian newspaper, *La Stampa*, ran a cartoon of the baby Jesus, encircled by Israeli tanks, praying, "Don't tell me they've come to kill me again."

We are deeply saddened by the saturation of many parts of the Islamic world with classical Jew-hatred, including the wide dissemination of the *Protocols of the Elders of Zion* in Arabic translation. The leading Saudi newspaper has revived the medieval blood-libel by accusing Jews of using the blood of Muslim children to bake *homentashn*. The Arab media regularly depict Jews as demonic figures and Islamic religious preachers regularly refer to Jews as subhumans. The rhetoric of Jew-hatred — that the Jewish State has brought "shame and humiliation" upon Islam — has sadly become common throughout the Muslim world today. It is eerily reminiscent of the classical tracts of European anti-Semitism and reads like a page lifted from *Mein Kampf*.

A mere half-century since the Holocaust, it seems not only that Europe has forgotten its collective guilt in history's greatest atrocity; it has also apparently lost all sense of shame for its centuries-long oppression of the Jewish people. There is a bitter irony in that Israel's determination to protect the lives of its citizens is the ostensible excuse for this inexcusable hatred. There is nothing in the current political struggles in the Middle East that justifies such medieval hatred directed at the Jewish people and the Zionist movement. We call upon all decent people to join in the struggle against anti-Semitism and terrorism in all forms. Join with YIVO as we work together to celebrate Jewish values, culture and accomplishments — and our bonds with our brothers and sisters in Israel — as we fight hatred and bigotry worldwide. **Am Yisroel khay!**



# Dinner [continued from page 1]



Honoree Nita Lowey (L) conversing with YIVO Board Chairman Bruce Slovin.

Frank Gehry as “the only Jewish architect of our time who has been regarded as an architectural genius and as a man who has never forgotten his Jewish roots.”

Gehry, whose many distinguished buildings around the world include the Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao, Spain, accepted his Lifetime Achievement Award, praising YIVO for “protecting the language of my parents and grandparents and for safeguarding their past.”

Introducing Congresswoman Lowey was Dr. Martin Peretz, long-time friend and National YIVO Board member, who reflected on recent events that affect world Jewry.

Lowey, elected to the United States House of Representatives in 1988, is now in her seventh term and sits on the powerful House Appropriations Committee. She spoke of her work on behalf of Israel and recognized the exemplary history of YIVO and its work in meeting the “need to preserve Yiddish culture and language.”



Dr. Leon Botstein, Benefit guest speaker, and National YIVO board member Dr. Martin Peretz, who introduced Congresswoman Nita Lowey.



Cindy Stone (L) and Cathy Zises, Co-Chairs of YIVO's Leadership Forum, delivering their greetings in Yiddish and English.

Along with their awards, the two honorees received unique gifts from YIVO. Gehry was given a photograph by Roman Vishniac entitled “A street in the Jewish Quarter of Bratislava, Czechoslovakia, in the 1930s.” Lowey received a poster from Petrograd (St. Petersburg), Russia, showing a woman holding harvested wheat. The Yiddish text reads, “All who believe in the revival of our land through Jewish work, vote for the Zionist Slate Number 6 in the Russian Jewish Congress election.”

The evening closed with comments from National YIVO Board member and philanthropist Motl Zelmanowicz, who spoke in Yiddish. Echoing the challenge of Beynish Michalewicz (a leading light of the Bund almost from its founding), he declared, “We must direct our eyes to the young.” Zelmanowicz urged the guests to defend Jewish life in the United States and abroad and challenged them to “take the torch we carry and light the path of a better tomorrow.”



National YIVO Board member and philanthropist Molt Zelmanowicz, speaking in Yiddish, urges the guests to defend Jewish life in the United States and abroad.

## Comprehensive Reference on Jews of Eastern Europe

### YIVO Encyclopedia Project Launched

YIVO has launched what is to become the definitive reference work on the history and culture of Jews in Eastern Europe. *Jews in Eastern Europe: The YIVO Encyclopedia*, a multivolume, 1.5-million-word project, will cover the beginnings of Jewish settlement through the present.

The copiously illustrated encyclopedia is slated to be published in English by YIVO and Indiana University Press in 2006. The work will also be issued as a multimedia project for the next generation of the Internet. An audiovisual CD or DVD companion to the print volumes is also under consideration.

"Most Jews — including the vast majority of Jews in the United States and the former Soviet Union and about half the Jewish population of the State of Israel — trace their ancestry to Eastern Europe," said Editor-in-Chief Dr. Gershon Hundert. "Many seek information on their origins and the lives of their ancestors, but a comprehensive, reliable resource serving as a port of entry to the history and culture of East European Jewry does not exist. *The YIVO Encyclopedia* will make it possible for these Jews to find themselves and their heritage reflected in a major scholarly reference work for the first time."

Professor Hundert chairs the Department of Jewish Studies at McGill University, where he holds the Leanor Segal Chair in Jewish Studies and is Professor of History. He is also the author and editor of several important publications on East European Jewish history, including two volumes of the journal *Polin: Studies in Polish Jewry*.

In December 2001, Hundert convened the first meeting of the project's Senior Working Group in New York City. Several leading scholars with experience in encyclopedia projects attended, including Abraham Ascher (CUNY), Elisheva Carlebach (CUNY), Deborah Dash Moore (Vassar), Paula Hyman (Yale), Theodore Rabb (Princeton) and Robert M. Seltzer (CUNY). Professors Gershon Bacon (Bar-Ilan University), Jacob Goldberg (Hebrew University), Jay Harris (Harvard), and Jerzy Tomaszewski (Warsaw University) are also working on the project.

Professor Bacon observed, "This is the unique contribution that *The YIVO Encyclopedia* can make to the Jewish bookshelf: a definitive summary and guide to the history and culture of East European Jewry based on the best and most up-to-date information and historiographical approaches, written with an eye toward opening further discussion and debate over new directions for research and interpretation."

A preliminary entry list has been compiled and over 25 leading scholars from North America, Israel and Europe have agreed to serve as senior editors. A managing editor, Peggy Hermann, began work on the project in April 2002.

The work is being funded in part by a \$250,000 grant from the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany. *The YIVO Encyclopedia* has also received pledges of generous support from private donors and is in the final round of competition for other major foundation grants.



*YIVO Encyclopedia*  
Editor-in-Chief Dr.  
Gershon Hundert



### Awakening Lives, Autobiographies of Young Interwar Polish Jews, to Be Published

More than 60 years after writing their autobiographies for YIVO contests, 15 young Polish Jews of the 1930s are being published. *Awakening Lives: Autobiographies of Jewish Youth in Poland Before the Holocaust*, edited by Jeffrey Shandler, is being issued by Yale University Press in September. These autobiographies — candid and intensely personal — not only reveal the struggles, ambitions, and dreams of their young writers, but also open a window into ordinary Jewish life in interwar Poland.

The autobiographies in *Awakening Lives* were selected from hundreds written for YIVO contests from 1932 through 1938. The YIVO researchers had invited Jews ages 16-22 to write their life histories to help them "become fully aware of the life of Jewish youth." Prizes were awarded for the best efforts.

The nine male and six female authors wrote from diverse backgrounds. Some authors were ardently secular, others were devoutly religious; some were middle or working class, others were impoverished; some

were self-taught, while others were highly educated. Some were Zionists, Bundists, communists; others eschewed political affiliations. In their variety and richness, their words speak across the chasm of history, providing unique testimony on Jewish life in the final years before the Holocaust.

*Awakening Lives* includes a chronology, a map of interwar Poland, a glossary, and an introduction that describes the intellectual background and literary context of the works.

#### Save the Date

A book party for *Awakening Lives* will be held at YIVO on October 15, 2002.

## Early Lublin: Cradle of a Culture

In the shadow of Lublin's 14th-century neo-Gothic castle — now a museum — and less than 15 minutes from the former Majdanek concentration camp, YIVO scholars have gathered puzzle pieces to help them assemble a portrait of Jewish life in this once-thriving center of Talmudic scholarship. Led by Dr. Adina Cimet, director of YIVO's Education Program on Yiddish Culture (EPYC), the delegation walked the streets of Podzamcze, a district that was established for Jews who at different times were alternately barred from and allowed to live in Lublin proper.

"Little remains of the once-crowded Jewish borough of Podzamcze because most houses were made of perishable materials like wood, and many of the stronger buildings and community records were destroyed by the Nazis," said Cimet before leaving on her trip. "But we are collecting photographs, films, art and primary documents to enhance our picture of the richness of Jewish life in Eastern Europe."

Those materials will be incorporated into EPYC's curriculum on Lublin, which is being designed for high school teachers, along with a web site and CD-ROM.

Among the topics in the curriculum are:

- The Jews of Podzamcze, with special emphasis on the role of women
- City history and layout
- Economic, political and labor relationships between Jews and non-Jews
- Jewish autonomy and governance
- Printing houses and their output
- Religious life, including the Yeshiva and the personalities who made Lublin a center of Jewish scholarship from the 14th century until the Nazis destroyed the community
- Life along Lubartowska Street, a broad avenue where the six-story Yeshivat Hachmei Lublin building now serves as a medical college

According to Cimet, few Jews if any remain in the city that was home to 40,000 Jews in 1939. However, an organization called the Grodzka Gate Cultural Center in Lublin is developing a program to educate local students in the rich history of Jews and other minorities in their region. Called *Forgotten Past—Multicultural Traditions of the Lublin Region*, it tries to break down stereotypes and foster dialogue on issues arising from interactions between minority and majority cultures.

The EPYC staff met with Dr. Monika Adamczyk-Garbowska, Professor of Jewish Studies at the Maria Curie-Skłodowska University of Lublin, and co-editor of *Contemporary Jewish Writing in Poland: An Anthology*. Various members of the Grodzka Center are collaborating directly with the EPYC project. In addition, Cimet delivered two lectures at the university and at the Center.



A postcard from the 1920s shows the Castle of Lublin.

### Images from Today's Lublin



Dr. Adina Cimet (R) discussing the EPYC program with Grodzka Gate Cultural Center director Tomasz Pietrasiewicz and Monika Garbowska of the Maria Curie-Skłodowska University.



This stone is from a Lublin Jewish cemetery, one of the oldest Jewish burial grounds in Poland. The oldest preserved tombstone in the cemetery dates to 1541. Many distinguished scholars were buried here.

# Ghetto Cabaret Staged by YIVO Includes Skits, Songs from Vilna Ghetto

YIVO held a special stage reading of *Ghetto Cabaret*, a poignant Yiddish musical drama based on documents, diaries and chronicles of the Vilna Ghetto. The April 25th world premiere was translated simultaneously into English, which was read by Michael Fox and transmitted to the audience via wireless infrared earphones.

Written by Miriam Hoffman and Rena Berkowicz-Borow using source material from the YIVO Archives and Library, the show caused the audience to laugh through tears. It featured skits and songs that had been performed in the Ghetto, interspersed with passages from the *Diaries of*

*Herman Kruk* (to be published in English by Yale University Press in collaboration with YIVO in September 2002).

*Ghetto Cabaret* was directed by Suzanne Toren and performed in Yiddish by a group of talented actors including Jake Ehrenreich, Allen

Lewis Rickman, Yelena Shmulenson-Rickman, Steve Sterner, Suzanne Toren and Hy Wolfe. Joyce Rosenzweig was the musical director who accompanied the eleven Ghetto songs that were sung throughout this unforgettable evening.



The cast of *Ghetto Cabaret*.

The presentation was made possible by a grant in memory of Esther and Chaim Diamond, the Sonia Staff Foundation and YIVO's Mendl Hoffman Yiddish Theater Fund.

The Germans occupied Vilna in June 1941 and, with the help of the Lithuanians, murdered 35,000 Jews in Ponar, a forest near Vilna. The remaining Jews were herded into two crowded ghettos. To head the Jewish police (*Judenrat*), the Germans appointed Jacob Gens, who thought that if the Jews remained productive in the Ghetto, they would be allowed to live. Gens encouraged Ghetto inmates to establish schools, libraries, a museum, a theater and an orchestra. (The late YIVO librarian Dina Abramowicz was the Ghetto children's librarian, working under Herman Kruk.) A wall bulletin, *Geto-yedies*, publicized cultural activities along with German-imposed rules and regulations. Remnants of the bulletins exist in the collection of the Vilna Gaon Jewish Museum in Vilnius.



Audience enjoys simultaneous translation over wireless infrared headphones.

## On Watching *Resistance*, a Documentary Featuring YIVO's Wrobel and Abramowicz

By Esther Mishkin

While watching the new PBS documentary on the Jewish partisans in the forests of Poland and White Russia during the *Shoah*, I admired anew the strength and courage they manifested: they did not flee from danger.

The people interviewed in *Resistance: Untold Stories of Jewish Partisans* — Eta Wrobel and the late YIVO librarian Dina Abramowicz among them — tried to avenge atrocities against the Jewish people and to defeat the enemy.

The film reminded me of a night in the Kovno Ghetto, where I was for over three years. It was after curfew on a cold and rainy night. My family was trying to go to sleep when there was a knock on the door. I was expecting Germans, but when I opened the door, a friend from the underground was there, drenched and trembling.

A group of friends planning to join the partisans wanted me to accompany them, and a guide had been sent to show us the way. I hesitated and decided to remain in the Ghetto. I could not leave my parents and my younger brother without my protection. I also feared leaving familiar things to face unknown danger. I stayed in the Ghetto for more than a year during the "actions" as the deportations went on around me.

These heroic partisans experienced hate and fear even while out in the forests. Still these young people (and old) were not deterred from attacking the Germans with anything they had on hand. *They were so brave and resourceful!*

Their tools were primitive compared to the might of the Germans. Yet they achieved much and inspire us all with pride. We survivors, and our offspring, will remember and salute them for as long as we live.

# Hillel Halkin, Distinguished Lecturer at YIVO



Hillel Halkin

The Israeli author and translator Hillel Halkin spent a week at YIVO as a visiting scholar. In the Distinguished Lecture series, he spoke about "The Relationship between Modern Yiddish and Hebrew Literature." His April 9 lecture at the Center for Jewish History was wide-ranging. It covered the history of modern Jewish literature in Eastern Europe and Israel, the identities of the writers and political movements behind this literature. Halkin also discussed the growth of modern literature in both languages, which he believed was actually one literature, and mentioned many authors who wrote in both languages. He claimed there was no basis for choosing one language over the other and said that some writers preferred each language at different points in their careers (in general, writing initially in Hebrew and then shifting to Yiddish). Others wrote and often published the same works in both languages in an effort to appeal to different audiences within the Jewish population.

Although Halkin believes that the "language war" between Hebrew and Yiddish was inevitable, he blamed the politicians, not the writers, in both the Yiddishist and Hebraist camps for exacerbating the conflict. He also stated that from an ideological point of view, the whole idea of "Yiddishism" was a "catastrophic mistake" and that only "Hebraism" could possibly have succeeded; likewise diaspora nationalism vis-à-vis Zionism. In New York City, this statement was bound to provoke a lively discussion, and when the question-and-answer period came, it did. One speaker, in particular, wondered how Halkin could separate Yiddish literature, which he enjoys and admires, from the movement that spawned it.

Nevertheless, in spite of the sharp disagreement, the audience appreciated Halkin's erudition, love of his subject matter and skilled presentation. Staff members that have had an opportunity to discuss literature and Middle East politics, another one of his specialties, with him, have greatly appreciated that as well.

Halkin, author of *Letters to An American Jewish Friend* (1976), is revising his lecture for a forthcoming article in *Commentary* magazine.

## Ansky's *Dybbuk* Written for Russians, Claims Professor Seth Wolitz

Sh. Ansky's *The Dybbuk*, perhaps the most famous Jewish play ever written, was actually penned in Russian for a Russian audience. That is the conclusion of Seth Wolitz, Gale Professor of Jewish Studies and Professor of French and Slavic Languages at the University of Texas at Austin. As part of YIVO's Distinguished Lecture series, Wolitz delivered the lecture "Ansky's Russian *Dybbuk*," exploring the history of famous play.

"It was only after the play was canceled in the Russian theater that it debuted in Yiddish," he said, noting that the Yiddish premiere was staged by the Vilna Troupe in 1920.

Focusing on the recent discovery of manuscripts proving that Ansky's first draft of the play was in Russian, Wolitz said the play was written to demonstrate that Jews deserved a legitimate place in Russian national life. He described the playwright's world as "Russian in language yet Jewish in heart," and *The Dybbuk* as a microcosm of the multicultural world in which Ansky functioned. "The play fused Jewish mystical matter and neoromantic form. Its target audience was Russian Russians, and Russian Jews who spoke Russian," he said.

Wolitz is editor of *The Hidden Isaac Bashevis Singer* and author of numerous articles and re-

views. He is President of the Modern Language Association's Yiddish Section and was elected to the Governing Board of the Western Association of the American Association for Jewish Studies in 1995.

Professor Seth Wolitz lecturing at YIVO.



# Students from Many Countries Flock to Weinreich Summer Program

YIVO's 35th Annual Uriel Weinreich Program in Yiddish Language, Literature and Culture is now under way. The 64 students hail from the United States, Canada, England, Israel, Germany, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Poland, Russia, Sudan and Ukraine. Taking place from June 24 through August 2, 2002 at Columbia University, the summer program offers four levels of instruction, from elementary to advanced.

Before starting the program, beginners were offered a one-day workshop on the Yiddish alphabet. A two-week refresher course helped more advanced students review Yiddish studied years earlier, allowing them to enter intermediate or advanced classes.

A welcoming reception for the students of the *Zumer-program* 2002 was held on Friday, June 28, 2002 at the Center for Jewish History. Members of the YIVO staff and faculty greeted them and discussed the resources in the YIVO collections.

Uriel Weinreich faculty members include Alan Astro, Alisa Braun, Brukhe Caplan, Khane Gonshor, Eugene Orenstein, Mordkhe Schaechter and Sheva Zucker.



Last year's Uriel Weinreich participants put on a play at the siyem (graduation).

For more information, visit [www.yivoinstitute.org](http://www.yivoinstitute.org) and click "Courses," or contact Yankl

Salant, Director of Yiddish Language Programs, (212) 294-6138 or [ysalant@yivo.cjh.org](mailto:ysalant@yivo.cjh.org).

## Jewish Literature, Yiddish Language Taught in Continuing Education Classes

YIVO's spring 2002 continuing education students enjoyed a new class, taught by New York University doctoral student Marc Caplan. Jewish Literature in Three Languages featured three works originally written in Yiddish, Hebrew and English. Also offered were the popular Yiddish language classes: Intermediate Yiddish II,

taught by Sholem Berger of New York University School of Medicine — new to our program — and Advanced Yiddish II, taught again by Dr. Paul (Hershl) Glasser, Associate Dean of YIVO.

**Come and study Yiddish at YIVO.** For more information, visit [www.yivoinstitute.org](http://www.yivoinstitute.org) and click on "Courses." Or contact YIVO at (212) 246-6080.

**Yiddish**  
@YIVO

Fall 2002 semester  
begins in late September.

Call YIVO at (212) 246-6080  
for a flier and application.

## CALLING ALL ZUMER-PROGRAM ALUMNI!

If you have not received the first issue of our alumni newsletter, *Zumer in nyu-york/ Yiddish Summer Times*, contact Yankl Salant at (212) 294-6138, fax: (212) 292-1892, e-mail: [ysalant@yivo.cjh.org](mailto:ysalant@yivo.cjh.org).



*Jesuit Priest Honored*

# Stanislaw Musial Awarded Karski-Nirenska Prize

Rev. Barry Drake, CJCR website



**Father Stanislaw Musial**

Father Stanislaw Musial, a Jesuit priest and essayist from Cracow, Poland, has been awarded the 2001 Jan Karski-Pola Nirenska Prize. Endowed by Professor Jan Karski at YIVO in 1992, the \$5,000 prize goes to authors of published works documenting Polish-Jewish relations and Jewish contributions to Polish culture. The

ceremony is scheduled for June in Warsaw.

Musial is a leading voice in the Polish-Jewish dialogue of the last two decades. His writings against anti-Semitism and xenophobia in Polish society in general, and the Catholic Church in particular, have made him a central figure in the ongoing — and deeply divisive — discourse about the past and the present of Polish-Jewish relations.

He became involved in the Polish-Jewish dialogue during the dispute over the Carmelite convent that was built in 1984 adjoining the site of the Auschwitz concentration camp. As Secretary of the Commission of the Polish Episcopate for

Dialogue with Judaism (*Komisja Episkopatu Polski do Spraw Dialogu z Judaizmem*) from 1986 until 1995, Musial was instrumental in negotiating an agreement resulting in the convent's relocation.

He also is known for raising difficult questions about the Church's silence during the Holocaust and its lack of resolve to condemn present-day anti-Jewish sentiments among its clergy.

"Despite everything that was done on our soil by the Nazis," Musial wrote, "there is still a lack of the common perception that anti-Semitism is in its nature and in every form deadly."

Born in 1938, he is best known to Polish readers through his frequent articles in the popular Polish Catholic weekly *Tygodnik Powszechny*. His essays on Polish-Jewish history also have been published in other periodicals, including *Midrash* and *Polin*.

The late Professor Jan Karski, who established the prize, was the envoy of the Polish government-in-exile during World War II who brought to the West firsthand testimony about conditions in the Warsaw Ghetto and in German death camps. The prize is also named in memory of Professor Karski's late wife, choreographer Pola Nirenska.

## RECIPIENTS OF YIVO FACULTY AND GRADUATE STUDENT FELLOWSHIPS, 2002

AWARD NAME	AMOUNT	RECIPIENT	AFFILIATION	TOPIC
Dina Abramowicz	\$5,000	Dr. Marcos Silber	Tel Aviv University	Efforts to Achieve Autonomy for the Jews of Lithuania and Belorussia during World War I
Prof. Bernard Choseed Memorial	\$5,000	Tamar Kaplan	University of Pennsylvania	Rabbinic Authority in the Russian Empire
Rose and Isidore Drench Memorial	\$2,500	Alisa Braun	University of Michigan	Becoming Authorities: Jews, Writing, and the Dynamics of Literary Affirmation, 1890-1940
Vladimir and Pearl Heifetz Memorial	\$1,500	James Loeffler	Columbia University	Society for Jewish Folk Music, 1881-1917
Aleksander and Alicja Hertz Memorial	\$1,500	Dr. Natalia Aleksium	New York University	Polish-Jewish Historians before the Holocaust: Constructing the History of Polish Jewry
Vivian Lefsky Hort Memorial	\$1,500	Prof. Monika Adamczyk-Garbowska	Center for Jewish Studies, Maria Curie-Skłodowska University (Lublin)	The Shtetl of Kazimierz in Yiddish and Polish Literature
Abraham and Rachela Melezin	\$1500	Egle Bendikaite	Vytautas Magnus University (Kaunas)	Thought and Policy of the Zionist Movement in Lithuania
Natalie and Mendel Racolin Memorial	\$1,500	Dr. Edna Nahshon	Jewish Theological Seminary	Mock Trials and Jewish Public Discourse
Maria Salit-Gitelson Tell Memorial	\$1,500	Dr. Dina Porat	Tel Aviv University	The Life and Times of Abba Kovner

## Library and Archives Finding Aids, Thousand Towns Photo Catalog Going Online

YIVO has taken the first major step toward making its archival and library resources available on the Internet with the publication of an online catalog of the YIVO Library. It can be found on both the YIVO and the Center for Jewish History web sites or directly at [http://www.cjh.org/about/yivo\\_catalog.html](http://www.cjh.org/about/yivo_catalog.html).

The Library catalog includes approximately 50,000 database records, mostly for published materials in (romanized) Yiddish and Hebrew transliteration, and in other languages. While the online catalog represents only a fraction of the Library's extensive holdings, new records will be added on a regular basis.

Ultimately, YIVO intends to make the entire catalog of the Library, as well as extensive finding aids to its archival collections, available to researchers over the Internet. To that end, the YIVO Institute is participating in a Center-wide, multi-year project to create an integrated database that will allow researchers to peruse the collections of all the Center's partners without the barriers presented by separate databases. This complex infrastructure is being prepared with the help of funding from the National Historic Preservation and Records Commission. A sample of the YIVO finding aids being created by the project is available online at <http://www.cjh.org/academic/findingaids/yivo/>.

In a separate initiative, the YIVO Photo Archives is working on a new edition of *People of a Thousand Towns*, a videodisc of over 15,000 photographs of Jewish life in Eastern Europe, created with funds from the Charles H. Revson Foundation between 1981 and 1987. These photographs, now accessible only on a computer work station in the YIVO Archives, constitute a visual record of thousands of pre-World War II Jewish communities in Poland, Lithuania, Russia, Ukraine, Latvia, Estonia, Romania, Hungary and Czechoslovakia. They span the late 19th century to the early 1940s and document the lives of large Jewish centers as well as many smaller towns and villages. In some cases, the pictures in the YIVO Archives are the only known photographic traces of communities wiped out by the Nazis.

The first phase of the 2002 edition, expected to be completed this summer, will allow researchers to view *People of a Thousand Towns* at computer stations throughout the Center for Jewish History. Later in the year, a catalog and many of the pictures will also be available to off-site researchers over the Internet.

The *People of a Thousand Towns* Internet project has been made possible with funds from the Conference of Jewish Material Claims Against Germany.



*Ha-Measef (The Collector, 1790), where the prayer was published.*

## YIVO Provides Little-Known Doctor's Prayer To High-Tech Medical Professionals

Today's medicine may be more technologically advanced, but doctors, particularly oncologists, still recognize the importance of prayer in healing. "A Jewish Doctor's Prayer", believed to have been composed by Moses Maimonides, has been recited by Jewish doctors for generations and is widely available as a framed gift for new physicians.

A less well-known prayer was composed by the famous 18th century German Jewish doctor, Professor Marcus Herz (1747-1803), chief physician of the Jewish hospital in Berlin.

An oncologist at Memorial Sloan Kettering Hospital who recently read about this obscure prayer, asked his librarian to find the text. After

approaching several other libraries, she called YIVO. Reference Librarian Yeshaya Metal located Herz's "Prayer of a Doctor Before Visiting the Sick," in *Ha-Measef (The Collector, 1790)*, the first Hebrew periodical, published by a group of Jewish intellectuals headed by

Moses Mendelssohn. Herz was an important member of this group. Herz's Jewish-Portuguese wife, Henriette de Lemos Herz, was a famous beauty and an intellectual who conducted a salon in her home.

Herz published several essays on philosophy and the human soul, among them a pamphlet in which he criticized the self-hatred displayed by some Jews.

### Excerpt from "Prayer of a Doctor Before Visiting the Sick"

*"Please! O Lord that is good and does good! Maintain me with your right-hand of justice and give me strength and deliverance in my skills... in order to assist the crushed... Refine my heart to love the profession and the love of the creations of your hands. And remove from me the lust for profit and the delusion of arrogance that pines away, only for your Name and Beauty."*

— Professor Marcus Herz's prayer.



# Oxford Scholar Brad Sabin Hill Returns to YIVO as Dean of the Library and Senior Research Librarian



Brad Sabin Hill

Brad Sabin Hill, an alumnus of YIVO's Yiddish studies program, has returned as Dean of the Library and Senior Research Librarian. Hill arrived from Oxford University, where he was Librarian and Fellow in Hebrew Bibliography at the Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies and a member of the Faculty of Oriental Studies. His work included planning and overseeing the redevelopment of the Centre's Hebraica research library and enhancement of its bibliographic and reference collections.

Earlier, Hill headed the Hebrew Section of the Oriental Collections at The British Library in London and was Curator of Hebrew in the Rare Books Division of the National Library of Canada in Ottawa.

Hill read Hebrew, Classics and Yiddish at universities in the United States (Yeshiva University) and Canada (McGill University). He is a *magna cum laude* graduate in Classics from Brown University.

"Having spent much of my career working with Hebraica, it is gratifying to devote my attention now to Yiddish books," Hill said. "Like many Hebrew

bibliographers, I have long maintained a parallel interest in Yiddish. I hope to contribute to the long history of bibliographic work begun by YIVO in Poland."

"We are tremendously proud to have Brad Sabin Hill join the YIVO staff," Dr. Carl

J. Rheins, Executive Director, noted. "He previously did special studies in cataloging and bibliography through YIVO's Max Weinreich Center. His knowledge, expertise and leadership skills will help keep the YIVO Library a world-class institution."

Author of a number of books and articles on Hebrew bibliography, Hill has curated exhibitions of rare Hebraica in Ottawa, New York and London, and prepared the catalogs *Incunabula, Hebraica & Judaica* (1981) and *Hebraica from the Valmadonna Trust* (1989). He also edited a volume of Hebrew bibliographical studies (1995) and wrote a study of Hebrew deluxe printing on vellum (1996), both published by The British Library. His articles

include studies on the history of Hebrew typography and Hebrew libraries, as well as on Yiddish manuscripts and Yiddish bibliography. He has

*"I hope to be able to contribute to the long history of bibliographic work begun by YIVO in Poland..."*

lectured widely on Hebrew and Yiddish booklore, dealing with such subjects as Hebrew printing in Poland and I. B. Singer's ancestral library. Hill is a Fellow of the Royal Asiatic Society in London, and remains a Senior Associate of the Oxford Center for Hebrew and Jewish Studies.

Hill will help shape library activities, support research and develop long-range plans and projects. He has proposed filming and digitizing important YIVO Library collections; publishing bibliographic works by scholars connected with YIVO in the years before and after the War; and producing facsimile editions of unique or rare items held by YIVO, including books printed in Eastern Europe on the eve of the Holocaust.

## The Homes of our Childhood Photo Album Now at YIVO

The YIVO Library recently received a copy of *Les Maisons de Notre Enfance* (The Homes of our Childhood), a book compiled by Les Anciens des Foyers de la Commission Centrale de l'Enfance (The Elders of the Homes of the Central Commission for Children). It is an elegantly produced and extremely moving album of photographs of Jewish refugee children and youth living in homes in France in the years

following World War II and continuing, in some cases, through the middle of the 1950's. The photographs document a wide range of activities, including study, sporting events, pageants, and play.



Sophie Schwarz accompanies a group of Jewish children leaving for vacation.

# YIVO's Nazi Propaganda Collection to be Issued on Microfilm

YIVO continues to work with IDC Publishers, Holland, on significant microfilming projects. A new collection, based on unique holdings in the YIVO Library, is now in preparation: the so-called "Nazi Propaganda Collection." Received from Germany by the YIVO Library shortly after World War II, and including material transferred from the American Jewish Committee and the Union College in Schenectady, New York, the collection contains approximately 5,000 volumes, including 3,100 books and 266 periodical titles. The German collection, which was brought to the YIVO largely through the efforts of Z. Szajkowski, was cataloged on cards during the 1950s by Dr. Ludwig

Blau, a refugee lawyer. Following efforts by Zachary Baker, former Head Librarian of YIVO, the books in this collection were re-cataloged electronically in the 1990s on the basis of modern Library of Congress rules, with standard subject headings.



Heinrich Hoffman. *Hitler erobert das deutsche Herz* (Berlin, c. 1938).

## Extensive Birobidzhan Project Completed

An extensive microfiche project entitled "Birobidzhan: An Experiment to Create a Soviet Jewish Homeland" has been completed. A joint effort of YIVO and IDC Publishers, Holland, the project included 30 periodicals and 236 monographs (books and pamphlets), many of which contain illustrations, charts and maps. Based on

YIVO holdings, the IDC collection is supplemented by publications from Russia's National Library in St. Petersburg. Among them is the run of the *Birobidzhanskaia Zvezda* (Birobidzhan Star) newspaper from the years 1930 and 1932 to 1950. The paper provides a chronological insider's view of the development and later dismantling of Soviet Yiddish culture.

The IDC collection documents the Birobidzhan project, the reaction of world Jewry and its integration into Kremlin policy. It chronicles left-wing support for the project in the West, especially the United States.

The collection includes a printed short-title catalog, with an introduction by the YIVO Bibliographic Specialist, Nikolai Borodulin, a native of Birobidzhan.



Illustration from *Ikor*, published in Birobidzhan, December 1932.

Many of these cataloged books are unique. Scholars who have examined this collection, including the historian Alan Steinweis of the University of Nebraska, consider it to be one of the largest and most comprehensive in North America of Nazi publications about Jews, Judaism, and the so-called "Jewish question." It contains materials of invaluable historical importance, especially for the study of Nazi ideology and its relationship to the Holocaust.

Among the works microfilmed are two editions of *Das Judentum – das wahre Gesicht der Sowjets* by G. von Poehl and M. Agthe, published in Berlin during the War. The work contains surveys of Jewish theater, music, film and scholarship, various bibliographical indices, and an essay on the Jewish Autonomous Region of Birobidzhan. The work is of interest, also, to scholars of Yiddish Studies under the Third Reich. The second, expanded, edition includes a section on Stalinist Yiddish folksongs, with transliterated and annotated texts.

IDC Publishers is preparing for commercial distribution nearly 200 reels of microfilm containing 1292 titles from the YIVO Library's "Nazi Propaganda Collection," which encompasses mostly the monographs. The collection was used extensively by YIVO co-founder Dr. Max Weinreich when he wrote his original and definitive study, *Hitler's Professors: The Part of Scholarship in Germany's Crimes Against the Jewish People*, published by YIVO in 1946 and recently republished by Yale University Press (1999) with a new introduction by Sir Martin Gilbert.

# Centennial of a Famous Hebrew Library

April 16th, 2002, marked the 100th anniversary of the dedication of the famed Strashun Library in Vilna. At a commemoration, Brad Sabin Hill, dean of the YIVO Library, which houses the Strashun Collection, spoke about its history and significance. Here are excerpts from Hill's remarks.

The Strashun Collection is one of a handful of great Hebrew collections built in Eastern Europe, and the only one now held — after the vicissitudes of the 20th century — in North America, and in a Jewish institution.

R. Matisyohu (Matthias) Strashun was an enlightened Talmudic scholar and philan-

who was interested in both rabbinic and secular texts, and by inclination a bibliophile — assembled a private library of some 6,000 volumes, which he left upon his death in 1885 to the Jewish community of Vilna. He also endowed a post of librarian, and his library became one of the first Jewish public libraries in Eastern Europe, properly managed and developed over the course of more than 50 years in its native Vilna. In 1901, a new building was erected in the synagogue courtyard to house the library. The rare books were kept in a separate room, and the general public was served in the main reading room, which was used by hundreds of readers

daily. From 1928, the library acquired on deposit all Hebrew books published in Poland. By the mid-1930s the Strashun Library held some 35,000 books.

Upon the Soviet occupation of Vilna in 1940, the Strashun Library was merged with the library of the YIVO Institute, with which it had close administrative links. In 1941, soon after Vilna was taken by the Germans, the YIVO Library was dismantled by the Nazis, and the Strashun Collection was in large part shipped to Frankfurt for the intended central repository of the books of the extinct Jewish people. Following the war, in 1945, 25,000 vol-

umes from the Strashun Collection, together with 15,000 volumes from YIVO's pre-war library, were found in a warehouse at Offenbach, near Frankfurt, and this surviving collection was shipped to the YIVO Institute in New York in 1947. The Strashun Library has since been preserved at YIVO as a

special collection and forms the core of YIVO's collection of rare Hebrew and Yiddish books and the major part of YIVO's pre-war collection.

The Strashun Library has benefited from expert bibliographic treatment in both Europe and America. The first catalog of the collection was published in Berlin in 1889. In the 1970s, one of the outstanding Hebrew bibliographers of the 20th century, R. Hayim Liberman, who was librarian of the Lubavitch library in Brooklyn, sorted the Strashun Collection and cataloged its rabbinic books. In 1999, thanks to funding from Strashun's descendants, namely the Corbin and Jacobs families, the cards prepared by Liberman were computerized, and the work of cataloguing the secular portion of the collection that Liberman sorted out is now being completed by YIVO Library staff. The current YIVO exhibit and the exhibition catalog, prepared by the Head of the YIVO Library, Aviva Astrinsky, form a fitting monument to this prewar East European collection of rare Hebraica, which is unique among North American Hebrew collections as a surviving remnant, "a brand plucked from the fire." Through the award-winning YIVO Web site where the Vilna collection is described in some detail, the name of Strashun is now accessible in cyberspace for a new generation of scholars.



Engraved self-portrait by Abraham ben Shabbetai ha-Kohen of Crete, in his *Kehunat Avraham* (Venice, 1719), a paraphrase of Psalms.

thropist born in Vilna and connected by marriage with the Harkavy and Romm families (the Harkavys produced distinguished Hebrew and Yiddish scholars, and the Romms were the proprietors of the most important Hebrew press in Eastern Europe). By virtue of family wealth, Matisyohu Strashun —



Title-page of rabbinic responsa by Simeon ben Zemah of Majorca, *Sefer ha-Tashbets* (Amsterdam, 1741).

# Technology and Reorganization Improve Sound Archives' Accessibility

The researchers, academics and artists who use YIVO's Sound Archives can more easily access its vast collection of CDs, records and cassette tapes thanks to a reorganization and modernization of its storage and listening systems. Materials that do not require temperature or climate control have been placed in a large room next to the library, virtually at the fingertips of the archivists. And state-of-the-art audio equipment has been installed to facilitate listening and copying of materials.

"Our new sound system includes a custom-built turntable with an assortment of styli capable of playing virtually any size and speed disc pressed over the last century," explained Sound Archivist Lorin Sklamberg. "We also have two CD burners, a DAT recorder and other playback and recording devices, facilitating listening to and preserving virtually all sound formats in YIVO's collection."

The Sound Archives is also broadening its collection through the acquisition of more klezmer, Yiddish song and cantorial recordings, as well as digital collections of older materials. One of the recent musical acquisitions was *Vorbei... Beyond Recall: A Record of Jewish Musical Life in Nazi Berlin*



One of the new recordings obtained by the Sound Archives.

1933-1938, an 11-CD 1-DVD box set that includes a 517-page hardbound book with historical, biographical and complete discographical information and rare period photographs. One recent gift to the Sound Archives was 680 cassette tapes of WEVD radio programs from the late 70s through the early 90s, which were recorded, custom boxed and cataloged by Mr. Jacob Katz.

"The Sound Archives at the YIVO Institute is an oasis of hidden treasures in an other-

wise bleak landscape," said composer and author Jack Gottlieb. "It is a unique resource of Yiddish (and other Jewish) recordings that even the Library of Congress might envy."

According to Sklamberg, future plans include opening a listening and computer research room adjacent to the Sound Archives; the complete cataloging of the lp collection; and continuing audio preservation, including the recording of a small group of rare Yiddish piano rolls.

To tour the new YIVO Sound Archives, donate materials or arrange to volunteer, please call Lorin Sklamberg at (212) 294-6169, or contact him via email at [lsklamberg@yivo.cjh.org](mailto:lsklamberg@yivo.cjh.org).

Note: The Sound Archives contains recordings and the Music Archives houses sheet music.

## Featured Acquisition: Jewish Music Recalled

A highlight of the YIVO Sound Archives recent acquisitions is *Vorbei... Beyond Recall: A Record of Jewish Musical Life in Nazi Berlin 1933-1938* (Bear Family, Hambergen, Germany 2001) This mammoth box set, comprised of 11 CDs and a DVD, makes available for the first time in 60 years the complete surviving recordings produced and distributed by members of the Jewish Cultural League (Jüdischer Kulturbund) in Berlin. The more than 14 hours in the collection reflects the spectrum of Jewish music of the time, including Yiddish comedy routines, theater, folk and art songs, classical music, cabaret, folksongs of the early *halutzim* and, perhaps most importantly, cantorials of startling beauty. Featured are rare performances by cantors Sigismund Torday, Salomo Pinkasovich and Israel Bakon; popular singers Pinkas Lavender (Pinchus Lavenda), Willy Rosen and Lea Deganit; and the beloved tenor Joseph Schmidt.

The DVD presents a reconstructed version of the short film *Hebräische Melodie* (Hebrew Melody), centered around

a performance of the well known Joseph Achron showpiece by violinist Andreas Weissgerber filmed in Jerusalem's Old City in the winter of 1934-35.

The film and recordings are accompanied by a 518-page German/English hardbound book about the ten year project and of the history of the Jüdischer Kulturbund, the various Jewish-owned record labels surveyed in the collection

(Semer, Achva, Bema and Lukraphon) and what became of them and their owners (the head of Semer immigrated to Palestine in 1946 and went on to found the Kol Zion, Zamir and Hed Arzi record labels).

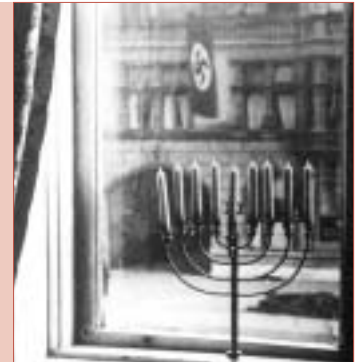


Photo from the book that accompanies the CD collection. Khanukka celebrations in Kiel - View from the house of Rabbi Dr. A. Posner onto the NSDAP's district headquarters building.

# Rare Yiddish Songs in Music Archives Demonstrate Longing for Palestine

Just as the theme of Palestine permeated Jewish life through the ages, Jewish music and Yiddish songs have also dealt with the longing for and settling of the Promised Land. Some of these works are housed in the YIVO Music Archives and reflect the feelings, hopes and aspirations of generations.

One such work is “Shivat zion” (*Shives tsien*) — (Return to Zion) by the eminent bard Eliakum Zunsler (Tsunzer) (1836-1913). It is contained in his collection “Melodien zu zehn Jüdischen Volksliedern,” Vilna, 1887. This is an allegoric song of the widowed Mother Zion who sees her scattered children return home. It was written in 1882 as a tribute to the BILU movement — acronym for the Biblical motto from Isaiah 2: “*Beys yakov lekhu venelkha*” (House of Jacob, come and let us go).

Students from the University of Kharkov set out for Palestine via Constantinople to establish agricultural settlements. On the way, they visited Minsk to honor Zunsler, the “singer of Zion.” Zunsler then composed the song and selected the motto from Isaiah: “Lift up thine eyes round about, and behold: all these gather themselves together and come to thee.”

The words read:

*What do I see through the windowpanes? Flying like doves are my Joseph, my Benjamin, who knock on my door! Ah, heaven, God, how wondrous? I see my children, my beloved ones, my faithful ones are coming to me! So many years have passed. I thought I was lost, a desolate widow, alone at my table... How has it been for you since you were captured? How are Judah and Ephraim? Give me greetings!*

Vos ze ikh durkh di shoybn?  
Es flien on vi toybn,  
Mayn Yoysef, mayn Benyomin  
Klapn in mayn tir!  
Akh himl, got, di vunder!  
Ikh ze dokh mayne kinder,  
Di libste, di getrayste  
Kumen on tsu mir!

In the last stanza Zunsler gives the new colonists his blessing:



Eliakum Zunsler

*These young people will be blessed by the world. They leave their homes, possessions, luxury, happiness. Learned people, highly cultured. They want to sacrifice themselves for their people. They've sworn to hurl all the stones that lie in the way, to suffer all hardships like in Moses' times. And their names will be remembered like Ezra's till the end of days.*

Another song of Palestine is by Abraham Goldfaden (1840-1908). YIVO has an undated copy published in London by Mazin & Co. (In 1929 Samuel E. Goldfarb published the song in the United States and Israel.) First published in “*Di yidene*” (Odessa, 1869), entitled “*Knaan*” (Canaan), its words are:

*Oh Zion, you holy land — how holy you are to me! May I forget my right hand, if I forget you. For every step in you is holy. God revealed Himself in you when, through Moses, our teacher, that godly man, He sent the Ten Commandments for us. Our holy ancestors sleep in your bosom: Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and David. There our heroes are resting honorably with their swords. On the rocky road that leads to Bethlehem, you can see a tomb standing there, and exactly at midnight, whoever stands there can hear terrible weeping. There is groaning and sighing, oh woe! It is our mother's voice.*

Akh tsien, tsien du heylik land,  
Vi heylik bistu bay mir,  
Fargesn zol ikh in mayn rekhter hant,  
Oyb ikh vel fargesn in dir.  
Heylik iz dokh in dir yeder shpan,  
Bavizn in dir hot zikh Got.  
Ven er hot durkh Moyshe, dem getlekhn man,  
Geshikt far undz di tsen gebot.

The verse is from Psalm 137: 5: ‘*Im 'eshkahekh yerushalayim tish'kah yemini*’ (If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning).

The melodies of both songs are simple and folk-like, easily picked up and sung — one in 4/4th rhythm, the second in waltz time. The tunes are in a minor key.



Abraham Goldfaden

*Missing Documents Acquired on Microfiche***Bund Archive Collection Completed**

**Y**IVO's Bund Archives Collection is now complete, after the acquisition of a microfiche set of more than 2,000 documents held in the Russian State Archives of Social and Political History (RGASPI) in Moscow. The materials from the period 1897 to 1914 fill gaps created in the 1920s when documents were removed from the Bund Archives in Berlin and sold to the Soviet Union.

The acquisition closes a chapter in the history of the Bund Archives that began in 1924 when the newly created Lenin Institute in Moscow sought to purchase Bund documents related to the early history of the Russian Social-Democratic Workers Party (RSDRP), predecessor of the Bolshevik party. The Bund Archives, then in dire financial straits, allowed the Russians to copy or purchase

documents related to the early history of the revolutionary movement in Russia, 1897 to 1914, when the Bund and the RSDRP were organizationally connected although political foes.

The Lenin Institute was especially interested in the letters and manuscripts of Lenin and his circle as well as documents pertaining to the founding of the RSDRP, the split between the Mensheviks and Bolsheviks, the revolution of 1905, etc. In 1927, the bulk of the promised documents were sent to Moscow. They included Socialist newspapers and other publications, copies of manuscripts, and original letters and manuscripts by Lenin and other leaders of the RSDRP.

In Moscow, these records were placed in the Central Party Archives of the Institute of

Marxism-Leninism, where they were merged with another group of Bund documents, the records of the Bund under the Bolshevik regime (from 1917 through the dissolution of the Russian Bund in 1922). Like most Jewish records in the Soviet Archives, the Bund collection was off limits to researchers until 1992 when the Soviet-era restrictions were finally lifted, opening the way for the filming of these and many similar Jewish records that had languished in Soviet repositories.

The set consists of 2,162 microfiches and includes the original Russian finding aid and the English-language electronic guide on CD-ROM. The purchase, from IDC Publishers of Leiden, Holland, was made possible by a generous donation from YIVO National Board member Motl Zelmanowicz.

**YIVO Archives Begins Important HIAS Indexing Project**

**A** new YIVO project funded by the Jewish Genealogical Society of New York will facilitate access to thousands of case files on Jewish refugees who arrived in the United States between 1933 and 1954. Thirty-six thousand index files on thousands of cases will be converted into an electronic database of summary information on immigrant families. The files were inherited by the United HIAS Service (UHS), which formed in 1954 from a merger of several relief organizations that helped Jews attempting to leave Germany, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Italy, Hungary, Rumania and other countries during the period of Nazi persecution, World War II and its aftermath. The organizations included HIAS, German Jewish Children's Aid, the National Coordinating Committee, and the National Refugee Service. During and after the war, they were joined by the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, the United Service for New Americans and the National Council of Jewish Women: Service for Foreign Born.

Long recognized as a valuable and important archive, these case files constitute the official record of the entire European Jewish wartime

migration to the United States. They document the arrival of a wide range of immigrants, including scholars, intellectuals and scientists who escaped from Germany and Austria in the 1930s and 40s; housewives, mechanics and teachers; and displaced persons who migrated to the United States from the DP camps in Germany, Austria and Italy.

The index cards, which include valuable genealogical data, such as place and date of birth, maiden name of women immigrants, steamship and port of arrival, will serve as the key to the more extensive case files. YIVO Archivist Gunnar Berg and nine volunteers are currently working on the project.



Holocaust survivors from Europe lining up at the USNA - JDC counter to be registered as new immigrants, c. 1950. USNA and the JDC Migration Service later merged to form the United HIAS Service.

# New Accessions to the YIVO Archives

## Featured Collection Albert Catell



Papers, photos, posters and recordings from the career of musician Albert Catell were donated by his widow, Paula Catell. Originally Katz, he was born in Vilna in 1910 and trained with some of the greatest cellists of all time — Misha Schneider, Julius Klengel and Emanuel Feuermann. Catell taught at the Warsaw Conservatory, was First Chair of the Palestine Philharmonic in 1936, settled in New York in 1953 and founded the Chamber Orchestra of New York. Catell died in 2000.

The tapes include masters of possibly unpublished performances. The photos show Catell throughout his career, and with musicians including Chilean pianist Claudio Arrau, David Oistrakh and Isaac Stern.

## HISTORY

- Alexander Leyfell donated his large collection of documents and studies on Polish Jewish history in the 19th century.
- Terry Newell donated Hyman Lipstein's Yiddish diary and autobiography, written at the turn of the 20th century. Lipstein is the donor's great uncle.
- Laura I. Kramer donated the memoirs of her great uncle Nathan Yablonski, which recount a childhood in Seirjai, Lithuania.
- Louise Grinstein Richman, and her brother Dr. Alexander Grinstein donated the 1923 notebook and diary of their father, Dr. Mark Grinstein, written on board the ship to the United States.
- Rebecca Briansky-Duchow donated her memoir of growing up in Grajewo, Poland, 1919-29.
- Walter J. Klein donated his typescript on the history of the Jewish community in Neustadt (Straz), Czech Republic, as well as his family tree.
- Frank Siegel donated additional postcards written by his uncle Benjamin Lubelski while serving in the International Brigades in the Spanish Civil War. Siegel also donated prewar postcards of Lublin, Poland.
- Historian Ruth Gay donated the Vilna childhood memoirs of Irena Jaszunska, wife of Polish and Yiddish journalist Grisha Jaszunski.
- Paul W. Ginsburg donated his essay on his recent visit to Sudilkov, Ukraine.
- Joan Sulzberger donated letters written to her by Teddy Kollek, the longtime mayor of Jerusalem.
- Judy Kesselman donated a biographical account of her uncle, Robert Kesselman, founder of the leading accounting firm in Israel.
- John M. Grossman gave a detailed synopsis of an account of Jewish colonists in the Entre Rios province in Argentina.
- Helen Horowitz was instrumental in the YIVO Archives obtaining germane portions of the estate of Jacob Lofman. Lofman was active in the Polish Hashomer Hatzair (leftist Labor Zionists) and, in New York, with Trotskyite and Shachtmanite (a rightist Socialist splinter group) organizations.
- Shulamis Levin Friedman donated materials relating to reunions of former residents of the Sholem Aleichem Houses in the Bronx.
- Society, as well as Workmen's Circle school photographs.
- Dr. Bernard Lewis donated records of the Homeler Congregation Ahavat Chesed, as well as records of Congregation Yeshivath Torah Chaim, both in Harlem, and of Congregation Orach Chaim.
- Naomi Freistadt donated maps of the various cemetery plots belonging to Congregation Bnei Rezitza in New York.
- Mildred Brauer donated the 1928 constitution of the First Shpoler Benevolent Aid Society.
- Marlene L. Bishow donated records of the Volper Young Men's Benevolent Society.
- David Rogow, Yiddish actor and YIVO consultant, donated additional records of the Nusach Vilna society.
- Family history materials usually include correspondence, photographs and family trees. The YIVO Archives recently has received such materials from the following individuals: Stanley Batkin, Lorraine A. Bertan, Professor C.S. Blinderman, Leonard S. Duboff, David H. Ehrenwerth, Daniel Meyer Friedeberg, Sharon Girard, Estelle M. Guzik, Larry Kellman, Cheryl Lappen, Milton J. Lowenstein, Richard S. Mannheimer, YIVO Librarian Alla Markova, Saul Ostrow, Milton Posner, Susan M. Rogers and Berenice Rosenberg.

## LANDSMANSHAFT, FAMILY AND GENEALOGY

- Carl Appel donated records of the First Plancher Benevolent Society.
- Helen Dandy, via Rosetta Klotz, gave the records of the Antepoler Young Men's Benevolent

*[continued on page 22]*



Sonia and Markus at the Marienbad resort (now Mariánské Lázně, Czech Republic), 1913. Donor: Gerald Palevsky.

# New Accessions [continued from page 21]

## HOLOCAUST

- Herbert Horn donated a memoir in the form of a long Yiddish poem entitled "Twenty Hours in a Cattle Car Traveling towards Death," written by his uncle in October of 1942.
- Anna Altman donated the typescript of her husband Hershl's memoir about his experiences as a refugee in the Soviet Union. She also donated anniversary journals of the Grodzisker Mutual Aid Society.
- Blanche Muroff donated an American anti-Nazi boycott leaflet from the early 1930s.
- Professor Dov Levin added to his papers research materials, mainly on the Holocaust and the Baltics.
- Professor Shlomo Eidelberg donated documents on Austria in the Nazi era and the immediate postwar years.
- Aron Hirt-Manheimer donated Holocaust-related ephemera published in the German Democratic Republic.
- Cary Sperling donated a set of biographies he compiled on Jewish participants in the Warsaw ghetto uprising.
- Fela Infeld Glaser donated a detailed synopsis of the English

version of her as yet unpublished memoir of the Lodz Ghetto and of Auschwitz.

## LANGUAGE, LITERATURE AND FOLKLORE

- Inna Goldenberg donated the papers of her grandfather Shimen Goldenberg, a Soviet Yiddish poet and prose writer who died in battle in 1942. His papers, preserved by his widow, include unpublished poetry, short stories and a novel.
- Ann Birstein, the distinguished writer, donated the papers of her father, Bernard Birstein. He was the long-time rabbi of Congregation Ezrath Israel, known as The Actors' Temple, located in New York's theater district. He was also a regular columnist for the New York Yiddish daily *The Day*.
- Claire Schwarz donated materials relating to her father, pioneering Galician Hebrew and Yiddish writer and editor, Yitzhak Itche Fernhoff.
- Rhoda Newman donated an English translation of American Yiddish writer Chana Safran's book-length childhood memoirs.
- Marcia Svartman donated the papers of Brazilian Yiddish writer Clara Steinberg.



Bar mitzvah photo taken in Rivington Street studio, Lower East Side, New York, 1920s. Donor: Berenice Rosenberg.

- YIVO volunteer Elaine Adamenko donated manuscripts of Yiddish literary essays written by her father, Herman Rabins.
- Professor Ellen Kellman donated the typescript of her study of Yiddish libraries in interwar Poland.
- Dr. Chana Schachner and Yankev Julius each donated American Yiddish educational and cultural materials.



Mike Appel (father of donor), a veteran of World War I, at a Victory Bond rally in New York, circa 1942. Donor: Lorraine A. Bertan.



Leaflet urging an American economic boycott of Nazi Germany, (New York, circa 1933). Donor: Blanche Muroff.





Flyer advertising Argentina-based Yiddish theater and dance team of Dvora Rosenblum and Nachum Melnick, 1950s. Donor: Ruth Perlmutter.

## MUSIC AND THEATER MATERIALS

- Paula Catell donated the papers of her husband, the cellist and conductor Albert Catell (see page 21), who served as First Chair in the Palestine/Israel Philharmonic, among his many accomplishments. This collection is the first in the YIVO Archives that does not deal specifically with Jewish music. Included are published and unpublished recordings.
- Marina Gordon donated posters, programs and recordings (some unpublished) from her career as a singer of Yiddish and Russian art songs. She was one of the first to perform such music after Stalin's death in 1953.
- The storyteller and writer Peninah Schram donated documents relating to the career of her father, Cantor S.E. Manchester.
- Madelin Simon donated the manuscript of "*Der zinger fun noit*," the cantata by Moische Rauch and Itche Goldberg.
- Stanley Shmuel Stern donated a large number of Yiddish plays by William Siegel.
- Michael Daniels donated a program of the 1928-29 season of Moische Broderson's Ararat Yiddish Theater in Lodz, Poland.
- Judith Offer donated a video, as well as the libretto, of her musical

"A Shirtwaist Tale," based on the shirtmakers' strike of 1909-10, which was performed in California in 2000.

- Doris B. Gold donated a letter from Ruth Rubin, the late ethnographer and singer.
- YIVO Head Librarian Aviva Astrinsky donated posters and programs from the *Yidshpil* Theater of Israel.
- Alan Schreck donated tapes of the "Sunday Simcha" program on New York radio station WEVD.
- Steven Geller donated 80 78-rpm recordings of Jewish music.
- Evelyn Cohen donated 85 33-rpm records of Jewish music.
- Fani and Edna Sharf donated 53 recordings of Jewish music.
- Mark Gladstone donated recordings of Jewish music and a tape of his grandmother Sonia Gladstone performing with the composer and choir director Leo Low.
- Dorothy Wasserman and Center for Jewish History staff member Mel Solman each donated Jewish recordings and sheet music.
- Dr. Charles DeFanti, Marianne Rohrllich, Lucille Wright, Barry Youngerman and Cantor Paul Zim each donated Jewish music recordings and sheet music.

## ART AND ARTIFACTS

- Rubin Feryszka donated a still life oil painting by the Polish Jewish artist Jakob Macznik. The latter did not survive the Holocaust.
- The estate of Benjamin Kaplan donated paintings and a drawing by Zuni Maud, a large portrait of the latter by S. Teitelbaum and a large landscape by Frank Kirk. Both Kirk and Maud were participants in Yiddish cultural activities. We wish to thank Deborah Kirschner, Marilyn Markson and Eleanor Tishler for their aid in securing these works for YIVO.
- Rachel and Rabbi Yitzhak Klein donated oil portraits of the composer, pianist and choir director Vladimir Heifetz and of his wife, the Yiddish cultural activist Pearl Shapiro Heifetz.

- Barry Faust donated paintings by his grandmother, Rachel Ray Faust.
- Dr. Joan Tolchin donated two original works by Selma Gubin and a letter from David Ben-Gurion.
- Martin Peretz, member of the YIVO National Board of Directors, donated a large "devotional panel" for the victims of the pogroms in Tsarist Russia, which dates from the turn of the 20th century.
- Jeanne Siegel donated a large ketubah, handmade by Joan Mesnick.
- Mrs. D. Keren donated letters from the artist Saul Raskin.
- Carolyn Tobias donated biographic materials on her husband, A.J. Tobias, the New York muralist.
- Anne Hecht donated an album of dried flowers from the 1920s in Palestine.
- Sidney Gluck, Evelyn Josselson and Helen S. Latner each made separate donations of artifacts of Jewish interest.
- Rabbi Irving J. Block, Irene Hack and Erica Stachelberg each made donations of posters and antique postcards of Jewish interest.

[continued on page 24]

Two soldiers of the Petrozavodsk Regiment of the Russian Army (A. Epstein seated), 1899. Donor: Jacob Lofman Estate.



# New Accessions [continued from page 23]

## PHOTOGRAPHIC, FILM AND VISUAL MATERIALS

- Margaret Siegal Weiss donated a film of a trip she made with her father, Morris Siegal, in 1936, to the towns of Zborow, Poland, and Berezahny, now part of Ukraine.
- Leon H. Gildin donated a video and the English-language rights to his award-winning documentary "Theresienstadt: Gateway to Auschwitz."
- Max Mermelstein donated a video about the Jewish community of Skala, Poland.
- Fay Itzkowitz donated photographs taken by her father, Bernard Itzkowitz, of Camp Kinderland during the 1930s. The donation also includes his photographs of the 1939 funeral of writer and editor Moishe Olgin.
- Ruth Claire Turyn donated photographs of her grandparents, the Yiddish writer, editor and publisher Szmuel Jakob Jackan and his wife, Riwka Blok Jackan.
- Sandra Freed donated photographs of Hebrew and Yiddish writer and editor Avrahm Shalom Friedberg and a letter from Zadoc

Program booklet for the Israeli puppet film "Joseph the Dreamer," 1962. Donor: Ruth Perlmutter.



Kahn, the Chief Rabbi of France at the time of the Dreyfus Affair.

- Sivia Brodsky donated photographs of Jacob Teitel, one of the first Jewish judges in Russia.
- Natalie Schlosser donated photographs of Jewish organizations and schools in Lodz, Poland.
- Guta Brenholz donated unpublished photographs of the Medem children's sanatorium, near Warsaw, Poland.
- Harold Platt donated additional photographs of the Tsukunft Bundist youth organization from Malkin, Poland.
- YIVO Archives intern, Robert Friedman, donated photographs of Jewish life in Augustow, Poland.
- Gerald Palevsky donated photographs of family and of the Jewish community in Ivye, Belarus.
- Libby (Libe) Reznick Taylor donated photographs of family and of the ORT school in Pinsk, Belarus.
- Irving Semser donated, via Sima Crane, photographs of the Sofia M. Gurevitch Gymnasium and of the Realgymnasium, two Yiddish-oriented middle schools in interwar Vilna.
- Boris Borodow donated a photograph of a Jewish rowing team, Vilna, circa 1936.
- Dr. Bella Hass Weinberg, former YIVO Consulting Librarian, donated a photograph of the funeral of Rabbi Meir Shapiro, founder of the Yeshivas Chachmei Lublin, who died in 1934. The image shows the donor's father, Cantor Jacob Hass, singing the *El Male Rachamim* prayer.
- Hirshell E. Levine donated a large, tinted montage of photographs of his great-grandfather's funeral in Braslav, Belarus, circa 1914.
- Linda Eisenstadt donated a photograph of Bagel Bakers' Union members with their banner in New York, circa 1930.
- Lenora Lakowitz donated photographs of the Antoshkin Club theatrical performances held in Kharkov, Ukraine, 1927.



Yiddish poet Sh. Goldenberg (center) with Tartar writer Lutfi Gumirov (L) and Russian poet V. Poltoratsky at a writers' congress in Moscow, July 15, 1935. Donor: Inna Goldenberg.

- Ruth Pines Perlmutter Kates donated photographs of Yiddish theatrical performances in Chicago and Los Angeles from the 1930s and 1940s and of the performers Mordechai Meisel, Eliyohu Tenholtz and Chayim Kotliansky. Also included were letters from Yiddish writers.
- Sarah Rauch donated photographs of her husband, Yiddish cultural activist Ralph Rauch.

## SPECIAL THANKS

- A special thanks from YIVO to Neil Zagorin of the National Yiddish Book Center for sending extensive archival materials that the NYBC has recently received. These include account books of the merchant Pinkus Wolman of Czestochowa, Poland, dated 1923-24; manuscripts of cantorial music and a large addendum to the papers of the Yiddish linguist Nathan Susskind.
- Special thanks also to Eiran Harris and to new YIVO *zamlers* Herbert A. Bernhard.

## CORRECTION

- Apologies to Jacob Waisbord for misspelling his name. He and his daughter, Myra Treitel, donated photographs of Jewish sport and educational activities in interwar Poland, as well as Workmen's Circle branch materials.

# Preserving Our Treasures, Making them Accessible



Fragile materials must be handled with care.

**A**ged to a dull orange, the 1935 Russian-Yiddish calendar on a worktable in YIVO's Preservation Laboratory clearly needed help if it was to reveal the secrets of everyday life printed on the verso (reverse side) of each of its 365 pages. Too brittle to flip or even to handle, the 2-by-5-inch pages are typical of many of the 1,500 calendars in YIVO's collection, dating back to the 1920s. The calendars, many in Yiddish, come from the cities of Vilna and Shanghai, as well as from the countries of Italy, Poland, Romania Russia, and the United States.

"Jews always need calendars for Sabbath candle-lighting times," explained Stanley Bergman, head of YIVO's Preservation Department. "Because they seem so ordinary, calendars have largely been ignored as an historical genre. But they include a wealth of information about the life, history and social issues that concerned pre-World War II Jewish society. For instance, the verso of

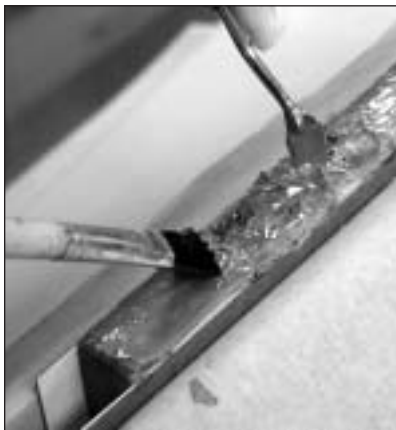
one page of a Russian-Yiddish calendar describes experiments by Kh. Vasilev on an electric eye to read books for children, the sick and the elderly."

Like many other treasures handled by the lab, the calendar required a creative solution. After being deacidified with a special spray to prevent further deterioration, the pages were encased in nine-window Mylar sheets and inserted into a photo album so researchers could handle them. "We could microfilm the pages," Bergman said, "but then the reader would lose the magic of handling the original."

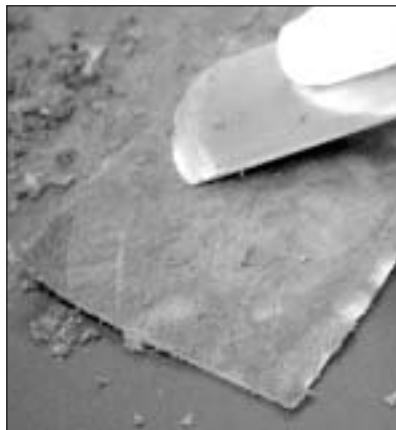
Bergman's work over the past three months, with the help of Tatiana Alisonova, Assistant Conservator, has included: repair and rebinding of 20 rare books, including a 1692 copy of the *Book of Life (Sefer Khayim)* from Amsterdam and conservation of 550 rare pamphlets (many from the Bund and Strashun collections), along with eight family trees. Other major projects include preparing 17 boxes of documents (average 750 per box) for microfilming, and mending, deacidifying and encapsulating a registry of donations made to a 17th-century charitable institution.

Bergman notes, "YIVO has a responsibility to future generations, as the storehouse of so many documents, books, photos and other materials. We are working against time here, but we want to keep as much of this treasure as possible accessible to the public, researchers and scholars."

1935 calendar pages encased in protective Mylar can now be handled safely.



Brushing on solvent and scraping away brittle glue from an old book's spine.



Smoothing calf leather for a replacement book cover.



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## Jacob Noah Prosnit Donates His Bar Mitzvah Money to YIVO



Jacob Noah visiting YIVO's Photo Archives.

**J**acob Noah, son of Rabbi James Prosnit and Wendy Bloch, celebrated his bar mitzvah on March 23 at Congregation B'nai Israel in Bridgeport, Connecticut, with his

father and several rabbinic family friends presiding.

The invitation featured a photo of his great-great-grandfather Jacob Noah Bloch studying with Bernhard Bloch, Jacob's great-grandfather, circa 1887. It focused on *Me'dor Le'dor* and YIVO's role in preserving the history and culture of Jewish life in Eastern Europe.

"Just as Jacob has taken a delight in learning about his family tree, YIVO is a place where one can celebrate the history of our Jewish communities in Europe," the text read. "YIVO assists individuals in search of family history — its culture, folklore and faith. In recognition of the importance of this chain, Jacob

has chosen to make a contribution to YIVO in memory of family members...and all [who] share this day with him."

In his speech, Jacob discussed his visit to YIVO and the importance of discovering his family's history in Europe. He donated all of his bar mitzvah money to YIVO and asked members of the congregation to make similar contributions. The youngest of three boys, Jacob was born in New York City and loves to visit Toronto where his father was Associate Rabbi of Holy Blossom Congregation. A committed Reform Jew, Jacob excels both in academics and athletics. He also demonstrates the meaning of "from generation to generation."

## Letters to YIVO

Readers are encouraged to write to YIVO by regular mail or e-mail.

### Requests

My grandmother was from Konin and contributed family pictures to the Konin Memorial Book. I would like to visit YIVO and look at the book, but would need assistance as I don't speak or read Yiddish. Can someone at the Institute help me?

*Bess Kirnie  
Syracuse, NY*

**Reply:** *The YIVO Library has the Konin Memorial Book. When you visit YIVO, please ask for our Reference Librarian Rabbi Yeshaya Metal or another Library staff member who is fluent in Yiddish.*

\* \* \*

I am looking for the Yiddish lyrics to "Oyfn veg steht a baum," a popular Yiddish folk song. It has a Hebrew version called "Shir al etz." I know an animated short film was made using the Yiddish lyrics. Can you help me find the Yiddish lyrics?

*Fran Margulies  
Honolulu, Hawaii*

**Reply:** *We are sending you the song you seek. It was, as you noted, used for the animated film, "Oyfn veg shteyt a boym."*

\* \* \*

I'm trying to locate a copy of *Mayn shtetl postov*. I think that the author is Israel Reichel. My father was born in Postav, Russia. Can you help locate the book? The National Yiddish Book Center in Amherst, MA, recommended that I contact you.

*Ron Subeck*

**Reply:** *YIVO has the Yizkor Book in its collection. Please visit our reading room.*

\* \* \*

I am looking for recordings of a wonderful Jewish songwriter named Ben Zion Witler. I grew up singing his songs, and can't find anything on him.

*Paulette Eisen  
Cawston, British Columbia, Canada*

**Reply:** *We have many recordings by Ben Zion Witler in our Sound Archives collection, both on 78 and LP. There are also four collections of Witler's songs on CDs from Argentina, which are available at [www.hatkvahmusic.com](http://www.hatkvahmusic.com).*

\* \* \*

I'm looking for information on a poet called Masha Fayok.

*Liat Ripp  
Raanana, Israel*

**Reply:** *YIVO has several sources that would help you. Leksikon Fun Der Nayer Yidisher Literatur Vol. 7 includes an entry on the poet Marsha Fayuk-Shtuker, whose family emigrated to Argentina. The YIVO Library also has the book Zingendik by Mashe Sh. Payuk, in which the poem "Yizkor likht" is found. Reference Librarian Yeshaya Metal has made a copy of Fayuk-Shtuker's biography, which he is sending to you.*

\* \* \*

It was mentioned in your newsletter that YIVO has the papers and information about a now defunct burial society. I'd like to look through the papers, as both my great-grandfather and grand uncle were leaders in the society. How would I arrange a time to look through the "boxes"?

*Mike Greenberg  
Long Beach, New York*

**Reply:** *The YIVO Archives has the records of the Independent Orler Benevolent Society. Please visit our reading room at your convenience.*

### Thanks from Abroad

Thank you very much for the YIVO newsletters that were sent to our Center. We kept some for ourselves and distributed others to a couple of academic and cultural institutions in Lublin that are very interested in your project about the city.

*Monika Adamczyk-Garbowska  
Head of Center for Jewish Studies  
Maria Curie-Sklodowska University  
Lublin, Poland*

\* \* \*

I received the catalog of your Strashun Exhibition. It is a wonderful booklet, and reading it I learned quite a lot. All the more I now hope to be able to see the exhibition with my own eyes.

*Prof. Dr. Stefan Schreiner  
Institutum Judaicum  
Tuebingen, Germany*

**Reply:** *The exhibition has been extended in New York through August 23. It is open to the public Monday -Thursday from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm and on Sundays from 12:00 pm until 4:00 pm.*

\* \* \*

### Old Flame

The photo printed in *YIVO News* Winter 2001-2002, page 26 — young people in the boat — is a little more romantic than you know. The dark-haired beauty from Mezritsh (Miedzyrzec), Feyge Goldfarb, married the handsome Toyvie Czarny. They came to Canada before World War II. They had three fine sons. Toyvie died in 1947. Feyge eventually married Israel Falk, my late father-in-law. She was a good-looking and resourceful woman.

*Lillian Falk  
Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada*

# Fifty Years Ago in Yedies

New Feature

A Yedies article from June, 1948, describes archives of the Lodz Ghetto donated to YIVO by Nachman Zonabend, the survivor who had salvaged them "at the risk of life and limb." The documents range from the period of "hope," when residents suffered from hunger, cold, illness and random executions, to the time of deportations to the death camps. An excerpt describing the earlier period:

Life in those days (the period that in the light of later developments came to be regarded as "idyllic") was reduced to the lowest levels, but there was a glimmer of hope for the morrow.

Within the Ghetto starvation, epidemic, wanton execution by the Nazis were taking a frightful toll of the people. Conditions in the Ghetto at that time are faithfully depicted in a report of a visit to 28 homes by a social worker. With but slight variations, the picture of every home was the same: people swollen from hunger and disease-ridden lay motionless on the floor, since the beds and all other furniture had been used up as fuel previously. This description of conditions is borne out by the news items and announcements in the official *Geto-tsaytung* ("Ghetto News"), a Yiddish weekly which began to appear on March 7, 1941. Thus, the criminal rubric in the *Tsaytung*, for instance, is full of reports of stiff penalties meted out to drivers of bakery trucks for picking off pieces from the loaves of bread, or for attempts to gain admittance to the public kitchen under false pretense for a second helping.

Yedies then followed up with a report on the reactions of the Ghetto children to the deportation orders:

Only the older children in the affected group realized the full import of the decree. The younger ones remained blissfully ignorant of it and wondered at the utter despair that seized their parents. As the fatal hour approached, I. Zerkovitch, official chronicler of the Ghetto and prewar YIVO correspondent, visited a number of homes and left to posterity a soul-searing account of the spirit and mood that prevailed in them. We cull at random two descriptions from this account.

Five-year-old R. is having his last meal at home. He is given a slice of bread, and he turns in astonishment to his mother: "Ma, am I sick today that I am given bread to eat?"

Mrs. L. had been deported to the Lodz Ghetto from Danzig with her only child, a girl of four years. Her husband had been taken to Buchenwald. Every morning as Mrs. L. would leave for work, the child would follow her to the gate of the house and, upon the mother's departure, break out in loud and disconsolate weeping that would last for hours. Came a

day and the roles were reversed. The child, neatly dressed and with a blue ribbon in her hair, hopped in gaily into the gray truck that was waiting near the gate, and the mother broke out in a loud and prolonged wail.



# מע שרייבט אונדז

בריו אין רעדאקציע

סוקולקה: דאָס בוך פֿון סאַקאַלקע (ועדת הספר: אסתר מישקינסקי 1968).

פֿאַר וואָס פֿרעג איך?

1. זי האָט געוווינט אין ארץ-ישראל.
2. זי איז אינטערעסירט אין יידישן אַנדענק.
3. פֿון מישקינסקי ווערט אַ סך מאָל מישקין.

אַ דאַנק פֿאַר אייער ענטפֿער, יעקבֿ שולמאַן (ברוקלין)

אונדזער ענטפֿער:

ליבער פֿרענד שולמאַן,

באַקומען אייער אַנפֿרעג. צופֿעליק אַרבעט דאָ אין יוואָ אסתר מישקין (ווי אַ וואָלונטיר), זאָגט זי מיר, אַ דאָס איז זי „די באַבע אסתר“ וואָס וועגן איר איז דאָס נניע ביכל וואָס איר האָט באַקומען. ווי זי גיט מיר, אָבער, איבער, האָט זי מיטן סאַקאַלקער יזפור-בוך נישט געהאַט צו טאָן, אזוי אַז אסתר מישקינסקי איז קענטיק אַן אַנדערע.

הערשל גלעזער

\* \* \*

## וועגן דער סטראַשון-אויסשטעלונג

חשובֿע פֿרוי אַסטרינסקי,

איך וויל איך זייער דאַנקען פֿאַרן צושיקן מיר די מאַטעריאַלן וועגן די יידישע ביבליאָטעק אין ווילנע און ספּעציעל וועגן דער סטראַשון-ביבליאָטעק.

איך האָב אַלץ גענוצט אין מיין פֿאַרלעזונג ביים יידישן קולטורקלוב אין לאַס-אַנדזשעלעס. די לעקציע איז דורך זייער גוט.

איך בין געווען אין ניו-יאָרק סוף מאַרץ צו זען די סטראַשון-אויסשטעלונג און בכלל די ביבליאָטעק. דאָס אַלץ איז געווען זייער אינטערעסאַנט. איינער פֿון מיניע צילן איז געווען זיך צו זען מיט איך און דאַנקען איך פּערזענלעך, אָבער ווען איך בין געקומען קיין ניו-יאָרק האָב איך זיך דערוויסט, אַז איר זייט אויף וואַקאַציע. ס'איז געווען אַ שאַד! אַפֿשר וועלן מיר זיך זען אַ צווייטן מאָל.

מיט בעסטע גרוסן, בעבאַ לעווענטאַל (פּאַסיפֿיק-פּאַליסיידס, קאַל)



## „דער יוואָ דערקוויקט מיר די נשמה“

נ. גאַלדשטיין (סקאַקי, איל) איז לעצטנס צוגעשטאַנען צו דער יוואָ-פּראָ-גראַם פֿון צדקה-יאָרגעלט. פֿון דער אינגעצאלטער סומע וועט ער קריגן אַ געוויסן פּראָצענט און איינצייטיק שטיצן דעם יוואָ: „דער יוואָ דערקוויקט מיר די נשמה און דעריבער האָב איך באַשלאָסן צוצושטיין צו דעם וויכטיקן פּראָ-יעקט. האָף איך, אַז אויך אַנדערע וועלן נעמען שטיצן דעם יוואָ, ווייל דעם יוואָס ציל איז צו ברענגען יידישקייט צו די קומעדיקע דורות.“ אויב איר זענט אַ בעלן, וועט איר געפֿינען ווייטערדיקע אינפֿאַרמאַציעס אויף ז' 5 (אויף ענגליש).

## יידישע ווערטער אין האַלענדיש

אינעם ווינטער-נומער 2001-2002 פֿון די ידיעות איז געשטאַנען, אַז אַ סך יידישע ווערטער זענען אַרין אין האַלענדיש. דער אמת איז גיכער, אַז די השפּעה פֿון יידיש אויף האַלענדיש איז געווען קענטיק אין דער צייט, ווען אין האַלאַנד האָבן זיך געפֿונען יידן. ביזן חורבן זענען צען פּראָצענט פֿון דער אַמסטערדאַמער באַפֿעלקערונג געווען יידן. איז די השפּעה פֿון יידיש אויף האַלענדיש צו יענער צייט געווען אַ היפשע.

כאַטש אַ צאַל יידישע ווערטער זענען יאָ אַרין אין כלל-האַלענדיש, האָט מאַמע-לשון געהאַט די גרעסטע השפּעה אויפֿן אַמסטערדאַמער דיאַלעקט. נאָר נאָכן חורבן און נאָכן אומקום פֿון אַכציק פּראָצענט האַלענדישע יידן זענען כּמעט אַלע יידיש-שטאַמיקע ווערטער אַרויס פֿון באַניץ, מיט אַ קליינער צאַל יוצאים-מין-הפּלל.

ביים היינטיקן טאַג הערט מען אין האַלאַנד ווייניק יידישע ווערטער. בלויז אינעם לשון פֿון די „יידישע“ בראַנזשעס, ווי למשל טעקסטיל און בריליאַנטן, הערט מען נאָך אַלץ אַ סך מאַמע-לשון. אויך דאָס וואָרט „מקום“, וואָס ביז אַלע אַמסטערדאַמער איז דאָס געווען אַ צווייטער נאָמען פֿאַר דער קרוינשטאָט, איז כּמעט ווי אַרויס פֿון באַניץ.

אינטערעסאַנט, וואָס נישט-געקוקט אויף דער פֿאַרקלע-נערטער צאַל יידיש-רעדערס בכלל האָט דער אַמסטער-דאַמער חרדישער „חרד“, וווּ ס'לערנען זיך קינדער פֿון קליינערהייט ביז מיטלשול, אַנומלט אינגעפֿירט דעם לימוד יידיש. אזוי אַז אויף די עקזאַמענס ביים ענדיקן די מיטלשול וועלן זיינע תּלמידים קענען לערנען אויך מאַמע-לשון אין איינעם מיט העברעיִש, מאַטעמאַטיק און היסטאָריע.

אחרון אחרון: אין 1967 איז אַרויס אַ ביכל פֿון האַרטאַג ביים, Resten van een taal (רעשטלעך פֿון אַ שפּראַך), מיט אַ רשימה יידישער ווערטער וואָס זענען אַרין אין האַלענדיש בכלל און אינעם אַמסטערדאַמער דיאַלעקט פֿאַרט. מיט עטלעכע יאָר צוריק איז אַרויס אַ נייע אויפֿלאַגע דערפֿון, אַ דערהיינטיקטע דורכן קוראַטאָר פֿונעם תּל-אַביבֿער „בית התפּוצות“, יואל פּהן, וואָס ער איז, דאַכט זיך, אַ מאָל געווען אַ טיפּענדיאַט ביים מאַקס וויינרין-צענטער.

רחל לוי (אוטרעכט, האַלאַנד)

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## אַן אַנפֿרעג מיט אַן ענטפֿער

צום יוואָ:

איך בין זיך עוסק מיטן קאַטאַלאַג דאָ אין דער ברוקלינער פֿאַלקס-ביבליאָטעק. מיר האָבן יעצט באַקומען אַ בוך:

Ann Morris, *Grandma Esther Remembers* (Millbrook Press, 2002). אין אַנהייב שטייט אַ נאָמען „אסתר מישקין“. צו דער אסתר מישקין איז דאָ אסתר מישקינסקי, וואָס האָט רעדאַקטירט דאָס בוך: ספר



# אַפּרופֿן פֿון די זומער־סטודענטן 2001

פֿ"ס: איך האָב געהערט אַז איר זינט געווען אין שפיטאַל. איך האָף אַז איר וועט זיך באַלד פֿילן בעסער.

\* \* \*

טייערער חבֿר נאַרין,  
איך וויל אַיך זייער דאַנקען פֿאַר דער אונטערשטיצונג, וואָס האָט מיר געהאַלפֿן רעאַליזירן מײַן לאַנגיאַריקן חלום - דאָס לערנען זיך ייִדיש אויף דעם באַרימטן ייִוואָקורס אין קאַלאַמביע־אוניווערסיטעט.  
איך קום פֿון פּוילן, וווּ קיין שום אמתע אַקאַדעמישע ייִדישע אינסטיטוטציע עקסיסטירט ניט. לערנען זיך די ייִדישע שפּראַך, קולטור און ליטעראַטור איז נישט גרינג אין מײַן לאַנד, באַזונדערש ווען מע וויל דאָס טאַן גוט.

ווען מיט אַ פֿאַר יאָר צוריק האָב איך זיך דערווייט וועגן דער ייִוואָ־פּראָגראַם, האָב איך געטראַכט, אַז אין אַזאַ אַרט קען מען קריגן די בעסטע ייִדישע דערצײונג. דעמאָלט האָב איך מקנא געווען די אַלע וואָס האָבן זיך דאָ געלערנט.

הײַנאָר איז מײַן ווונטש מקוים געוואָרן. דאָס ערשטע מאָל אין מײַן לעבן האָב איך זיך באַטייליקט אין די ייִדיש־לעקציעס וואָס זענען געווען אויף דער העכסטער אַקאַדעמישער מדרגה. ביים פּראָפֿעסאָר ניבאַרסקי האָב איך פֿאַרשטאַנען, אַז די ייִדישע גראַמאַטיק קען זײַן קלאַר און פּשוט. אַ דאַנק דעם פּראָפֿעסאָר אַרענשטיין האָב איך אַנטדעקט אַן אויסגעצײכנטע וועלט פֿון דער ייִדישער פּאַעזיע. איך האָב אויך געהאַט גרויס הנאה פֿון די טעאַטער־ און געזאַנג־וואַרשטאַטן. איך גלייב שטאַרק, אַז אַלץ וואָס איך האָב זיך געלערנט וועט מיר העלפֿן אין דעם שריט פֿון מײַן מאַגיסטער־אַרבעט (די טעמע: פּתּימֿים פֿון לאַדזשער געטאַ) און אין פֿאַרשוּנגען אויפֿן געביט פֿון דער ייִדישער גע־שיכטע אין פּוילן.

מיט דרך־אַרץ,  
מאַניקאַ פּאַליט

חשובֿער ד״ר קאַנסטאַנטינער, איך הייס אַלגאַ בערדניקאָוואַ און איך האָב באַקומען אַייער סטיפּענדיע פֿאַר דער זומער־פּראָגראַם נאָכן לערנען ייִדיש אין ייִוואָ. איך שרייב דעם דאָזיקן בריוו אויסצודריקן אַ שיינעם דאַנק פֿאַר דער פֿינאַנציעלער שטיצע, וואָס איר האָט מיר פֿאַרזאָרגט. דאָס האָט מיר געגעבן אַ מעגלעכקייט צו לערנען ייִדיש לויט דער בעסטער פּראָ־גראַם, אַ באַוויסטער אין דער גאַנצער וועלט, צו פֿאַרטיפֿן זיך אין דער ייִדישער קולטור, אויסלערנענדיק זיך מיט הגים און געשיכטלעכע אַנטוויקלונגען. מײַן קענטעניש פֿון ייִדיש איז גע־ווען זייער וויכטיק פֿאַר מיר (איך בין אַ ייִדיש־לערער אין דאַנעצק, אוקראַינע), נאָר איז געווען ווייט נישט קיין פֿולע. איך בין דער ערשטער מענטש, וואָס האָט אָנגעהויבן לערנען ייִדיש אין דעם דאַנעצקער אוניווערסיטעט, און דער דאָזיקער קורס פֿון ייִוואָ האָט מיר דערלויבט ווייטער צו גיין מיט מײַן בילדונג, און איך וועל איבערגעבן מײַן קענטעניש מינע סטודענטן.

אַ שיינעם דאַנק,  
אַלגאַ בערדניקאָוואַ

\* \* \*

טייערע חבֿרע שטודענטען, אַ שיינעם און האַרציקן דאַנק פֿאַר דער מעגלעכקייט צו לערנען זיך ייִדיש דאָ אין קאַלאַמביע און לעבן אין אַ ייִדישער סבֿיבֿה במשך אַכט וואָכן. איך ווויץ אין טאַראַנטע. דאָ בין איך אַ סאַציאַלאָג און אַ לערערין אין יאָרקער אוניווערסיטעט. איך האָב אָנגעהויבן לערנען זיך און שרייבן וועגן די ווונדערלעכע קולטור־שאַפֿונגען פֿון די לינקע יידן אין די צוואַנציקער און דרייסיקער יאָרן. אַפֿילו מיט אַ גוטער אַרבעט איז דאָס לעבן דאָ אין ניו־יאָרק זייער טייער פֿאַר אַ קאַנאַדערקע. אַ דאַנק אַייער ברייטהאַרציקייט האָב איך דאָס גע־קענט טאַן.

אַ דאַנק,  
אַסטער רינטער

אינעם פֿרעדיקן נומער ידיעות האָבן מיר אָפּגעדרוקט עטלעכע, אָבער נישט אַלע, דאַנקבריוו, וואָס די סטודענטן סטיפּענדיאַטן האָבן געשריבן צו די געלטגעבערס זייערע. צוליבן דוּחק אין פּלאַץ דרוקן מיר אין דעם נומער די איבעריקע בריוו, צו שמואל נאַרין (פֿאַרווערטס, ניו־יאָרק), ד״ר חיים קאַנסטאַנטינער (מעקסיקע) און ביילע שעכטער־גאַטעסמאַן (ניו־יאָרק).

\* \* \*

טייערער חבֿר נאַרין,  
איך הייס בנימין נפֿתלי שפּיראַ. איך בין אַ סטודענט אין דער זומער־פּראָ־גראַם וואָס אַ דאַנק אַייער סטיפּענדיע האָב איך געקענט אַנטייל נעמען אין דער פּראָגראַם.  
די פֿאַרגאַנגענע 6 וואָכן זענען געווען אַ געוואַלדיקע איבערלעבונג. מיר האָבן שטודירט יעדן טאַג פֿון 9:00 ביז 12:30. נאָך מיטאַג פֿון 1:30 ביז 5:30 האָבן מיר געהאַט פֿאַרשיידענע אַקטיוויטעטן, סײַ לעקציעס, סײַ וואַר־שטאַטן אַזױ.  
אונדזערע לערערס זענען געווען אויף אַ זייער הויכער מדרגה, און די סטודענטן זענען אַלע זייער אינטע־ליגענטע און סימפּאַטישע מענטשן.

אַ האַרציקן דאַנק,  
בנימין נפֿתלי שפּיראַ

\* \* \*

מיטנדיקער  
שמועסקלאַס  
מיטן לערער  
שלום בערגער



# וועגן דעם פֿילם „ווידערשטאַנד: די נישט- באַקאַנטע געשיכטע פֿון ייִדישע פֿאַרטיזאַנער“

מיך האָט דאָס אַלץ דערמאַנט אין איינער אַ נאַכט אין קאָוונער געטאָ, וווּ איך האָב זיך געפֿונען העכער דרייַ יאָר. שפעט בני נאכט, ס'גייט אַ קאַלטער רעגן. די גאַנצע משפּחה האָט נאָר געוואָלט איין זאַך: שלאָפֿן. מיט אַ מאָל הערן מיר אַ קלאַפּ אין דער טיר. איך האָב זייער מורא געהאַט, אַז דאָס זיינען דייטשן. איך עפֿן די טיר, שטייט דאָרטן מיינער אַ חבֿר פֿון דער אונטערגרונט. אַ דורכגעווייקטער פֿון רעגן, ציטערט ער, אַ שרעק!

ער דערציילט מיר, אַז ס'איז דאָ אַ גרופּע וואָס קלייבט זיך צושטיין צו די פֿאַרטיזאַנער. ווילן זיי, איך זאָל אויך גיין. מיר רעדן דאָס אַרום אַ סך מאָל בני אונדזערע נאַכטיקע זיצונגען. איצט, אַז כ'קען שוין עפעס טאָן און נישט בלייבן ביים רעדן, קווענקל איך זיך, און צום סוף באַשליס איך צו בלייבן אין געטאָ. כ'האַב נישט קיין האַרץ אוועקצוגיין און איבערצולאָזן אויף הפֿקר טאַטע־מאַמע מיטן יינגערן ברודער מיינעם. כ'האַב אויך מורא אוועקגיין פֿון מנין היים און שטיין פֿאַר אַ נייער, אומבאַקאַנטער סכּנה. בין איך העכער אַ יאָר געבליבן אין געטאָ און צוגעזען אַלע אַקציעס און דעפֿאַרטאַציעס.

כאָטש די דאָזיקע יונגע יידן האָבן זיך אָנגעליטן פֿון דער שינאה פֿון דער אַרומיקער באַפֿעלקערונג, האָבן זיי זיך נישט געשראַקן פֿאַר גאַרנישט, נאָר זיך געשלאָגן מיט די דייטשן וויפֿל זיי האָבן נאָר געקענט און מיט וואָס פֿאַר אַ געווער ס'איז זיי נאָר געקומען אונטער דער האַנט. אַקעגן דעם דייטשישן מיליטער איז זייער געווער געווען פֿרימי־טיוו. פֿונדעסטוועגן האָבן זיי געראַטעוועט דעם ייִדישן פֿבֿוד, וועלן מיר פֿון דער שארית־הפּליטה זיי געדענקען און האַלטן כפֿבֿוד אונדזער גאַנץ לעבן!

אַסתר מישקין, אַ געבוירענע אין קאָוונע, איז אַ ייִוואָ־ מיטגליד און אַ וואָלונטיר אין דער ייִוואָ־ביבליאָטעק.

פֿון אַסתר מישקין  
**ב**שעת איך האָב געקוקט אויפֿן דאָקומענטאַר־פֿילם וועגן די ייִדישע פֿאַרטיזאַנער אין די פּוילישע און ווינסרוסישע וועלדער האָב איך געמוזט באַווונדערן זייער קוראַזש בשעת זיי זיינען געשטאַנען פֿאַר אַזאַ גרויסער סכּנה. די געוועזענע פֿאַרטיזאַנער וואָס



האָבן זיך באַטייליקט אינעם פֿילם - צווישן זיי עטא וואָ־ בעל, די פֿאַרזיצערין פֿונעם אינטערנאַציאָנאַלן פֿרויען־אָפּטייל ביים ייִוואָ, און דינה אַבראַמאָוויטש ע"ה, די לאַנג־יאַריקע הויפּט־ביבליאָטעקערין אונדזערע - ווי אויך אַ סך אַנדערע וואָס זיינען ניטאָ אין פֿילם, האָבן געטאָן וויפֿל זיי האָבן געקענט נקמה צו נעמען אין די שונא־ייִשוראל וואָס האָבן אונדז געוואָלט אומברענגען.

## אַ נייע מתנה



## געשטאַרבן צפּורה שפּייזמאַן

בשעת דער נומער איז שוין געווען אין דרוק איז צון אונדז דערגאַנגען די ביטערע בשורה, אַז ס'איז געשטאַרבן צפּורה שפּייזמאַן, דער זינל פֿון דער פֿאָלקסבינע, קודם ווי אַ פֿירנדיקע אַקטריסע און די לעצטע 35-40 יאָר ממש די אָפּהיטערין פֿון דער עקסיסטענץ פֿונעם טעאַטער.

אַ געבוירענע אין לובלין, האָט זי געשפּילט אין ייִדישן טעאַטער אין פּוילן, רוסלאַנד און אַמעריקע און איז אויך געווען אַ געשולטע קראַנקן־שוועסטער און הייבאַם, וואָס האָט אין דער סאָוועטישער פֿאַרשיקונג בעת דער צווייטער וועלט־מלחמה אַרגאַניזירט אַ סך טעאַטער־פֿאַרשטעלונגען, ווי אויך אָפּגע־נומען העכער טויזנט עפֿעלעך!

צפּורה שפּייזמאַן האָט ס'גאַנצע לעבן געלעבט און געאַטעמט מיט ייִדישן טעאַטער. אַ דאַנק איר שטאַרקן ווילן האָט זיך די פֿאָלקסבינע דערהאַלטן ביזן היינטיקן טאָג און אַריבערגעגאַנגען אין די הענט פֿון אַ נייעם דור. פֿבֿוד איר אַנדענק!

פּונקט צום 101טן געבוירן־טאָג פֿון אונדזער גרויסן פּאָעט איציק מאַנגער (ער איז געבוירן געוואָרן דעם 28סטן מנ 1901) איז אונדז געקומען אונטער דער האַנט אַ צייכענונג וואָס ווייזט מאַנגערן ווי ער זיצט, ווי שטענדיק, מיט אַ פּאַפּיראַס אין האַנט. ווער ס'איז דער צייכענער ווייסן מיר נישט, נאָר מיר קומען אַ דאַנק פֿ'ן אַסטראָוון פֿאַרן שענקען דעם ייִוואָ־אַזאַ מתנה.

# אויסצוג פֿון ברוך היללס רעדע ביי דער סטראַשון-עפֿענונג (16טן אַפּריל 2002)

לונסקי צוזאמען מיטן רובֿ לייענערס און פֿאַרשערס פֿון סטראַשונס ספֿרים. אָבער די גניסטיקע אוצרות האָט מען נישט אומגעבראַכט: ווי ס'שטייט אין דער גמרא, „גוילין נשׂרפֿין ואותיות פּורחות באַויר“. די סטראַשון-זאמלונג האָט אַדורכגעמאַכט די מלחמה און געפֿינט זיך היינט אינעם יוואָ. מיר אינעם יוואָ פֿרייען זיך זייער, וואָס דער נאָמען פֿונעם באַרימטן תּלמיד-חכם און אוהב־ספֿר ר' מתתיהו סטראַשון איז אזוי נאָענט פֿאַרבונדן מיטן יוואָ און וואָס אַ גרויסער טייל פֿון דער וועלט-באַרימטער סטראַשון-ביבליאָטעק, וואָס איז בשעתו פֿאַר-שלעפט געוואָרן קיין דניטשלאַנד אונטער דער ממשלה פֿון די רוצחים ימח־שם, ווערט היינט דאָ אזוי זאָר-געוודיק אָפּגעהיט פֿאַר די קומעדיקע דורות. איז אזוי ווי סני די אלטע, סני די נייע דעדיקאַציע זענען פֿאַר-געקומען פּסח־ציט, און נאָך דעם אלעם וואָס האָט זיך אינעם פֿאַרגאַנג-גענעם יאָרהונדערט געטראָפֿן מיט סטראַשונס ספֿרים, איז פּאַסיק צו ברענגען די ווערטער פֿון דער הגדה: „מא־פֿלה לאור גדול“, פֿון פֿינצטערניש צון אַ גרויס ליכט. אַ דאַנק.

עלטסטע און די טייערסטע יקר-המצי-אותן פֿון דער דאָזיקער ביבליאָטעק. צו יענער דעדיקאַציע אין דעצעמבער זענען געקומען מיטגלידער פֿון דער באַרימטער משפּחה סטראַשון פֿון אלע עקן וועלט, הונדערט פֿופֿציק פֿלימע-ניקעס און פֿלימעניצעס פֿון ר' מתתיהו סטראַשון, וואָס זענען זיך צוזאַמען-געקומען צום ערשטן מאל אויף איין אָרט דאָ אינעם יוואָ. היינט פּראַווען מיר דעם הונדערט-טן יובֿל פֿון אַן אַנדער דעדיקאַציע, די פֿונעם נייעם בנין פֿון דער סטראַשון-ביבליאָ-טעק, וואָס איז געעפֿנט געוואָרן אין ווילנע ארום פּסח 1902. אין יענעם בנין האָבן תּל-מיד־חכמים זיך מִפֿלפּל געווען, פֿאַרשערס גע-פֿאַרשט און לייענערס געלייענט לשון-קודש־דיקע ספֿרים און ייִדישע ביכלעך ביזן גרויסן חורבן. אינעם איבערקע-רעניש איז אומגעקומען על קידוש־השם דער ביבליאָטעקער ר' חניקל

ח שובֿע פֿריינד און קאַלעגן, ס'פֿרייט מיך זייער אַיך צו באַגריסן ביי דער עפֿענונג פֿון דער סטראַשון-אויסשטעלונג אין דער יוואָ-ביבליאָטעק. אין דער אמתן איז דאָס נישט די ערשטע עפֿענונג פֿון דער אויסשטע-לונג - פֿאַקטיש איז דאָס די צווייטע. אין דעצעמבער האָט דער יוואָ אָפֿי-ציעל דעדיקירט די סטראַשון-זאמלונג אלטע ספֿרים און די נייע קאַמער פֿאַר זעלטענע ביכער, וווּ ס'געפֿינען זיך די



ביי דער

סטראַשון-

עפֿענונג:

קאַלאַנעל שלום

פּאַמעראַנץ,

אַבֿיבֿה

אַסטרינסקי

## „אונדזער היימשטאָט ווילנע“

ווילנע, וואָס האָט דערציילט מיט הומאָר, אין ייִדיש און ענגליש, וועגן דער סאַגע, ווי זיי האָבן מיט עקשנות דערגרייכט זייער ציל. עס האָבן אויך גערעדט: דער פֿאַרזיצער פֿון נוסח ווילנע, שמעון פּאַלעווסקי; סימא קריין, פֿון דער פֿאַרוואַלטונג; רענע אַבט, פֿון צווייטן דור ווילנער; ד"ר קאַרל רינס, עקזעקוטיוו-דירעקטאָר פֿון יוואָ; ואַחרון־אַחרון חבֿיבֿ, ברוס סלאַוין, דער פֿאַרזיצער פֿונעם צענטער און פֿאַרזיצער פֿון דער יוואָ-פֿאַרוואַלטונג. די מוזיקאַלישע פּראַגראַם האָט דורכגעפֿירט די ווילנער זינגערין און פֿאַלקלאַריסטיקע מאַריאַ קרופּאָוועס, מיט לידער וועגן ווילנע און ווילנער געטאָ. צום סוף איז דער עולם אַרויף באַקוקן די אויסשטעלונג, וואָס האָט ביי זיי אַרויסגערופֿן גרויס אינטערעס, זיי ממש געגעבן אַ טיאָקע אין האַרצן. מע קען קומען באַקוקן די אויסשטעלונג פֿון מאַנטיק ביז דאַנערשטיק. מע דאַרף אָבער פֿריער טעלעפֿאָנירן: 212-246-6080.

ז ונטיק, דעם 3טן פֿעברואַר 2002, איז אינעם „צענטער פֿאַר ייִדישער געשיכטע“ פֿאַרגעקומען די עפֿענונג פֿון דער פּערמאַנענטער אויסשטעלונג א"נ „אונדזער היימשטאָט ווילנע“, אַראַנזשירט פֿון „פֿאַרבאַנד פֿון ווילנער יידן אין די פֿאַראַיניקטע שטאַטן - נוסח ווילנע“. די אויסשטעלונג געפֿינט זיך אויפֿן דריטן גאַרן, וווּ דער יוואָ האָט זינע ביוראַען. אויף די ווענט וויקלט זיך פֿונאַנדער ווי אַן אַלבאַם אין בילדער דאָס ייִדישע עקאָנאָמישע און קולטור־געזעלשאַפֿטלעכע לעבן אין ווילנע פֿאַר דער צווייטער וועלט־מלחמה. אויף אַ באַזונדער וואַנט הענגען באַרנדזענע טאָולען אין אַנדענק פֿון די אומגעבראַכטע משפּחות פֿון מיטגלידער פֿון נוסח ווילנע. די אויסשטעלונג האָט פּלאַנירט דער קינסטלער פּאַל האַנטער, פּרעזידענט פֿון „אַרטעל אויסשטעלונגען“. דער קבלת־פנים איז פֿאַרגעקומען אינעם פּרעכטיקן שטיינבערג־זאַל, וווּ עס האָט זיך פֿאַרזאַמלט אַ היפּשער עולם ווילנער און פֿריינד פֿון ווילנער. מיט דער פּראַגראַם האָט אַנגעפֿירט דוד ראַגאַוו, וויצע־פֿאַרזיצער פֿון נוסח

# ידיש-אקאדעמישער סעמינאר

מאָקס וויזנר'דיג צענטער

דער געוויינטלעכער עולם ביים סעמינאר איז 30-40 פֿון די פּראָפעסאָרן, סטודענטן און גלאַט אינטעליגענטן וואָס האָבן הנאָה פֿון הערן אַ ייִדיש וואָרט אויף אַ וויסנשאַפֿטלעכער טעמע. אַגבֿ איז כּדאי צו באַמערקן, אַז ד"ר מרדכי שעכטער, וואָס ער האָט מיט קנאַפע דריי יאָר צוריק געפֿירט דעם ערשטן סעמינאר פֿון דער נײַער סעריע, האָט איצט געפֿירט אַ צווייטן סעמינאר.

ש ויזן ס'דריטע יאָר ווי ס'ווערן דורכגעפֿירט ביים ייִוואָ אַקאדעמישע סעמינארן אויף ייִדיש. דאָס וואָס דער סעמינאר איז אויף ייִדיש איז אַ סימן ממשיד זײַן די ייִוואָ-טראַדיציע פֿון רעדן ייִדיש ווי אַן אַקטיווע שפּראַך אויף וויסנשאַפֿטלעכע אַרבעטן און דיסקוסיעס.



ברוכה לאַנג קאַפּלאַן

## סעמינארן, פֿרילינג 2002

טעמע	רעדנער	דאַטע
נייע ווערטער ביי די ברידער ליפשיץ	ד"ר מרדכי שעכטער (קאָלאַמביע-אוניווערסיטעט)	25סטן יאנואר
דער אַרטאָדאָקסישער עקספרעסיאַניזם פֿונעם רעליגיעזן פּאָעט וו. ליכטער	ברוכה לאַנג קאַפּלאַן (קאָלאַמביע-אוניווערסיטעט)	8טן פֿעברואַר
רעליגיעזע סימבאָלן אין דער ייִדישער קאַריקאַטוריסטיק	אהרן פּאַרטנאַי (ייִדישער טעאַלאָגישער סעמינאר)	22סטן פֿעברואַר
ייִדיש אינעם ייִוואָ-אַרכיוו	פֿרומאַ מאַהרער (ייִוואָ)	8טן מאַרץ
דער ייִדישער טראַף	דוד בראַון (מאַסאַטשוסעטסער טעכנאָלאָגיע-אינסטיטוט)	22סטן מאַרץ
מאַמע-לשון אינעם אייראָפּעיִשן גערעם	ד"ר הערשל גלעזער (ייִוואָ)	3טן מײַ
בלעטער אין ווינט: ייִדישע פֿרויענ-לידער וועגן דער נאַטור	הינדע בורשטיין (ייִדישער קולטור-צענטער, קדימה - מעלבאָרן, אויסטראַליע)	7טן יוני

## מאַריאַ קרופּאַוועס

[המשך פֿון ז' ד]

די בילדער פֿון די לידער, די לידער פֿון דער ליבע, די ליבע פֿאַר די מענטשן, די מענטשן פֿאַר גאָט. גאָט האָט באַשאַפֿן הימל און ערד...

אַ שייַן, פֿינן קישעלע. דאָס קישעלע פֿאַר דער פּלה, די פּלה פֿאַר דעם חתן! אַט אַזוי. הימל און ערד זײַנען צונויפֿגעבונדן בײַ גאָט און חתן-פּלה זײַנען צונויפֿגעבונדן מיט דער אַלוועלט און מיט גאָט. ס'איז נישט קיין גרויסער מהלך צווישן גאָט און חתן-פּלה. ער איז דאָ, אויף דער ערד, מיט זיי און זיי זײַנען דאָרט, אויפֿן הימל, מיט אים.

און ווייטער:  
גאָט האָט באַשאַפֿן אַ ביימל, אַ פֿויגל מיט פֿעדערן...  
און די לעצטע סטראָפֿע:  
גאָט האָט באַשאַפֿן הימל און ערד. וואָס איז פֿון דעם ביימל; אַ שייַנע, פֿינע צווינגל. וואָס איז פֿון דער צווינגל; אַ שייַנע, פֿינע פֿויגל. וואָס איז פֿון דער פֿויגל; אַ שייַנע, פֿינע פֿעדער. וואָס איז פֿון דער פֿעדער?

האַדע יודאָווינע-זאוועלעווע בניס שאַגאַל-מוזיי, וויטעבסק



# אַ שטיקל ווונדער



פֿון מאַריאַ קרופּאָוועס

(ד"ר מאַריאַ קרופּאָוועס, אַ לערערין פֿון פֿאַלקלאָר אין ווילנער אוניווערסיטעט, האָט געקראָגן די ערשטע סטיווענדיע א"נ וולאָדימיר און פּערל ח'פֿץ פֿאַר פֿאַרשן ייִדישע מוזיק).

## פֿ

אַראַיאַרן בין איך געווען אויף אַ פֿאַלקלאָר-עקספּע-דיציע אין ווייסרוסלאַנד - אין פינסק און באַראַנאוויטש. דאָרט

האָב איך געקליבן אַ סך ייִדישע לידער. הײַאָר בין איך געפֿאַרן קיין וויטעבסק.

וויטעבסק, די שטאָט פֿון שאַגאַל! מיר איז געווען באַזונדערס אינטערעסאַנט צו פֿאַרן אַהין, ווייל כ'בין געווען אַ בעלז צו וויסן וועלכע לידער האָט מען געזונגען אין שאַגאַלס היימסטאָט. ס'איז אויך געווען אינטערעסאַנט אויסקלאַרן, וואָס פֿאַר אַן אינפֿלוס האָבן די לידער געהאַט אויף שאַגאַלס קינסטלערישן וועג.

פֿריער איז אין וויטעבסק געווען פֿראַפֿ' דוד קאַץ, וואָס ער האָט זיך דאָרטן באַקענט מיט האַדע יודאווינע-זאוועלעווע, וואָס האָט אים געזאָגט, אַז זי קען אַ סך ייִדישע פֿאַלקסלידער. האָב איך אַנגעקלונגען האַדען, האָבן מיר זיך אַפּגערעדט צו באַגעגענען.

אַז איך בין אַנגעקומען קיין וויטעבסק בין איך צו ערשט געקומען אין קלוב „חסד“, וווּ ס'טרעפֿן זיך די אַלטע ייִדן. ס'איז געווען שבת. די מיטגלידער פֿון קלוב האָבן מיך מקבל-פנים געווען, האָב איך זיי געפֿרעגט, צי עמעצער פֿון זיי קען ייִדישע לידער נאָך פֿון טאַטע-מאַמען. מיט אַ מאָל האָבן עטלעכע מענטשן מיר אַ זאָג געטאָן, אַז אין שטאָט קען און זינגט ייִדישע פֿאַלקסלידער נאָר איין פֿרוי - האַדע זאוועלעווע. „איך האָב זיך שוין מיט איר צונויפֿגערעדט“, האָב איך געענטפֿערט.

בין איך געקומען צו האַדען, אַ זיבן און זיבעציק-יאַריקע פֿרוי מיט זייער אַ האַרציקן שמייכל. זי האָט מיר דערציילט איר גאַנצן לעבן. האַדע איז געבאָרן געוואָרן אין בעליש-קאָוויטש, אַ שטעטל פֿרפֿצן קילאָמעטער פֿון וויטעבסק, לעבן שטעטל ליאַזנע, וווּ ס'איז געבאָרן געוואָרן שאַגאַלס מאַמע. אין די סאָוועטישע צייטן איז אין בעלישקאָוויטש אַראַנאָזירט געוואָרן אַ ייִדישער קאָלוירט „טראַקטאָר“, וווּ ס'האָבן געאַרבעט אירע עלטערן. האַדע האָט דערציילט, אַז אין דעם קאָלוירט איז געווען נאָר איין טראַקטאָר. אין אַנהייב פֿון דער מלחמה האָט די משפּחה זיך עוואַקוירט קיין סיביר. שפּעטער האָט זי זיך אומגעקערט קיין וויטעבסק, וווּ זי האָט די גאַנצע צייט געאַרבעט ווי אַ דאָקטער. זי איז שוין פֿון לאַנג אַן אַלמנה. איצט וווינט זי אַליין און שבת פֿלעגט זי גיין אין שול.

איך מוז זאָגן, אַז אין מײַן איצטיקער טעטיקייט - קלייבן ייִדישע פֿאַלקסלידער - טרעפֿט זיך אַלע עפעס אַ נס. די אַלטע ייִדן וואָס וווינען איצט אין ליטע און ווייסרוסלאַנד

האָבן על-פי נס זיך געראַטעוועט פֿון טויט. נאָך דער מלחמה האָבן זיי שוין ניט געהאַט קיין מעגלעכקייטן צו אַנטוויקלען זייער קולטור. זייער אַפֿט האָבן זיי ניט געקענט אַפֿילו רעדן קיין ייִדיש. ס'איז זייער שווער צו געפֿינען עמעצן, וואָס קען זינגען ייִדישע לידער אויסגעלערנטע נאָך אין דער משפּחה. פֿאַרשריבן צען-פֿרפֿצן לידער פֿון איין מענטש איז אַ סך. האַדע האָט מיר אָבער געזונגען אַרום דרייסיק לידער, וואָס זי קען נאָך פֿון איר מאַמען. צי איז דאָס ניט קיין שטיקל ווונדער?

אין דער זינגערינס רעפּערטואַר זינגען דאָ פֿאַרשידענע לידער: ציוניסטישע, קאַמישע, פֿאַמיליע-לידער, ליבעלידער. אינטערעסאַנט, וואָס די סאָוועטישע צייטן האָבן איבער-געלאָזט שפורן אויפֿן ייִדישן פֿאַלקלאָר אויך. למשל, אין דעם וואַריאַנט פֿונעם באַרימטן ליד „נחומקע, מײַן זון“ זאָגט דער זון דעם טאַטן, אַז די פּלה האָט ניט קיין געלט, זי האָט נאָר אַ „פֿראַפֿסאָיוונע ביכעלע“!

איך בין געווען בײַ האַדען צוויי מאָל. ס'איז איר שוין שווער צו זינגען אַזוי פֿיל. אויפֿן צווייטן טאַג זינגען מיר אין דער פֿרי געגאַנגען צוזאַמען אין דער איינציקער ווי-טעבסקער שול. נאָך דעם זינגען מיר מיט האַדען געגאַנגען אין שאַגאַל-מוזיי. לעבן דער פֿאַקראָווסקאַיאַ-גאַס, וווּ דער מוזיי געפֿינט זיך, האָט מען ניט-לאַנג צוריק אוועקגע-שטעלט די שיינע סקולפּטור פֿון זיצנדיקן קינסטלער מיט דער פֿאַלירע אין די הענט און מיט זיין ווייבעלע וואָס פֿליט איבער אים. דער מוזיי האָט זיך געעפֿנט מיט עטלעכע יאָר צוריק. ס'איז נישט קיין גרויס הויז: דריי צימערן און אַ קיך. אויף די ווענט הענגען אַלטע פֿאַטאַגראַפֿיעס פֿון דער שטאָט און פֿון שאַגאַלס משפּחה. אומעטום איז דאָ אַלטע מעבל: סאָפּעס, אַ טיש וווּ ס'ליגן אַלטע ייִדישע ביכער, אַ סאַמאָוואַר אויף דער פֿאַליצע און אַ גרויסער שפיגל. צי האָט דער יונגער שאַגאַל אַריינגעקוקט אין דעם שפיגל און נתפעל געוואָרן פֿון זײַן אייגענער שיינקייט? (אַזוי האָט ער געשרי-בן אין זײַן אויטאָביאָגראַפֿיע.) אַלץ אין דעם מוזיי האָט מען צוגעגרייט מיט גרויס ליבשאַפֿט.

לעבן הויז איז דאָ אַ סעדעלע. אין אים איז אויך דאָ אַ סקולפּטור, וואָס שטעלט פֿאַר דעם יונגן פֿידלער שפּילנדיק אויף אַ פֿידל. אויף דער פֿידל ליגט גאַנץ וויטעבסק אין מיניאַטור. אַלע ווייסן, אַז שאַגאַלס בילדער זינגען פֿול מיט ווונדערס: קאַלירטע חיות, פֿליענדיקע מענטשן. אין דער אויטאָביאָגראַפֿיע האָט ער אַליין געשריבן, אַז ער האָט אַפּגעלעבט דאָס גאַנצע לעבן וואַרטנדיק אויף אַ חידוש. צי איז דאָס געשען? זיכער - זײַן גרויסע קונסט, זײַן גרויסע ליבע, זײַן גרויס האַרץ און זײַן גרויסער גורל.

צי איז מיר געראַטן אין וויטעבסק צו פֿאַרשריבן נאָר איין ליד אין דאָזיקן גיטט? יאָ. צום סוף פֿון אונדזער טרעפֿונג האָט האַדע געזונגען אַ שיינן ליד, וואָס איך האָב פֿריער נישט געהערט. שפּעטער האָב איך זיך דערוווסט, אַז אַ וואַריאַנט פֿון דעם ליד איז פּובליקירט געוואָרן אין חנה און יאָסל מלאַטעקס דריטן באַנד ייִדישע לידער, לידער פֿון דור צו דור. אַט איז דער טעקסט:

[המשך אויף ז' ה]

# נייער דעקאָן פֿון דער יוואָ-ביבליאָטעק



ברוך-סיני הילל

א נהייב הנייאר האָט דער יוואָ צוגענומען ווי אַ מיטאַרבעטער דעם באַוווּסטן ביבליאָטעקער און ביב-ליאָגראַף ברוך-סיני הילל. פֿ' הילל איז ביז איצט געווען דער שעף פֿון דער ביבליאָטעק פֿונעם אַקספּאָרדער צענ-טער פֿאַר העברעיִשע און ייִדישע לימודים און אַ מיטגליד פֿונעם אַריענ-טאַלישן פֿאַקולטעט פֿונעם אַקספּאָרדער אוניווערסיטעט. פֿאַר דעם איז ער גע-ווען דער שעף פֿונעם העברעיִשן אַפֿ-טייל פֿון דער בריטישער ביבליאָטעק (די געוועזענע ביבליאָטעק פֿונעם בריטישן מוזיי) אין לאַנדאָן. פֿאַר דעם איז ער געווען דער קוראַטאָר פֿון דער העברעיִשער זאַמלונג פֿון דער קאַנאַדער נאַציאָנאַלער ביבליאָטעק אין אַטאַווע. אַ ספּעציאַליסט פֿון דער העברעיִשער און ייִדישער דרוק-געשיכטע, האָט פֿ' הילל מחבר געווען אַ צאָל קאַטאַלאָגן

באַנד פֿון זילבערצווייגס גרויסן לעק-סיקאַן פֿון ייִדישן טעאַטער (וואָס די קאַרעקטור דערפֿון איז שוין געווען גרייט ווען דער מחבר איז געשטאַרבן). ביי דער עפֿענונג פֿון דער אויס-שטעלונג צום הונדערטסטן יובֿל פֿון דער ווילנער סטראַשון-ביבליאָטעק, דעם 16טן אַפּריל הנייאר, האָט ברוך הילל גערעדט וועגן דער געשיכטע פֿון דער דאָזיקער ביבליאָטעק, די איינציקע ייִדישע קהילה-ביבליאָטעק אין פֿאַר-מלחמהדיקן פּוילן און ליטע וואָס איז אַפּגעראַטעוועט געוואָרן פֿונעם חורבן אייראָפּע. (דעם ייִדישן טייל פֿון זײַן רעדע וועט מען געפֿינען אויף ז' ו' אין דעם נומער.)

## חנה מלאָטעק אַ בת-שמונים



(ס'זיצט) חנה מלאָטעק; (סע שטייען, רעכטס אויף לינקס) קאַליאַ באַראָדלין, ביבליאָטעקער; שיינדל פֿאַגעלמאַן, סעקרעטאַרשע; לייזער (לעאַ) גרינבוים, אַרכיוואַר; לאָרין סקלאַמבערג, קלאַנג-אַרכיוואַר (פֿאַטאַ; עליס פֿישער)

דעם 9טן אַפּריל איז זיך צונויפֿגעקומען אויף אַ מסיבה דער גאַנצער פּערסאָנאַל פֿונעם יוואָ צו פּראַווען דעם 80סטן געבוירן-טאָג פֿון חנה מלאָטעק, אונדזער לאַנג-יאַריקע מוזיק-אַרכיוואַרקע. חנה מלאָטעק, וואָס איז פֿאַרבונדן מיטן יוואָ העכער פֿוֹפּציק יאַר, האָט אַנגעהויבן איר אַרבעט דאָ ווי ד"ר מאַקס ווינערניכס סעקרעטאַרשע און געהילף. דורך די יאַרן איז זי אַנערקענט געוואָרן פֿאַרן גרעסטן קענער פֿון ייִדישע לידער, וואָס צון איר קומט מען מיט קשיות פֿון דער גאַנצער וועלט. זינט 1970 פֿירט זי אַ רובּריק אין פֿאַרווערטס א"נ, „פּערל פֿון דער ייִדישער פּאַעזיע“; האָט אַרויסגעגעבן פֿיר גרעסערע קאַלעקציעס ייִדישע לידער אין איינעם מיט איר מאַן, יאַסל מלאָטעק ע"ה, ווי אויך עטלעכע קלענערע ביכלען; האָט זיך געדרוקט אין די יוואָ-בלעטער א"א וויסנשאַפֿטלעכע זשורנאַלן. מיר ווינטשן איר פֿון טיפֿן האַרצן לאַנגע, פּראָדוקטיווע יאַרן. מיט מזל געיערט זיך, חנה!

און ביבליאָגראַפֿישע שטודיעס וועגן אַלטע דרוקן און פּתבֿ-ידן. אויך האָבן עטלעכע פֿון זײַנע תּלמידים אינעם ביב-ליאָגראַפֿיע-קורס אין אַקספּאָרד ממשיך געווען מיט וויסנשאַפֿטלעכע אַרבעטן אינעם ברייטן שטח פֿון ייִדישער ביב-ליאָגראַפֿיע בֿפֿרט און פֿון מיזרח-אייראָפּעיִשע ייִדישע שטודיעס בכלל. אין יוואָ וועט ברוך הילל - וואָס טראַגט דעם טיטל „דעקאַן פֿון דער ביבליאָטעק“ - זיך אַפּגעבן מיט ביבלי-אָגראַפֿישער פֿאַרשאַרבעט און בֿפֿרט מיט פּלאַנירן ווייטערדיקע ביבליאָטעק-פּראָיעקטן. די פֿאַרויסגעזעענע פּראָ-יעקטן באַהאַנדלען נישט נאָר אַלערליי אַספּעקטן פֿון דער ייִדישער ליטעראַ-טור, נאָר אויך די ביבליאָגראַפֿיע פֿון ייִדישן טעאַטער, מוזיק און קונסט און די געשיכטע פֿון ייִדישן דרוק. ער האַלט פֿאַר שטאַרק נייטיק, אַז דער יוואָ זאָל אַרויסגעבן וויכטיקע ביב-ליאָגראַפֿישע ווערק צוגעגרייטע פֿון אַמאַליקע יוואָ-מיטאַרבעטערס, נאָר וואָס זענען צוליב פֿאַרשיידענע טעמים קיין מאָל נישט אַרויס און וואָס ליגן שוין דורות לאַנג ווי באַגראַבן. צווישן די אַ אַרבעטן וואָס וואַלטן זיכער גע-מאַכט אַ גרויסן רושם אויפֿן פֿעלד פֿון ייִדיש-פֿאַרשונג זענען שאַצקיס נישט-אַרויסגעגעבענע ביבליאָגראַפֿיע פֿון דער אַלט-ייִדישער ליטעראַטור (וואָס די פּובליקאַציע דערפֿון האָט מען צוגעזאַגט שוין אין די 20ער יאַרן!), יעפֿים ישרינס ריזיקע ביבליאָגראַפֿישע מאַטעריאַלן וועגן דער מאַדערנער ייִדי-שער ליטעראַטור, און דער לעצטער

## אַ מענטש מיט ייִחוס

ברוך-סיני הילל, אַ געבוירענער אין ניו-יאָרק, שטאַמט פֿון ביידע צדדים פֿון אַ רבנישער משפּחה פֿון אַדמו"רים, מחברים און דרוקערס וואָס האָבן געשפּילט אַ ראַלע אויך אין דער ייִדישער ליטעראַטור. איינער פֿון זײַנע עלטער-זיידעס פֿון מאַמעס צד, דער יאַמפּעלער רבי ר' אליעזר-חיים ראַבינאוויטש זצ"ל, אַ בעל-שם-סקע אייניקל וואָס האָט געשריבן קבלה-ספֿרים, האָט געלאָזט בפתבֿ-יד מעשיות, געשריבן אויף ייִדיש, וועגן דעם בעל-שם-טובֿ. (ערשט לאַנגע יאַרן נאָך ר' אליעזר-חיים הסתלקות זענען די מעשיות אַרײַן אין דרוק, 1984 אין ברוקלין.) היללס אַ פֿעטער פֿון טאַטנס צד, ר' אַברהם לאַווסקי, אַ יליד-ירושלים און אַ זון פֿון לאַמזשער רבֿ, האָט אַרויסגעגעבן פֿאַרשיידענע ווערק אויף העברעיִש און אויף ייִדיש, בתּוכם אַ בוך די חשמנאָים-העלדן אַדער די מאַקאַבייער (ניו-יאָרק, 1941), אַ היסטאָרישע סקיצע.

# זעלמאַנאָוויטשעס רעדע ביים באַנקעט



מאָטל זעלמאַנאָוויטש

**ו**ידער זענען מיר דאָ – צו אונדזער יערלעכן יום־טובֿ אין יוואָ – און ס'איז שוין געוואָרן אַ טראַדיציע, אז צווישן די רייד, געדאַנקען און מחשבות, וואָס ווערן אַרויסגעבראַכט, זאָל זיך אויך הערן דאָס ייִדישע וואָרט, אונדזער ייִדיש לשון, וואָס ווערט שוין צענדליקער יאָרן אָפּגעהיט און געשטאַרקט פֿונעם יוואָ. און מיר איז אויך

דאָס מאָל געגעבן געוואָרן די פּריווילעגיע דאָס צו טאָן. יוואָ – איז דער אויסדרוק פֿון אונדזער פֿאַלקס־עק־סיסטענץ. מיר קומען אַלע פֿון פֿאַרשיידענע סבֿיבות, פֿאַרשיידענע פֿילאָזאָפֿישע און אידעאָלאָגישע טענדענצן, אַזוי ווי ס'איז דאָס ייִדישע לעבן – אַ ווונדערלעכער רעגן־בויגן – און עס פֿאַרבינדט אונדז אַלעמען אַ בשותפותדיקער ווילן: ממש'יך זיין אונדזער גאַנג צו אַ בעסערן און שענערן מאָרגן. מיר אַרבעטן צוזאַמען, מיר טרוימען צוזאַמען, מיר שטרעבן צוזאַמען, און מיר שמידן צוזאַמען די גאַלדענע קייט פֿון אונדזער קולטור און שפּראַך.

גרויס איז הינט אונדזער אַחריות. הייליק זענען אונ־דזערע אויפֿגאַבן. שוואַרצע וואַלקנס האָבן פֿאַרדעקט אונדזער ייִדישן הימל. עס ברענט דער מיטל־מיזרח. טעראָריסטן בלינדע פֿאַנאַטיקער מאָרדן ייִדישע מאַמעס, טאַטעס און קינדער. דאָס ייִדישע פֿאַלק וויל שלום, וויל מנוחה, וויל לעבן אין פֿרינדשאַפֿט מיט די נישט־ייִדישע פֿעלקער.

קרישאַ פֿישער, פֿאַטאָאָרכ־וואַרקע, באַנקעט מיט צוויי פּלאַקאַטן פֿון ייִדישן טעאַטער

נישט בלינדע נקמה איז אונדזער דרך, נאָר דער הייליקער ווילן צו פֿאַרטיידיקן אונדזער ייִדישע עקסיסטענץ, צוזאַמען מיט מענטשן פֿון גוטן ווילן צו בויען בריקן פֿון פֿריינד־שאַפֿט מיט נעכטיקע שונאים, צו פֿאַרזיכערן די עקסיסטענץ פֿון מדינת־ישׂראל און מיט דעם פֿאַרזיכערן דעם המשך פֿון אונדזער שווער געפרוּווטן ייִדישן וועלט־פֿאַלק. און דאָס איז דאָך דער גניסט וואָס באַוועגט אונדז אַלעמען אינעם יוואָ! איך קוק אויף אייך, מינע פֿריינד, אויף אייך בויער, שטיצער און העלפֿער פֿון יוואָ – וויסנשאַפֿטלער, לערער און רעדנער. דאָס איז אַ הייליקער קאַלעקטיוו וואָס האָט די היסטאָרישע אויפֿגאַבע פֿון פּרעזערווירן און אָפהיטן די עקספּאַנאַטן און דאַקומענטן פֿון אונדזער נעכטן. אַבער „אויב נישט נאָך העכער“, ווי ס'האַט געזאָגט אונדזער גרויסער י.ל. פּרץ. נאָך וויכטיקער איז אונדזער נאַציאָנאַלע מיסיע פֿון יוואָ און אונדזערע באַמיונגען אַינצוהאַלטן און שטאַרקן ייִדיש, אונדזער לשון, צווישן די יונגע אַמערי־קאַנער דורות. זאָל דור נאָך דור הערן זיך דאָס געזאַנג פֿון ייִדישן ליד, דער קלאַנג פֿון ייִדישן לשון. ניין, ייִדיש טאָר נישט פֿאַרשווונדן ווערן!

זייער אַפֿט פֿרעגן מענטשן, „ייִדיש? פֿאַר וואָס דווקא ייִדיש?“

מיר זאָגן בפֿירוש: יאָ, ווילן ייִדיש איז אונדזער שפּראַך, ייִדיש איז די נשמה פֿון פֿאַלק, ייִדיש פֿאַרנעמט אַ פּאַזיציע וואָס האָט נישט קיין גלייכן אין אונדזער געשיכטע, דאָס איז דאָס לשון אין וועלכן ס'איז קאַנסערווירט אונדזער גאַנצע לעבנס־דערפֿאַרונג, אמונה, ליידין, פֿריידין, זאַרגן און אַפֿענונג.

מיר ווענדן ספּעציעל אונדזערע אויגן צו די יונגע אין אונדזערע רייען, און לאַמיר אייך פֿאַרזיילן אַ היסטאָרישן פֿאַקט פֿון אונדזער גלאָרייִכער פֿאַרגאַנגענהייט, פֿון פֿאַר דער צווייטער וועלט־מלחמה. אויך דעמאָלט איז דער הימל פֿאַרוואַלקנט געוואָרן מיט די צייכנס פֿון שפּעטערדיקן חורבן, פֿון נאַציזם און פֿאַשיזם. אַט אין יענעם זומערטאָג איז פֿאַרגעקומען אַ צוזאַמענפֿאַלי אין וואַרשע פֿון יונגע ייִדישע אַרבעטער און שילער, יונגע בונדיסטן פֿון אַלע עקן לאַנד. און ביי אַ טויזנט־

קעפּיקער יונגער מחנה האָט דער טריבון פֿון ייִדישן אַרבעטער־קלאַס, בייניש מיכאַלעוויטש – וועלכער איז אַגבֿ אין איין נאַכט גרוי געוואָרן אויף די קאַלטע וועגן פֿון סיביר – האָט ער, מיכאַלעוויטש, אויסגערופֿן צו דער יוגנט: „געדענקט, מיר וועטעראַנען ווערן עלטער און שוואַכער, אונדזערע הענט הייבן אָן ציטערן. מוזט איר, די יונגע, אָפּנעמען די פֿאַקלען וואָס מיר טראָגן. מיט אייער ליבשאַפֿט צו ייִדיש און צום ייִדישן פֿאַלק וועט איר מצליח זיין און באַלויכטן דעם וועג צון אַ שענערן מאָרגן. אין דעם זעלביקן גניסט קענט איר באַרייכערן אייער גניסטיק לעבן און באַשאַפֿן נייע ווערטן פֿאַר אונדזער פֿאַלק.“ אין דעם זעלבן גניסט ווענדן מיר זיך היינט צו אייך, די יוגנט פֿון יוואָ. זינט באַגריסט! זאָל לעבן דער יוואָ! זאָל לעבן דאָס ייִדישע פֿאַלק!





## יערלעכער באַנקעט אַדורך מיט גרויס הצלחה

פֿאַרגעשטעלט פֿר' לאָווי האָט ד"ר מאָטל (מאַרטין) פּרץ, אירס אַ לאַנגיאַריקער חֵבֵר און אַ מיטגליד אין דער יוואָ-פֿאַרוואַלטונג. בײַ דער געלעגנהייט האָט זיך פּרץ אָפּגעשטעלט אויף די הינטיקע נײַעס און זײער שײכות מיט יײדן. דער עולם איז געווען זײער געריט פֿון זײנע רײד, ווי אויך פֿון די ווינטערדיקע ווערטער לאָוויס, וווּ זי האָט דערצײלט פֿון איר רוסיש-ידישער משפּחה וואָס איז גע- קומען פֿון רוסלאַנד און דאָ אױפֿגעשטעלט „אַ וואַרעמע בראַנקסער יײדישע הײם“. לאָווי, וואָס איז אַ קאַנגרעס-מיטגליד שױן אין דער זײבעטער קאַדענץ, האָט דערצײלט ווי זי אַרבעט לטובֿת מדינת-ישׂראל און אויך גע- לויבט דעם יוואָ פֿאַר זײן אַרבעט לטובֿת דער יײדישער שפּראַך און קולטור. דער לעצטער האָט גענומען אַ וואַרט אויף מאַמע-לשון דער פֿאַרוואַלטונג-מיטגליד מאָטל זעלמאַנאוויטש (זען ז' ב אין דעם נומער): „מיר ווענדן ספּעציעל אונדזערע אויגן צו די יונגע אין אונדזערע רײען ... מוזט איר יונגע אָפּנעמען די פֿאַלקען וואָס מיר טראַגן“, האָט ער געזאָגט, דערמאַנענדיק די רײד פֿונעם גרויסן בונדישן טוער בײניש מיכאַלעוויטש בעת אַ וואַרשעווער בונדישן צוזאַמענפֿלי. צום סוף האָט סלאָוין באַדאַנקט דעם עולם און אים אַ ביסל אונטערגעטריבן: „נאָך מער ווי פֿרײער דאַרפֿן מיר אײך אײצטער האָבן“.

„דער יוואָ האָט הינטער זיך אַ גרויסן נעכטן און פֿאַר זיך אַ גוואַלדיקן מאַרגן!“ האָט סלאָוין אונטער- געשטראַכן. „מיר קול- טיווירן אונדזערע וואַרצלען און וועלן זײ אױפֿהײטן נאָך אויף לאַנגע דורות!“ דער גאַסטערדנער איז געווען ד"ר לעאַן באַטשטיין, דער פּרע- זידענט פֿון באַרד- קאַלעדזש און דער דיריגענט פֿונעם אַמע- ריקאַנער סימפֿאָנישן אַרקעסטער. ער האָט געלויבט דעם יוואָ פֿאַר זײנע גרויסע אױפֿטוען אין שײכות מיט אָפּהײטן אונדזער יײדיש-ידישע ירושה ביזן הינטיקן טאַג. ער האָט אויך פֿאַרגעשטעלט פֿאַרן עולם פֿרענק געהרי, וואָס איז באַרימט איבער דער וועלט פֿאַר אַזעלכע בױשאַפֿונגען ווי דער מוזײ פֿון בילבאַ, שפּאַניע. ר' האָט געזאָגט, אַז געהרי איז „דער אײנציקער יײדישער אַרכיטעקט אין אונדזערע טעג, אַ גאָון ממש, וואָס האָט אָבער נישט פֿאַרלוירן זײן פּינטעלע יײד“.



קאַנגרעספֿרוי ניטאַ לאָווי מיט ברוד-אַלי סלאָוין, פֿאַרזיצער פֿון דער יוואָ-פֿאַרוואַלטונג

**ב**ײַם היינטיקן יערלעכן יוואָ-באַנקעט האָבן זיך פֿאַרזאַמלט 450 געסט און מע האָט געשאַפֿן העכער אַ מיליאָן דאָלאַר. די ערנגעסט זענען געווען די דעמאָקראַטישע קאַנגרעספֿרוי ניטאַ לאָווי (ניו-יאָרק) און דער אַרכיטעקט פֿרענק געהרי. בײדע האָבן זײ באַ- קומען אַן אויסצײכענונג פֿאַר זײער לעבנס- אויפֿטו. געפֿירט דעם פֿאַרזיך האָט ברוד- אַלי סלאָוין, דער פֿאַרזיצער פֿון דער יוואָ- פֿאַרוואַלטונג.

### אינהאַלט

- ב יוואָ-באַנקעט .....
- ג ברוד-סיני הילל; חנה מלאַטעק .....
- ד מאַרנאַ קרופּאָוועס .....
- ה יידיש-אַקאַדעמישער סעמינאַר .....
- ו עפֿענונגען .....
- ז נײַעס .....
- ח זומער-סטודענטן 2001 .....
- ט מע שרייבט אונדז .....



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