

KLEZKANADA SUMMER RETREAT



CELEBRATING 30 SUMMERS! **AUGUST 18-24, 2025**

Land Acknowledgment

Since 1996, KlezKanada's Summer Retreat has taken place near Lantier, Quebec, located on the traditional, unceded territory of the Anishinabewaki, Huron-Wendat, Kanien'kehá:ka (Mohawk), and Omàmiwininiwak (Algonquin) people. We gratefully acknowledge these original custodians of the land, thank them for hosting us, and commit to treating the land with care and respect.

KlezKanada is actively working on the ways we acknowledge and care for the land upon which we gather, and respect the peoples who are the custodians of this land. This work is challenging and rewarding; as we continue, we look forward to inviting our community to join us in this active learning process.

THE KLEZKANADA TEAM

Executive Director
David Moss

Artistic Director
Avia Moore

Board of Directors

Adrian Banner (Vice-chair), Bob Blacksberg (Chair), Angela-Ruth Idelson, Evelyn Tauben, Howard Ungar, Jeff Warschauer

Music Programs Coordinator
Christian Dawid

Azrieli Scholarship Program Coordinator
Zoë Aqua

Multidisciplinary Programs Coordinator
Uri Schreter

Youth Program Coordinator
Ozzy Irving Gold-Shapiro

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Leah Whiteman – Work Exchange Program Coordinator
Miri Villerius – Marketing and Communications Coordinator
Ellie Mota – Intern
Noah Guthman – Technical Logistics Coordinator (Workshops and Special Programs)
Bruno Paquin – Concert Production & Technical Equipment Consultant
Hartley Wynberg – Stage Manager
Josh Fichman-Goldberg – Ombudsperson
Magdalena Hutter – Video Documentation

Work Exchange Program Team Leads

Sorke Schneider – Site Crew
Seth Andrew Bearman – Boutique
Zafer Mamilli and Leigh Hoffman – Camp Nurses
Francie Freedman – Youth Program Afternoon Coordinator

With gratitude, KlezKanada recognizes the outstanding contributions of **Hy Goldman z"l** and **Sandy Goldman**, who served and led this community in countless ways, and who, together with other committed Montreal Yiddishists, founded this organization thirty years ago.

2025 Artwork and Brochure Design by Avia Moore

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WELCOME

FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

”איך נעם דיך פֿאר דיין האנט, נאר איך טאנץ נאך מיין טאקט.
בראניע טאקינא

Dear Friends,

Welcome to KlezKanada’s 30th Summer Retreat! When I first attended the retreat as a scholarship recipient in 2003, I remember feeling as though I was entering a long-established community. Now, I have had the honour to be part of KlezKanada for more than two-thirds of its existence. To mark this anniversary is to celebrate the community that has imagined, built, and maintained this event across three decades through hard work, generosity, persistence, and love. Whether you have been part of the event since the first year, or are newly here, you are part of this story.

One of the many lessons of life and Yiddishkayt that I have learned at the Summer Retreat is that the work of cultural transmission requires something of us: that we learn how to learn from each other. We actively engage with learning at the retreat—from our teachers, from our students, from the materials and cultural practices we seek to understand. We cultivate the desire to learn, and the willingness to seek complexity rather than relax into simple answers. In the process, we must be willing to ask ourselves whether we are only willing to learn what we want to hear, or are we committed to learning even when that learning process challenges our own assumptions

This year, we have chosen to highlight Yiddish dance as the disciplinary focus of the week. Yiddish dance is an embodied example of the ways that we as individuals can choose to join hands in a circle of community. In Yiddish dance, the act of dancing together holds space for individual expression of rhythm, gesture, and story. As the beloved knowledge keeper Bronya Sakina z”l said: “Ikh nem dikh far dayn hant, nor ikh tants nokh mayn takt.” I take your hand, but dance to my own beat. It is what I love most about Yiddish dance, and about the Yiddish cultural world; we choose to gather together through our shared affinities, and we actively make space for the rich array of ideas, passions, and artistic movements that have always been part of Yiddish cultural expression.

In each dance, we take our neighbour by the hand. It is a point of connection, a moment where we can check in: Are we holding each other gently? Are we unwittingly hurting each other? How can we make small adjustments to the way we hold hands that help us connect more thoughtfully? If we hold each other with care, we can help to prevent injury on the dance floor, and beyond.

My hope is that you all will jump into the spirit of learning this week with an open heart. I hope that you will all take at least one dance workshop—there are many to choose from! I hope that you will attend at least one session with a faculty member whose work is new to you. I hope that you will choose to learn about each other and that you will invite jamming—whether on instruments or ideas—with new friends. May we celebrate each other in our difference and join hands on the dance floor with empathy.

In Yiddish, when we name someone’s age we add a wish for a long life as a charm against evil power that may take away they who we name. As we gather to celebrate the 30th annual KlezKanada Summer Retreat, let us also invoke a long life for this beloved event. Biz hundert tsvantsik!

With love, and welcome,
Avia Moore

DO IZ MAYN HEYM / HERE IS MY HOME

English original by Si Kahn

Yiddish tradaptation by Michael Alpert, with encouragement from Avia Moore

Good friends from whom we now
must part,
Where are we bound?
Your singing voices lift my heart;
Here is my home

Nu, libe fraynt, me fort shoynt op
Avu, avu?
To heybt a kol mit harts un kop
Do iz mayn heym

נו, ליבע פֿרײַנט, מע פֿאַרט שוין אָפּ
אַוווּ, אַוווּ?
טאָ הייבט אַ קול מיט האַרץ און קאָפּ
דאָ איז מיין היים

Come darkness, come light
Where are we bound?
Come morning, come night
Here is my home

Say khoyshekh, say kayor
Avu, avu?
Say morgnroyt, say shkie-klor
Do iz mayn heym

סיי חושך, סיי קאַיאָר
אַוווּ, אַוווּ?
סיי מאָרגנרויט, סיי שקיעה־קלאָר
דאָ איז מיין היים

For those who sing in harmony,
Where are we bound?
Can learn to live in unity
Here is my home

In aynklang az me zingt zikh oys
Avu, avu?
Kumt akhdes shoynt fun dem aroys
Do iz mayn heym

אין איינקלאַנג אַז מע זינגט זיך אויס
אַוווּ, אַוווּ?
קומט אַחדות שוין פֿון דעם אַרויס
דאָ איז מיין היים

Come darkness, come light...

Say khoyshekh, say kayor...

סיי חושך, סיי קאַיאָר...

If we can join ourselves in song,
Where are we bound?
Our hearts will live when we are
gone
Here is my home

Farbindn mir zikh mit eyn klang
Avu, avu?
Blaybt tomid undzer harts-gezang
Do iz mayn heym

פֿאַרבינדן מיר זיך מיט איין קלאַנג
אַוווּ, אַוווּ?
בלײַבט תמיד אונדזער האַרץ־געזאַנג
דאָ איז מיין היים

Come darkness, come light...

Say khoyshekh, say kayor...

סיי חושך, סיי קאַיאָר...

The spirit that finds music here
Where are we bound?
Will sing forever in the air
Here is my home

Undzer negine, zingeray
Avu, avu?
In velt vet tomid klingen fray
Do iz mayn heym

אונדזער נגינה, זינגעריי
אַוווּ, אַוווּ?
אין וועלט וועט תמיד קלינגען פֿרײַ
דאָ איז מיין היים



Photo: Lloyd Wolf, 2024

WELCOME

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Welcome, bienvenue, and borekh-habo!

It is a great pleasure to welcome you to the 30th anniversary of KlezKanada's Summer Retreat. I look forward to experiencing the week with you; I know that both the program and the interactions we have with each other will leave a lasting impression.

When I first arrived at KlezKanada almost three years ago, I had a strong and contradictory sense that I had landed in a place where I belonged—culturally and artistically, as well as professionally and personally—but, at the same time, arrived on another planet! I have been quickly discovering that this is a planet where culture and community truly meet, where artistic practice at the highest levels is taught, performed, and jammed upon, and where creativity and heritage are very much alive in the present moment.

I remember meeting Hy Goldman z"l in 1996 when he came to speak to me about his vision for KlezKanada. He had a serious and determined presence, and a bright twinkle in his eye. Thirty years later, that twinkle, supported by the unfailing collaboration of his wife Sandy and other determined community leaders, still burns bright.

Although the times we are living through are challenging, the fact that we gather today through our shared love for Yiddishkayt is a testament to the momentum and vitality of this community. Thank you all for being present this week to celebrate and contribute to this dynamic movement and living culture.

I also want to extend a special thank you to our donors, sponsors, and partners. Each one has not only provided their unwavering support of KlezKanada's Summer Retreat and our other programs, but is also committed to helping sustain the health of the community.

To our staff, Board, and faculty – you are all precious to this organization and make invaluable contributions to KlezKanada. Thank you for all of the hard work you do, the multitude of talents you share, and the passion you bring to our exciting work together.

Enjoy the week!
David Moss



2025 FACULTY, FELLOWS, AND GUEST ARTISTS

FACULTY

hadar ahuvia
Michael Alpert
Zoë Aqua*
Dan Blacksberg*
Ilana Cravitz
Christian Dawid
Josh Dolgin*
Yevgeniy Fiks
Ozzy Irving Gold-Shapiro*
Marine Goldwaser
Sonia Gollance
Sarah Mina Gordon*
Tal Hever-Chybowski
Jessica Kirzane
Kirsten Lamb*
Noam Lerman*
David Licht
Frank London
Lea Mauas
Avia Moore*
Sarah Myerson
Ethel Raim
Diego Rotman
Pete Rushefsky
Uri Schreter*
Ilya Shneyveys*
Eric Stein*
Deborah Strauss
Jeff Warschauer
Michael Winograd*

2025 FREED FELLOWS

Clara Byom (Dance Conference)
Flora Curzon
Derek David
Daniel Kunda Thagard
Yeva Lapsker
Francesca Ter-Berg
Jordan Wax

GUEST ARTISTS

Emily Finer
Mouvement Perpetuel –
Marlene Millar and Philip Szporer

WEXLER ORAL HISTORY PROJECT TEAM

Christa Whitney
Eve Glazier
Emily Felder
Magdalena Hutter

**We are deeply grateful for the special funds that help us bring an internationally-acclaimed faculty to teach and perform each year. See Special Funds on page 9.*



Photo: Lloyd Wolf, 2024

THANK YOU! MERCI! A SHEYNEM DANK!

Our work would be impossible without the generous support of our community! Every gift, no matter how small or large, has a major impact on our work in keeping Yiddish arts and culture thriving. We acknowledge, in particular, those donors who gave at the highest levels throughout 2024 up until July 15, 2025.

<p>\$75,000+ Noah Youngs Azrieli Foundation</p> <p>\$50,000-\$74,999 Zita and Mark Bernstein Family Foundation</p> <p>\$25,000 - \$49,999 Jewish Community Foundation of Montreal Noah and Ronit Stern Family Foundation Sara and Irwin Tauben The Rivaya Tzafon Fund</p> <p>\$10,000 - \$24,999 Anonymous Irene Gutherz Memorial Fund Jeff and Betsy Toretzky Mia and David Goodman</p>	<p>\$1,800 - \$9,999 Anonymous Bob Blacksberg and Terry Novick Dana and Jonathan Goodman Evelyn Tauben Miller Thomson LLP MNP Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation Seth Weisberg, Nicola Bird & Family Steinmetz Family The HC Spirits - Les Spiritueux HC Yoni Kaston</p> <p>\$1,000 - \$1,799 A Touch of Klez (in honour of Peter Teitelbaum) Cynthia Gordon John Lucas & Helene Klodawsky Sandra Goldman Sheva & David Honig Foundation</p>
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We are grateful for the collaboration and support of Marjolaine Lachance, Brendan McMurray, and the entire P'tit Bonheur team.

In addition, we extend our thanks to those sponsors who have supported KlezKanada and/or particular aspects of our 30th anniversary 2025 Summer Retreat program and 2025 Yiddish Dance Conference, including the following organizational partners:

COMMUNITY FUNDERS



Where smart philanthropy starts
THE JEWISH COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF MONTREAL
LA FONDATION COMMUNAUTAIRE JUIVE DE MONTREAL
La marque du succès philanthropique



COMMUNITY PARTNERS



2025 YIDDISH DANCE CONFERENCE

SERVICE AND PRODUCT PARTNERS



SPECIAL FUNDS

A TRANSFORMATIONAL GIFT FOR KLEZKANADA'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY

KlezKanada is deeply grateful to Noah Youngs for his generous support of the participation of the indicated faculty members (indicated in the faculty list with an asterisk) and their families in this year's 30th anniversary retreat. These artists are alumni of KlezKanada's scholarship program which was formative in the development of their careers as artists, leading scholars, and teachers around the world, keeping Yiddish music, arts, and culture thriving.

THE AZRIELI SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM AT KLEZKANADA

We express our gratitude to the Azrieli Foundation for their multi-year commitment and extraordinary generosity in honour of KlezKanada's renowned Scholarship Program. Our scholarship participants have gone on to win major prizes, perform across the globe in prestigious venues, and lead major festivals and other endeavours in Jewish culture. With the support of the Azrieli Foundation and from all of our donors, we are proud to bring an especially talented cohort of culture makers to this year's retreat, and to have a secure foundation for many years to come. You can read the list of 2025 Azrieli Scholarship Program recipients on our website: klezkanada.org/summer-retreat/the-azrieli-scholarship-program

RUTH AND JOE FREED FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Each summer, the Ruth and Joe Freed Fellowship Program brings eight rising leaders in Yiddish and Jewish culture to join our faculty and staff during our annual Summer Retreat. This is a prestigious opportunity for some of the most talented and promising members of our community to hone their skills as teachers, artists, scholars, and professionals; to present their work to a worldwide audience; and further their development through lasting mentorship and collaboration with today's leading practitioners of Yiddish culture.

KlezKanada thanks Noah and Ronit Stern for their generous support of the Ruth and Joe Freed Fellowship Program, named in honour and in loving memory of Noah's grandparents, Ruth and Joe Freed, z"l.

THE RUCHLA FERDMAN YIDDISH PROGRAM

We are grateful to the Sara and Irwin Tauben for their ongoing generous support of the Ruchla Ferdman Yiddish Program as part of our annual Summer Retreat.

KAREN LUKS MEMORIAL ARTIST

This year, we are honoured to present Deborah Strauss as KlezKanada's 2025 Karen Luks Memorial Artist. Karen Luks was an artist and activist who sang in choruses, played the violin and mandolin, and introduced many to the joys of klezmer music. It was very meaningful for Karen to have attended KlezKanada with her father who had survived the war as a hidden child. Karen died of ALS in 2008 at the age of 48. KlezKanada is grateful to an anonymous donor who has given a generous gift in her memory.



WELCOME

COMMUNITY REQUEST

We are living through fraught times, with profound stresses on our personal, professional, and creative lives. The KlezKanada community is collectively navigating a period of unimaginable destruction, loss of life, and grief over the protracted war in Israel and Gaza that has left many of us depleted as well as feeling vulnerable, fearful, and divided. At last summer's retreat, the challenges of this moment entered at times into shared communal moments in unproductive and even unsettling ways.

From rising economic and communal pressures our small but resilient organization is facing unprecedented strain which has called into question whether it is viable to continue producing the annual Summer Retreat.

Since KlezKanada's inception, and especially following moments of conflict at last summer's retreat, we've grappled with how to continue creating a space where we welcome each other to bring our full selves to our ever-evolving community of Jews and non-Jews. This is particularly challenging when one person's authentic expression can be a cause of profound heartache for others.

We convened a multi-generational group with wide-ranging perspectives of KlezKanada faculty, staff, scholarship recipients, and participants to consider the tensions pulling our community apart and put forward recommendations to the Board and staff on approaches and initiatives to help us navigate these challenges. The group met for several months over the winter in a process centred around listening and sharing, generating productive insights and ideas.

KlezKanada has persevered against the odds before and we are committed to continuing to do so, but we need your help in the following ways:

What we're asking of you for the 30th anniversary edition of our Summer Retreat:

- In the spirit of community and for the ongoing thriving of our *tayere* (cherished) retreat, we respectfully request that all faculty, staff, and participants take a mindful approach to what you say, wear, and publicly display during the 2025 retreat.
- We request that each of us take into account not only the intentions of our actions, but also the impact of our choices on others who share in the retreat experience, particularly in these fraught and polarized times.

We add the following specific requests:

- We join together in the spirit of community to cultivate welcoming shabes experiences. We request that no national flags or political slogans (whether worn or displayed) be brought into prayer spaces or shabes ritual contexts, including the Backwards March.
- No individual or group at the retreat deputize themselves to enforce policies, guidelines, the Code of Conduct, or this Community Request, but rather bring concerns / questions to David Moss, KlezKanada's Executive Director.

Finally, we draw your attention to KlezKanada's Code of Conduct (page 50), which includes the requirement that everyone attending KlezKanada's retreat or any other program:

- Be mindful stewards of the land and good guests at Dos bisele glik and all Montreal venues hosting KlezKanada events;
- Not intentionally disrupt the program;
- Not harass, provoke, or abuse staff, faculty, or participants (including staff of the venue);
- Not damage or destroy private or public property.

We are connected by a shared interest in Yiddish and Jewish art and culture. The plurality of lived experiences and range of knowledge in our community make the retreat richer. KlezKanada strives to be a space centred on mutual respect where we stretch our capacity for tolerance and acceptance of differing perspectives, recognizing that discomfort is not inherently a signal of lack of safety.

We affirm that we unequivocally support:

- Open and diverse creative expression, which has always been central to our community;
- Upholding and cultivating a shared commitment to community care and to doing no harm;
- Actively working together to co-create a cultural environment where a diversity of identities, viewpoints, practices, and traditions are welcome and honoured.

A sheynem dank, thank you, and merci for your attention, devotion, and care for KlezKanada!

KlezKanada's Board of Directors:

Adrian Banner, Bob Blacksberg, Angela-Ruth Idelson, Evelyn Tauben, Howard Ungar, Jeff Warschauer.

KlezKanada's Management: David Moss (Executive Director), Avia Moore (Artistic Director), Kelly Steinmetz (Operations and Administrative Manager).

SPECIAL THANKS-A HARTSIKN DANK

On behalf of the KlezKanada team and community, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to the following community members who voluntarily contributed many hours of their time, knowledge, and care for KlezKanada to the work of an Advisory Group over the course of the past winter: Adrian Banner, Angela-Ruth Idelson, Noam Lerman, Lisa Mayer, Avia Moore, David Moss, Ed Segalowitz, Uri Schreter, Evelyn Tauben, Daniel Toretzky, Jeff Warschauer.

This group supported KlezKanada's Board and Management in navigating the challenges and opportunities of the strained times we are living through together while ensuring that the spirit and values of KlezKanada are upheld. In particular, we acknowledge the work that went into the Community Request.

SOMETHING TROUBLING YOU? COME TALK TO THE OMBUDSPERSON

If, for any reason, any questions or concerns arise that you do not feel comfortable discussing with a member of the organizing staff, you can always talk to our ombudsperson. Their role will be to offer a neutral point of contact where anybody can feel free to speak in private.

Our ombudsperson for the Summer Retreat is: **Josh Fichman-Goldberg**. Josh will be holding "office hours" throughout the week. These will be posted at the Info Desk and on the participant information webpage. If you prefer to meet at another time or place, just ask!

You may also reach out to the ombudsperson over email through a confidential email address (*please note that this email is only active from August 1-September 30 each year*): ombudsperson@klezkanada.org

FOCUS ON DANCE

DANCE ALL DAY EVERY DAY

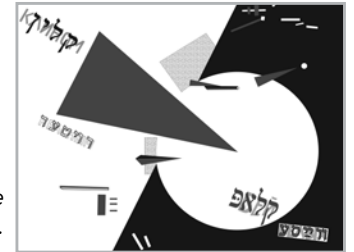
WORKSHOPS		COMMUNITY DANCING	
AM2 TUESDAY-FRIDAY HIML ZAL	Shine On: Yiddish Dance Repertoire and Style for Everyone // <i>Alpert, Moore, & Myerson</i>	PM3 TUESDAY-FRIDAY HIML ZAL	Tea and Jam // <i>Rushefsky and friends</i>
PM1 TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY HIML ZAL	Me tantst mitn gantsn kerper! (You Dance with Your Whole Body): Style and Intention in Yiddish Dance // <i>Alpert & Moore</i>	8:30 PM THURSDAY GRAND SALON	Tantshoyz/Concert: 80's Simkhe!
PM1 FRIDAY HIML ZAL	Aleyn-tsuzamen: Dancing by Yourself with Others // <i>Myerson</i>	CONCERTS	
PM2 TUESDAY HIML ZAL	Looks Terkish to Me // <i>Myerson</i>	8:30 PM TUESDAY GRAND SALON	Evening Concert: Michael Winograd plays TANZ! Followed by a dance set.
PM2 WEDNESDAY HIML ZAL	Honga, Hora, and Beyond // <i>Lapsker</i>	8:30 PM WEDNESDAY GRAND SALON	Evening Concert: Tantsndik! // In the City of God Followed by a dance set.
PM2 THURSDAY HIML ZAL	Tnuos: the Sound is Movement // <i>ahuvia</i>	TALKS AND PANELS	
PM2 FRIDAY HIML ZAL	Solo Dancing Deveykus Nigunim // <i>ahuvia</i>	AM1 WEDNESDAY PETIT SALON	Yiddish Dance on One Foot // <i>Gollance</i>
2:00 PM SATURDAY OTSHERET GETSELT	Dancing Colours // <i>Lapsker</i>	AM1 THURSDAY PETIT SALON	Lessons from Bronya: Using Video Resources in the Study of Yiddish Dance // <i>Alpert</i>
BY PRIOR ADMISSION ONLY	Coaching for Yiddish Dance Leaders and Yiddish Dance Bands // <i>Moore, Myerson, Blacksberg, & Dawid</i>	AM1 FRIDAY PETIT SALON	Liturgical Choreography // <i>Myerson</i>
INTERDISCIPLINARY WORKSHOPS THAT INCLUDE DANCERS		AM2 TUESDAY TAYKHL TSIMER	Radiant Others Podcast with hadar ahuvia // <i>Blacksberg & ahuvia</i>
PM1 TUESDAY-FRIDAY GRAND SALON	In the City of God // <i>London & ahuvia</i>	AM2 THURSDAY PETIT SALON	Mixed Dancing and Jewish Modernity // <i>Gollance</i>
PM1 TUESDAY-FRIDAY MILE END TENT	Sportivo Utopie Creative Theatre Workshop // <i>Lea Mauas & Diego Rotman</i>	PM2 TUESDAY PETIT SALON	Beyond the Dance of Death: Judith Berg's Career in Interwar Warsaw // <i>Gollance</i>
		PM2 & PM3 WEDNESDAY PETIT SALON	Film and Discussion: Everything You Have is Yours // <i>ahuvia</i>

HIGHLIGHTS

YEVGENIY FIKS - DOS BAUSHTIBL

We are honoured to welcome acclaimed visual artist Yevgeniy Fiks to KlezKanada for the first time! Yevgeniy will be teaching a new week-long visual arts workshop inspired by the "Basic Course" at the Bauhaus—the influential Modernist art school in interwar Germany. This workshop will explore the foundations of Yiddish visual arts in relation to Yiddish and Jewish literature, engaging in hands-on projects that investigate the possible meanings of visual art concepts such as "Yiddish Line," "Yiddish Shape," and "Yiddish Color."

After the Summer Retreat, Yevgeniy will be working with the Museum of Jewish Montreal curatorial team to create a window installation based on the prompts and concepts of this workshop. This exhibit will be shown at H. Fisher et Fils on boul. St-Laurent and will run from September to December 2025. Participants who develop work during Baushtibl may be asked if they would be open to inclusion in the installation. *Please note that participation in the workshop does not guarantee your work will be used. Participants are welcome to opt out of consideration for the installation should they choose.*



This initiative is part of the Montreal Jewish Arts Collaborative, made possible through the partnership of the Museum of Jewish Montreal, KlezKanada, and the Segal Centre for the Performing Arts with the support of the Averbach Family Foundation, the Azrieli Foundation, and CANVAS.

MOUVEMENT PERPÉTUEL - 1001 LIGHTS



We welcome Mouvement Perpétuel to the Summer Retreat, bringing a special exhibition that intersects with our 2025 focus on dance. Marlene Millar and Philip Szporer's video installation immerses viewers in the intimate and rhythmic ritual of Sabbath candle-lighting, as performed by over 100 women from Montreal's diverse Jewish communities. Through panoramic projections and layered sound, the work conjures a contemplative space where gesture, light, and tradition converge. 1001 Lights will be installed from Friday evening to Saturday evening in the Kunst Zal. Join Marlene and Philip on Saturday afternoon for an artist's talk about the process of conceiving and making the exhibition.

DIEGO ROTMAN AND LEA MAUAS - SALA-MANCA

We are pleased to host Diego Rotman and Lea Mauas, whose work as the Sala-manca Group defies disciplinary boundaries. Throughout the week, they will be sharing different facets of their artistic and academic work with us. You will have the opportunity to join Diego and Lea for a week-long theatre workshop on the topic of utopia, to enjoy the performance of two of their works, and to learn about Diego's research on Yiddish theatre comedians Shimen Dzigan and Yisroel Shumacher—in Yiddish. Diego will also be giving a talk about his experience creating inclusive spaces at Hebrew University during wartime, sharing and discussing the processes, successes, and challenges.



ARRIVAL AND OPENING NIGHT

MONDAY SCHEDULE

3:30-6:00 PM Check-In

ACCUEIL PARKING LOT

If you arrive after 6 PM, please check in at the Info Desk. This will be open until 9 PM.

If you know you will arrive late, please contact us at info@klezkanada.org so that we can accommodate your late arrival.

6:00-7:00 PM Dinner

ESZAL

8:00 PM Opening Gathering

GRAND SALON

Sholem-aleykhem, bonjour, and welcome to KlezKanada's 30th anniversary Summer Retreat. We're so very glad you're here! We begin the week with a gathering of *all* participants, faculty, fellows, and staff. Whether KlezKanada is a new experience or a yearly tradition, we ask that you join us for this Opening Gathering. This is an important moment of coming together as we embark on an exhilarating—and very full—week.

We will start the evening by finding community harmonies through a small choral work led by Freed Fellow Leybl Duvid (Derek David). No prior knowledge or ability to read music is required; the piece will be accessible to singers of all levels, abilities, and voice types.

The evening will continue in this spirit of harmony, as we welcome everyone to the Summer Retreat and take some time to get to know each other, sharing our connections to Yiddishkayt and our hopes for the week.

From there we will move into a celebration of community jamming and dancing, led by members of our amazing faculty. Weather permitting, there will also be a bonfire on the beach and s'mores!

WHATSAPP ANNOUNCEMENTS

We have set up a WhatsApp "Community" to help us share announcements and schedule updates during the week.

Use your phone to scan this QR code from within WhatsApp.

All announcements will also be posted at the Info Desk.



Photo: Lloyd Wolf, 2024

INFO DESK AND BOUTIQUE SCHEDULE

INFO DESK

The KlezKanada Info Desk is located in the Auberge Hallway, outside the Grand Salon. Announcements, schedule changes, and other important information will be posted at the Info Desk. The staff at the Info Desk will answer or direct all questions to the right person.

MONDAY (ARRIVAL) 3:30-6:00 PM

TUESDAY-FRIDAY 8:45 AM-12:15 PM
1:45-6:15 PM
8:00-8:30 PM

SATURDAY 10:00-11:00 AM
2:00-3:00 PM

SUNDAY (DEPARTURE) 8:00 AM-1:00 PM

KLEZKANADA BOUTIQUE

At the Boutique you can find KlezKanada merchandise, plus recordings, sheet music, t-shirts, stickers, books, and much more, from the KlezKanada faculty and community.

Did you bring something to sell? Please fill out our Boutique form (linked on the Participant Info webpage) and then drop your merchandise off on Monday when you arrive. Please note that no merchandise will be accepted unless a form has already been submitted.

MONDAY 3:30-6:00 PM
(Merchandise drop-off only)

TUESDAY-FRIDAY 3:45-6:30 PM
7:30-8:45 PM

SATURDAY 10:30ish PM-12 AM (or first hour of cabaret)

SUNDAY 9:00 AM-12:00 PM
(Merchandise pick-Up only)

DINING SCHEDULE

Our dining room is the Eszal. There are also picnic tables on the Auberge Patio for those who wish to eat outside.

Please bus your own dishes! If you eat outside, please bring your dishes back to the Eszal when you are finished. *Please do not take dishes to your rooms or other areas of the camp.*

MONDAY

6:00-7:00 PM Dinner

TUESDAY-THURSDAY

8:00-9:00 AM Breakfast

12:30-1:30 PM Lunch

6:30-7:30 PM Dinner

FRIDAY

8:00-9:00 AM Breakfast

12:30-1:30 PM Lunch

8:30 PM Shabes Dinner

SATURDAY

9:00-10:00 AM Breakfast

12:30-1:30 PM Lunch

6:30-7:30 PM Dinner

SUNDAY

6:00-8:00 AM Breakfast

10:30-12:30 PM Brunch

SNACKS

Snacks are served at 3:30 PM and 10:30 PM in the Eszal.

NUT-FREE VENUE

Dos bisele glik is a strictly nut-free and peanut-free venue.

TUESDAY SCHEDULE

	ESZAL PORCH 8:40-8:50 AM Bazingen dem baginen Daybreak into Song	AM1 9:00 TO 10:30	AM2 10:45-12:15
GRAND SALON		Frank and Dave's Brass + Percussion // Licht & London	Dive Deep into Dveykes and Dance Nigunim // Cravitz
PETIT SALON		Coaching for Yiddish Dance Leaders: Opening Session // Moore & Myerson	From Sukkot to the Dybbuk: Salamanca's Research-Creation Practice // Rotman & Mauas
HIML ZAL		A lid! // Dolgin & Gordon	Shine On: Yiddish Dance Repertoire and Style for Everyone // Alpert, Moore, & Myerson
KUNST ZAL		The Art of the Accompaniment // Lamb & Rushefsky	If I Had Two Hammers - KlezKanada's Tsimbl Class // Kunda Thagard & Rushefsky
VALD TSIMER		Advanced Woodwinds // Goldwaser	Cantorial Modality & Improvisation for Klezmer Musicians and Yiddish Singers // Warschauer
TAYKHL TSIMER		Bowed Strings Get Creative! // Cravitz	Radiant Others Podcast with hadar ahuvia // Blacksberg & ahuvia
CHALET		Advanced Yiddish // Hever-Chybowski	Conversational Yiddish For Beginners // Kirzane
PLATEAU TENT		Beginners' Ensemble // Aqua	Plucked Strings Special // Stein
DORTN GETSELT		Coaching for Yiddish Dance Bands // Blacksberg & Dawid	Coaching for Yiddish Dance Bands // Blacksberg & Dawid
MILE END TENT			
OTSHERET GETSELT		Youth Program	Youth Program

	PM1 2-3:30	PM2 3:45-5:15	PM3 5:30-6:30	EVENING
	In the City of God // London & ahuvia		Afternoon Concert: Fran and Flora	8:30 PM Evening Concert: Michael Winograd plays TANZ! Late Night: KlezKabaret
		Beyond the Dance of Death: Judith Berg's Career in Interwar Warsaw // Gollance		7:30 PM Yiddish Sing Along // Gordon
	Style and Intention in Yiddish Dance // Alpert & Moore	Looks Terkish to Me // Myerson	Tea and Jam // Rushefsky & friends	
	The Art of Unaccompanied Singing // Raim	Doina Dub and Bulgar Bangers, Hip Hopkele and Electranukah: Explorations in Yiddish High Tech // Dolgin & Ter-Berg		
	The Folk Fiddle: Techniques & Tricks // Curzon	The KlezKanada Yiddish Chorus! // David	Kaboles-shabes Band // Warschauer	
	Dos baustibl: Yiddish Visual Arts Basics // Fiks	Dos baustibl cont. // Fiks		
	Intermediate Yiddish // Hever-Chybowski	Writing Workshop: Become an In geveb Writer // Kirzane		
	Mandolin Orchestra // Stein	Fidl Kapelye: Listening Deeply // Strauss & Lamb		
	The Winds of Klezmer Band // Goldwaser & Winograd	Return of Di Shrayers // Blacksberg		
	Sportivo Utopie: A Creative Theatre Workshop // Rotman & Mauas			
	Youth Program	Youth Program		

WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

	ESZAL PORCH 8:40-8:50 AM Bazingen dem baginen Daybreak into Song	AM1 9:00 TO 10:30	AM2 10:45-12:15
GRAND SALON		Frank and Dave's Brass + Percussion // Licht & London	Dive Deep into Dveykes and Dance Nigunim // Cravitz
PETIT SALON		Yiddish Dance on One Foot // Gollance	A Tanz! to Remember // Schreter
HIML ZAL		A lid! // Dolgin & Gordon	Shine On: Yiddish Dance Repertoire and Style for Everyone // Alpert, Moore, & Myerson
KUNST ZAL		The Art of the Accompaniment // Lamb & Rushefsky	If I Had Two Hammers - KlezKanada's Tsimbl Class // Kunda Thagard & Rushefsky
VALD TSIMER		Advanced Woodwinds // Goldwaser	Cantorial Modality & Improvisation for Klezmer Musicians and Yiddish Singers // Warschauer
TAYKHL TSIMER		Bowed Strings Get Creative! // Cravitz	Creating an Inclusive Space During Wartime // Rotman
CHALET		Advanced Yiddish // Hever-Chybowski	Conversational Yiddish For Beginners // Kirzane
PLATEAU TENT		Beginners' Ensemble // Aqua	Plucked Strings Special // Stein
DORTN GETSELT		Coaching for Yiddish Dance Bands // Blacksberg & Dawid	Coaching for Yiddish Dance Bands // Blacksberg & Dawid
MILE END TENT			
OTSHERET GETSELT		Youth Program	Youth Program

	PM1 2:00-3:30	PM2 3:45-5:15	PM3 5:30-6:30	EVENING
	In the City of God // London & ahuvia		Afternoon Concert: Josh Dolgin	8:30 PM Evening Concert Tantsndik! / In the City of God Late Night: The Mes-Les Nes! Cabaret
	The Literary Recovery of Yiddish Women's Writings and the Feminists who Translated Them // Kirzane	Film and Discussion: Everything You Have is Yours // ahuvia	Film and Discussion cont. // ahuvia	7:30 PM Yiddish Sing Along // Gordon
	Style and Intention in Yiddish Dance // Alpert & Moore	Honga, Hora, and Beyond // Lapsker	Tea and Jam // Rushefsky & friends	
	The Art of Unaccompanied Singing // Raim	Doina Dub and Bulgar Bangers, Hip Hopkele and Electranukah: Explorations in Yiddish High Tech // Dolgin & Ter-Berg		
	The Folk Fiddle: Techniques & Tricks // Curzon	The KlezKanada Yiddish Chorus! // David	Kaboles-shabes Band // Warschauer	
	Dos bausstibl: Yiddish Visual Arts Basics // Fiks	Dos bausstibl cont. // Fiks		
	Intermediate Yiddish // Hever-Chybowski	Experimental Yiddish Tkhines // Lerman		
	Mandolin Orchestra // Stein	Fidl Kapelye: Listening Deeply // Strauss & Lamb		
	The Winds of Klezmer Band // Goldwaser & Winograd	Return of Di Shrayers // Blacksberg		
	Sportivo Utopie: A Creative Theatre workshop // Rotman & Mauas			
	Youth Program	Youth Program		

THURSDAY SCHEDULE

	ESZAL PORCH 8:40-8:50 AM Bazingen dem baginen Daybreak into Song	AM1 9:00 TO 10:30	AM2 10:45-12:15
GRAND SALON		Frank and Dave's Brass + Percussion // Licht & London	Dive Deep into Dveykes and Dance Nigunim // Cravitz
PETIT SALON		Lessons from Bronya: Using Video Resources in the Study of Yiddish Dance // Alpert & Moore	Mixed Dancing and Jewish Modernity // Gollance
HIML ZAL		A lid! // Dolgin & Gordon	Shine On: Yiddish Dance Repertoire and Style for Everyone // Alpert, Moore, & Myerson
KUNST ZAL		The Art of the Accompaniment // Lamb & Rushefsky	If I Had Two Hammers - KlezKanada's Tsimbl Class // Kunda Thagard & Rushefsky
VALD TSIMER		Advanced Woodwinds // Goldwaser	Cantorial Modality & Improvisation for Klezmer Musicians and Yiddish Singers // Warschauer
TAYKHL TSIMER		Bowed Strings Get Creative! // Cravitz	
CHALET		Advanced Yiddish // Hever-Chybowski	Conversational Yiddish For Beginners // Kirzane
PLATEAU TENT		Beginners' Ensemble // Aqua	Plucked Strings Special // Stein
DORTN GETSELT		Coaching for Yiddish Dance Bands // Blacksberg & Dawid	Coaching for Yiddish Dance Bands // Blacksberg & Dawid
MILE END TENT			
OTSHERET GETSELT		Youth Program	Youth Program

	PM1 2:00-3:30	PM2 3:45-5:15	PM3 5:30-6:30	EVENING
	In the City of God // London & ahuvia		Afternoon Concert: Jordan Wax	8:30 PM 80's Simkhe Tantshoysz Late Night: KlezKabaret
	The Shomer Sisters and Yiddish Plays by Women // Gollance	Miriam Karpilove: Yiddish Authoress // Kirzane		7:30 PM Yiddish Sing Along // Gordon
	Style and Intention in Yiddish Dance // Alpert & Moore	Tnuos: the Sound is Movement // ahuvia	Tea and Jam // Rushefsky & friends	
	The Art of Unaccompanied Singing // Raim	Doina Dub and Bulgar Bangers, Hip Hopkele and Electranukah: Explorations in Yiddish High Tech // Dolgin & Ter-Berg		
	The Folk Fiddle: Techniques & Tricks // Curzon	The KlezKanada Yiddish Chorus! // David	Kaboles-shabes Band // Warschauer	
	Dos baustibl: Yiddish Visual Arts Basics // Fiks	Dos baustibl cont. // Fiks		
	Intermediate Yiddish // Hever-Chybowski	Experimental Yiddish Tkhines // Lerman		
	Mandolin Orchestra // Stein	Fidl Kapelye: Listening Deeply // Strauss & Lamb		
	The Winds of Klezmer Band // Goldwaser & Winograd	Return of Di Shrayers // Blacksberg		
	Sportivo Utopie: A Creative Theatre Workshop // Rotman & Mauas			
	Youth Program	Youth Program		

FRIDAY SCHEDULE

	ESZAL PORCH 8:40-8:50 AM Bazingen dem baginen Daybreak into Song	AM1 9:00 TO 10:30	AM2 10:45-12:15
GRAND SALON		Frank and Dave's Brass + Percussion // Licht & London	Dive Deep into Dveykes and Dance Nigunim // Cravitz
PETIT SALON		Liturgical Choreography // Myerson	Responding to Catastrophe in Jewish Literature // Gollance
HIML ZAL		A lid! // Dolgin & Gordon	Shine On: Yiddish Dance Repertoire and Style for Everyone // Alpert, Moore, & Myerson
KUNST ZAL		The Art of the Accompaniment // Lamb & Rushefsky	If I Had Two Hammers - KlezKanada's Tsimbl Class // Kunda Thagard & Rushefsky
VALD TSIMER		Advanced Woodwinds // Goldwaser	Cantorial Modality & Improvisation for Klezmer Musicians and Yiddish Singers // Warschauer
TAYKHL TSIMER		Bowed Strings Get Creative! // Cravitz	
CHALET		Advanced Yiddish // Hever-Chybowski	Conversational Yiddish For Beginners // Kirzane
PLATEAU TENT		Beginners' Ensemble // Aqua	Plucked Strings Special // Stein
DORTN GETSELT		Coaching for Yiddish Dance Bands // Blacksberg & Dawid	Coaching for Yiddish Dance Bands // Blacksberg & Dawid
MILE END TENT			
OTSHERET GETSELT	Youth Program		Youth Program

	PM1 2:00-3:30	PM2 3:45-5:15	PM3 5:30-6:30	EVENING
	In the City of God // London & ahuvia	Elephants and Dybbuks: Two Sala-manca Group Performance-Lectures // Mauas & Rotman		GROUP PHOTOS 1:20 PM Scholarship Program Photo OTSHERET GETSELT 1:30 PM Faculty Photo OTSHERET GETSELT 1:40 PM Work Exchange Program Photo OTSHERET GETSELT 6:15 PM Full Group Photo AUBERGE PATIO 6:30 PM Backwards March MEET AT THE AUBERGE PATIO 7:15 PM Kaboles-shabes Friday Night Egalitarian Service // Myerson & Warschauer PETIT SALON 10 PM Shabes Tish // Myerson & Shneyveys GRAND SALON
	One Foot in the Future (the Other on the Bass Drum): A Conversation with David Licht // Licht & Schreter	Mourning a Lost Future: Miryeml, a Yiddish Drama of Children in Wartime // Gollance		
	Aleyn-tsuzamen: Dancing by Yourself with Others // Myerson	Solo Dancing Deveykus Nigunim // ahuvia	Tea and Jam // Rushefsky & friends	
	The Art of Unaccompanied Singing // Raim	Doina Dub and Bulgar Bangers, Hip Hopkele and Electranukah: Explorations in Yiddish High Tech // Dolgin & Ter-Berg	<i>(Room in use for exhibition installation)</i>	
	The Folk Fiddle: Techniques & Tricks // Curzon	The KlezKanada Yiddish Chorus! // David	Kaboles-shabes Band // Warschauer	
	Dos bausstibl: Yiddish Visual Arts Basics // Fiks	Dos bausstibl cont. // Fiks		
	Intermediate Yiddish // Hever-Chybowski	Writing Workshop: Become an In geveb Writer // Kirzane		
	Mandolin Orchestra // Stein	Fidl Kapelye: Listening Deeply // Strauss & Lamb		
	The Winds of Klezmer Band // Goldwaser & Winograd	Return of Di Shrayers // Blacksberg		
	Sportivo Utopie: A Creative Theatre workshop // Rotman & Mauas			
	Youth Program	Youth Program		

SATURDAY SCHEDULE

ESZAL PORCH 8:40-8:50 AM Bazingen dem baginen Daybreak into Song		10:00 AM	2:00 PM
GRAND SALON		Men lekt nisht keyn honik: vegn Dzigan un Shumachers teater // Rotman	
HIML ZAL	9:30 AM Liberal Shabes Morning Services // Kirzane		Here We'll Sing a New Song // Alpert & Wax
PETIT SALON		War and Peace in Ukrainian and Jewish Ukrainian Children's Books // Finer	Absorbing "intonatsia" // Raim
KUNST ZAL	1001 Lights Exhibition - <i>ongoing throughout the day</i>		
PLATEAU TENT		Davenen Streams and Nigunim Islands // ahuvia	
OTSHERET GETSELT			Dancing Colours // Lapsker
AUBERGE PATIO			
LAKESIDE			

SHABES SERVICES

FRIDAY
7:00-7:30 PM Self-led Candle Lighting
OTSHERET GETSELT

7:15 PM Combined Communal Services
PETIT SALON
Coordinated and led by Cantors Jeff Warschauer and Sarah Myerson, with the participants of the Kaboles-shabes Band workshop. All are welcome.

SATURDAY
9:30 AM Liberal Shabes Morning Services
HIML ZAL
Liberal shabes morning services will be led by Rabbi Daniel Kirzane and Dr. Jessica Kirzane. We'll gather in sacred song and prayer for a Yiddish-inflected service that follows Reform Jewish liturgy that welcomes people of all genders and religious backgrounds as full participants.

What is shabes like at KlezKanada's Summer Retreat? Shabes is a day of rest and therefore the regular workshop schedule is paused on Saturday. Shabes programs are mostly unamplified and centre around conversation, reading, and singing. Some participants attend our shabes services, some participants sleep in. Some take the opportunity to rest, spend time by the lake, or explore the hiking trails at Dos bisele glik. KlezKanada's Summer Retreat is an interdenominational space and we ask that participants be respectful of diverse levels of observance.

Can I play my instrument on shabes at KlezKanada? Some participants choose not to play instruments on shabes. We ask that participants who choose to play instrumental music on shabes do not do so in the central areas of camp or in buildings where people may be resting.

3:30 PM	EVENING
	8:30 PM Evening Concert: Participant Concert Late Night: KlezKabaret
	7:30 PM Yiddish Sing Along // Gordon
Artist Talk: 1001 Lights Millar // Szporer	
KlezKanada Human Khevruse // Lerman	
	Bonfire (weather permitting)



Photo: Lloyd Wolf, 2024

KLEZKANADA STORY BOOTH! BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE WEXLER ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

Has KlezKanada changed your life? Did you fall in love at KlezKanada? Or fall into the lake?

KlezKanada and the Yiddish Book Center's Wexler Oral History Project are working together to collect stories about KlezKanada—come by the story booth to record a memory.

The story booth schedule and location will be posted at the Info Desk.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

KLEZKANADA YOUTH PROGRAM

TUES-FRI
MORNING PROGRAM
9:00 AM - 12:15 PM

Strike a Pose! It's Bavegung Time
The 2025 KlezKanada Youth Program
With Ozzy Irving Gold-Shapiro, Deborah Strauss, Jordan Wax, and Yeva Lapsker

AFTERNOON PROGRAM
2:00 PM - 5:15 PM

OTSHERET GETSELT

Question: According to the dictionary, what word can mean a “maneuver, action, activity, tendency, trend, motion, cadence, or collective?”

Answer: Just like the English “movement” and the French “mouvement,” the Yiddish word “גנוגעוואָרב” can refer to both how we move our bodies, and what happens when we move our bodies together.

Using all these meanings as our jumping-off point, we’ll use accordions, rhyming dictionaries, viral dance moves, ukuleles, sound painting, oral history interviewing skills, fiddles, multilingual counting, archives, and more to answer some very important questions—what is it like to be a young person today? What was it like for everyone at camp to be young? What happens when you take wisdom, words, and moves from the past and bring them into the Now? How do the ways we move together now move the future?

This year’s Youth Program will feature a new schedule, with morning Yiddish cultural programming led by Ozzy Gold-Shapiro, and featuring Jordan Wax, Deborah Strauss, and Yeva Lapsker. Afternoons will be filled with camp activities like swimming and hiking. The mornings will be divided up into four shorter blocks, with a break that lines up with the full camp transition between AM1 and AM2.

Ages 7-16.



Photo: Lloyd Wolf, 2024

SCHEDULE AND PROGRAM NOTES

LEVELS: Each period features classes for all levels. Please respect the levels listed in the title or description of each class. Faculty may recommend alternate classes to participants based on level. Note: All beginner instrumentalists should attend the Beginners’ Ensemble in AM1.

ATTENDANCE: We encourage you to make your workshop choices upon arrival at the Summer Retreat and stick to them throughout the week. Try your choices on the first day and, if necessary, transfer on day two. After the second day, please do not change classes without permission from the teacher. Most classes build upon what is taught each day and it can be extremely disruptive to have participants drop in and out of the class.

OBSERVING CLASSES: If you would like to observe a class without participating, please check in with the instructor beforehand. When observing classes, please enter quietly and do not interrupt the class while it is in session.

RECORDING CLASSES: Many people like to record their workshops for personal reference (for example, to review a song after the retreat). We encourage this, but please ask before recording your teachers and fellow participants in workshop settings, and please do not share recordings of your workshops without permission from the instructor.

INDIVIDUAL COACHING: At-large coaching is available throughout the week, pending faculty schedules. Please speak to the individual faculty member but keep in mind that faculty may not be able to facilitate every request.

All classes subject to change. Changes will be posted at the Info Desk.

Programs are listed alphabetically within each period, with the day, location, and level in the left-hand column. Evening and shabes programs are listed chronologically within each section.

FIRST THING

8:45 AM TUES-FRI
9:45 AM SATURDAY

Bazingen dem baginen / Daybreak into Song
New to our schedule, this is an opportunity to sing together in community for a few minutes before heading off to the first workshops of the day. Each day a different guest will lead the group in a gentle nign, gifting us a moment of woven voices and collective breath. Weather permitting, we will gather on the porch outside the Eszal (Dining Room). If raining, we will gather inside the Eszal.

ESZAL PORCH
(INSIDE IF RAINING)

AM1 - 9:00-10:30

AM1
TUES-FRI
Advanced Woodwinds
Marine Goldwaser
ADVANCED
VALD TSIMER
Meet master clarinetist and flutist Marine Goldwaser in her first live KlezKanada appearance! Through a kaleidoscope of klezmer and related repertoires, this advanced workshop will explore stylistic phrasing, ornamentation techniques, and variation tools. We will delve into tone production, articulation, and expressive playing, drawing inspiration from both traditional klezmer and Romanian music. Participants will develop new technical tools, deepen their understanding of klezmer style, and enrich their personal practice through an oral, immersive approach.

AM1
TUES-FRI
Advanced Yiddish — The Feminine Tsene-rene Surrounded by Masculine Sforim: Gender and Language in Avrom Reyzen’s Short Prose
Tal Hever-Chybowski
ADVANCED
CHALET
In this advanced Yiddish course, we’ll conduct a close reading of two short stories by Avrom Reyzen—“Sforim” (“Books”, 1903) and “Di Klyatshe” (“The Mare”, 1910). We’ll examine how gender roles, both of characters in the stories and of the languages Yiddish and Hebrew, are portrayed in these texts. Through a feminist reading, we’ll explore the complex relationships between fathers, mothers, sons, and daughters, as well as the masculine and feminine representations of Hebrew and Yiddish during the development of their modern literatures and the emergence of the Yiddishist and Hebraist movements. The course will highlight Reyzen’s unique intervention within the Yiddishist movement, in which he played a leading role, as he draws attention to how the movement could also be seen as a masculine appropriation of a feminine cultural sphere. The course will take place entirely in Yiddish.

AM1
TUES-FRI
A lid!
Josh Dolgin and Sarah Mina Gordon
OPEN TO ALL
HIML ZAL
Join Sarah Mina Gordon and Josh Dolgin for a morning double shot of caffeinated Yiddish song! Learn some of their current and old-time favourites to set you up for the day.

AM1
TUES-FRI
The Art of the Accompaniment
Kirsten Lamb and Pete Rushefsky
INTERMEDIATE/
ADVANCED
KUNST ZAL
This class will focus on how to reach that irresistible space where every element of the accompaniment is locked in. We’ll focus on various dance styles in the klezmer repertoire and will offer strategies for players looking to supportively add to the groove, from harmonization choices and chord voicings to creating exciting and grounding bass lines. Taught by tsimbl (hammered dulcimer) player Pete Rushefsky and bassist Kirsten Lamb, this class is open to accompanying instruments, melody players trying to fit into an accompanying role, as well as bandleaders looking to strengthen their band’s rhythmic and harmonic feel.

AM1
TUES-FRI
Beginners’ Ensemble
Zoë Aqua
BEGINNER
PLATEAU TENT
Calling all beginners, plus anyone who wants to try their chops at a new instrument. Jump into klezmer without fear in an open and accepting environment. All ages and instruments welcome, no previous experience with klezmer necessary. We will learn by ear, with notation provided at the end for you to take home.

AM1
TUES-FRI
Bowed Strings Get Creative!
Ilana Cravitz
INTERMEDIATE/
ADVANCED
TAYKHL TSIMER
Join London’s klezmer powerhouse Ilana Cravitz, at KlezKanada for the first time, for a repertoire class of the inventive kind! Whether you’re playing melody, middle, or bass in a klezmer band, there’s always room for creativity. Working by ear and with sheet music, we’ll explore a range of possibilities, and look at ways to put together stonking sets for dancing and performance.

AM1
TUES-FRI
Coaching for Yiddish Dance Bands
Dan Blacksberg and Christian Dawid
ADVANCED
DORTN GETSELT
For experienced performing klezmer bands who are ready to do the real thing (and for those who are doing it already) - play for Yiddish dancing! *Please note that this session required advance application and is closed.*

AM1 TUESDAY
OPENING SESSION
Coaching for Yiddish Dance Leaders
Avia Moore and Sarah Myerson
PETIT SALON
Coaching for Yiddish dance leaders who are looking to build upon their practice. Expand your leading and teaching skills through direct feedback on form, style, and strategy, and discuss challenges and successes with experienced dance leaders. *Please note that this session required advance application and is closed.*

AM1
TUES-FRI
Frank and Dave’s Brass + Percussion
David Licht and Frank London
INTERMEDIATE/
ADVANCED
GRAND SALON
Join two of the original members of the Klezmatiks, musical partners for over 40 years, drummer Dave Licht and trumpeter Frank London (founder of the Klezmer Brass Allstars), for an ensemble of rhythm + melody. Funky and traditional, klezmer and beyond. The class is open to all drummers and percussionists, all horn players (brass & woodwinds), and all parade, carnival, and spectacle enthusiasts.

AM1
THURSDAY
Lessons from Bronya: Using Video Resources in the Study of Yiddish Dance
Michael Alpert and Avia Moore
OPEN TO ALL
PETIT SALON
In this session, we will watch and analyze short videos of East European Jewish dancers Bronya Sakina, Ben Bazylar, and possibly others. One of the challenges of studying Yiddish dance is that we have limited access to video source material. We will practice “close listening” with these precious resources, what questions to consider as we work with archival video and film, and how we can bring what we see off the screen and into our own bodies.

AM1
FRIDAY
Liturgical Choreography
Sarah Myerson
Prayer isn't just words and music, it's also movement! This participatory lecture surveys how, when, and why Ashkenazim move in shul. This includes body postures like *shoklen* (rocking), gestures like *dukhanen* (priestly blessing), and interacting with objects (like kissing the *tsitsis*). In this session, you can copy Cantor Sarah Myerson to learn to look like you've been davening in shul your whole life, or sit back and observe the fun. All ages, genders, and abilities are welcome to join.

AM1
WED
Yiddish Dance on One Foot
Sonia Gollance
What is Yiddish dance and what does it look like? This talk is an introduction to the folk and social dance traditions of Yiddish-speaking Jews, with a focus on the core elements of community context, communication, emotion, and gesture. The interdisciplinary presentation will explore the cultural context of Yiddish dance using stories, songs, memoirs, and the writings of choreographers and tradition bearers.

AM2 - 10:45-12:15

AM2
TUES-FRI
Cantorial Modality & Improvisation for Klezmer Musicians and Yiddish Singers: The Bal-Tefile
Cantor Jeff Warschauer
This unique approach is a powerful way to develop new improvisational and compositional ideas. We will use the modal and motivic building blocks of the Bal-tefile (the lay prayer leader) as our point of departure. These basic yet profound motivic patterns are at the heart of Eastern European Jewish prayer and musical style, and they offer unique insights and inspiration from which to create improvisations and compositions ranging from the simple to the elaborate. We will also review the modal systems of cantorial and klezmer music. Part theory, but very hands-on, this ensemble is open to instrumentalists and singers, and is designed to move at an advanced pace. No previous knowledge of Hebrew or liturgy necessary.

AM2
TUES-FRI
Conversational Yiddish For Beginners
Jessica Kirzane
This Yiddish crash course for beginners is designed to help you express yourself in Yiddish around KlezKanada! In this class you will learn to have short conversations with your classmates in Yiddish relating to activities around KlezKanada (singing, dancing, eating, learning, etc). We will sing some simple songs and read some simple poetry. This course is taught cumulatively, with each day's lesson building on the previous day.

AM2
WEDNESDAY
Creating an Inclusive Space During Wartime: The Green Terrace at Mount Scopus Campus
Diego Rotman
Prompted by students' apprehensions about returning to campus amid escalating tensions and war, Dr. Diego Rotman, Dr. Michal Braier, and Dr. Noga Keidar collaborated to develop an urgent course titled "Creating an Inclusive Space During Wartime: The Green Terrace at Mt. Scopus Campus" at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem (November–January, 2023). Through this course, Jewish Israeli and Palestinians students found a place for connection and dialogue in the first months after October 7. In this talk, Diego Rotman will share this important project, discussing the processes, successes, and challenges of creating inclusive spaces during wartime.

Please note that this session will include content and discussion related to Israel/Palestine in historical and/or contemporary contexts.

AM2
TUES-FRI
Dive Deep into Dveykes and Dance Nigunim
Ilana Cravitz
This advanced class will provide the opportunity to explore some of the extraordinarily fiddle-friendly dveykes and dance nigunim from Volume 4 of Moshe Beregovski's collection. There should also be space for pointers to refresh tunes participants already work with within these genres. String instruments of all sizes welcome.

AM2
TUESDAY
From Sukkot to the Dybbuk: Sala-manca's Research-Creation Practice
Diego Rotman and Lea Mauas
Sala-manca Group is an art collective that has been active in Jerusalem and beyond for the last 20 years. In this talk, Diego Rotman and Lea Mauas will discuss two of their long-term artistic projects. First, proposing a contemporary reading of the sukkah both as a concrete object and as a symbol, they will delve into the temporary nature of the sukkah structure and its associations with exile, thus evoking connotations related not only to Jewish history but also to the current Israeli / Diaspora context. In the second part of the talk, they will discuss their performance of Waszynkis' film *Der dybbuk* as a case of artistic possession.

AM2
TUES-FRI
If I Had Two Hammers - KlezKanada's Tsimbl Class
Daniel Kunda Thagard and Pete Rushefsky
Come hammer in the morning with us! Discover the enchanting sounds of the tsimbl (cymbalom), the traditional hammered dulcimer of East European Jewish music. In this hands-on class, you'll learn foundational techniques, explore ornamentation, and develop repertoire from klezmer and Hasidic traditions. No prior experience with the tsimbl is required—you can borrow one of our instruments and we'll show you the basics. And for Intermediate/Advanced players - we will have plenty of repertoire and secret tricks to teach you. Join instructors Pete Rushefsky and Dan Kunda-Thagard and bring the shimmering voice of the tsimbl to life!

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

AM2
TUES-FRI

Plucked Strings Special
Eric Stein

INTERMEDIATE/
ADVANCED

PLATEAU TENT

Though not historically associated with klezmer music, the mandolin is a quintessentially Jewish instrument and, in recent decades, has become more frequently used in klezmer bands. Other plucked string instruments, like guitar and ukelele, have also become increasingly popular in contemporary Jewish music-making. Join master plucker Eric Stein on his return to KlezKanada, for a workshop exploring approaches to using plectrum instruments in klezmer and Jewish music, including rhythmic styles, melodic and harmonic approaches, and ornamentation.

AM2
THURSDAY

Mixed Dancing and Jewish Modernity
Sonia Gollance

OPEN TO ALL

PETIT SALON

Dances and balls appear throughout world literature as places for young people to meet, flirt, and form relationships, as any reader of *Pride and Prejudice*, *War and Peace*, or *Romeo and Juliet* can attest. The popularity of social dance transcends class, gender, ethnic, and national boundaries, and appears in many cultural contexts. In the Jewish context, literary treatments of dancing can reveal new insights into emancipation and acculturation. In this talk, Jewish literature scholar Sonia Gollance discusses scenes of mixed dancing in Yiddish literature and culture, which were seen as the very epitome of modernity—and the ultimate boundary transgression.

AM2
TUESDAY

Radiant Others Podcast with hadar ahuvia
Dan Blacksberg and hadar ahuvia

OPEN TO ALL

TAYKHL TSIMER

It's the Radiant Others Klezmer Podcast, live at KlezKanada! Led by longtime faculty member Dan Blacksberg, Radiant Others is a podcast that features long-form conversations between Dan and figures from across the Yiddish landscape, from legends like Ethel Raim to established ones like Sasha Lurje to newer voices like Tsvey Brider. At this year's KlezKanada, Dan will sit down with dance faculty hadar ahuvia for a live interview in front of you! Dan will talk with hadar about her far-reaching interdisciplinary work that centers the body in political, social, and spiritual action. We'll talk about how her encounters with the world of Yiddish culture have influenced her work, especially her cycle of performances tracing how Jewish Israeli identity is choreographed and transmitted and the recent documentary about this work, "Everything You Have Is Yours." And, since we'll be live, we'll get a chance to take a few audience questions.

AM2
FRIDAY

Responding to Catastrophe in Jewish Literature
Sonia Gollance

OPEN TO ALL

PETIT SALON

Since ancient times, Jews have used the written word to document, deplore, and commemorate catastrophes. These texts are a testament of how Jewish writers confronted historical events and of the complicated discussions that followed. In this session, we will read together Yiddish texts addressing the Holocaust, placing them in the context of Jewish literary responses to catastrophe from the Book of Lamentations to the present.

AM2-LUNCH

AM2
TUES-FRI

Shine On: Yiddish Dance Repertoire and Style for Everyone
Michael Alpert, Avia Moore, and Sarah Myerson

OPEN TO ALL

HIML ZAL

Join Michael Alpert, Avia Moore, and Sarah Myerson for a daily Yiddish dance class that will have you shining on the dance floor at night! Discover the beautiful dynamics of Yiddish dance—the repertoire and improvisational variations, the style, the integral interplay between group and individual, and the ongoing conversation between dancer and musician. This workshop will introduce participants to repertoire, style, and context, considering what makes our dancing Yiddishlekh. Over the week we will dance freylekhs, bulgars, zhoks, khosidls, shers, vengerkes, and so much more! This is a workshop for everyone - new dancers, experienced dancers, and even those that think they are not dancers. This is also a recommended workshop for all klezmorim—better understanding the dances is a step towards becoming a great dance band leader.

AM2
WEDNESDAY

A Tanz! to Remember
Uri Schreter

OPEN TO ALL

PETIT SALON

TANZ! This bold command greeted listeners who picked up this groundbreaking album, featuring Dave Tarras and the Musiker brothers. Released by Epic in 1956, it was the first "concept album" in klezmer—a genre in flux during a time of cultural upheaval in American popular music, Jewish identity, and the musicians' own lives. Though widely celebrated by klezmer enthusiasts today (and performed in its entirety in this year's program!), the album was largely overlooked at the time of its first release.

In this talk, musicologist Uri Schreter dives into the what, how, and why of Tanz!—from its striking cover art and liner notes to the historical moment of its creation and the music itself. Whether you are discovering Tanz! for the first time or have had it on repeat for decades, this is a chance to delve into one of the most significant klezmer recordings of the twentieth century.

LUNCH - 12:30-1:30

EVERYDAY!

ESZAL

OPEN TO ALL

Lunchtime Kumzits (Meet-up)
Our lunchtime *kumzits* series offers informal opportunities to connect with other participants and explore shared areas of interest. Look for the signs each day at the Info Desk and on the doors to the Eszal and gather around the designated dining tables to join in the discussion.

Everyday: דאָ רעדט מען נאָך ייִדיש
Join other Yiddish speakers for lunch and/or dinner at our *Yidish tish*. Yiddish speakers of all levels are welcome. Look for the designated *Yidish tish* in the Eszal.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

PM1

PM1 - 2:00-3:30

PM1 FRIDAY	Aleyn-tsuzamen: Dancing by Yourself with Others <i>Sarah Myerson</i>
OPEN TO ALL	Klezmer music makes you want to dance, but following the leader in a circle or line isn't your thing? You love dancing, but don't want to hold hands with other people? Maybe you're more of a chair dancer? In this workshop, we'll learn elements of expressive Yiddish solo dancing, and incorporate them into our own dancing. We'll also adapt popular group dances for solo dancing. This class is open to everyone, and chairs will be available for those who need. We'll explore interaction through gesture, eye contact, and/or proximity. Please bring a tikhl (small dancing handkerchief) if you have one!
HIML ZAL	
PM1 TUES-FRI	The Art of Unaccompanied Singing <i>Ethel Raim</i>
INTERMEDIATE/ ADVANCED	One of the most beautiful streams of traditional Yiddish song is the repertoire of unaccompanied lyrical love songs. Rich in vocal gestures, the genre is largely characterized by a nuanced expressivity and an intimacy not often encountered in other folk traditions. Singer and cultural activist Ethel Raim, leader of the legendary Pennywhistlers ensemble, and for many years artistic director of the Center for Traditional Music and Dance, will teach songs from the repertoires of several noted traditional singers, including Lifshe Schaechter- Widman, Harry Ary, and Feygl Yudin. In addition to repertoire, the class will also focus on pronunciation, rhythmic flow, and vocal gestures. Familiarity with Yiddish is encouraged, as well as a comfort with singing.
KUNST ZAL	
PM1 & PM2 TUES-FRI	Dos baushtibl: Yiddish Visual Arts Basics <i>Yevgeniy Fiks</i>
OPEN TO ALL	Inspired by the "Basic Course" at the Bauhaus—the influential Modernist art school in interwar Germany—this workshop will explore the foundations of Yiddish visual arts in relation to Yiddish and Jewish literature. As our starting point, we will work with a selection of short excerpts from Jewish fiction and poetry, including works produced in Montreal. Alongside these texts, participants will engage in hands-on projects that investigate the possible meanings of visual art concepts such as "Yiddish Line," "Yiddish Shape," and "Yiddish Color."
TAYKHL TSIMER	<i>This workshop takes place during both PM1 and PM2. It will be cumulative however will be structured so that participants may attend either or both sessions each day.</i>
PM1 TUES-FRI	The Folk Fiddle: Techniques & Tricks <i>Flora Curzon</i>
INTERMEDIATE/ ADVANCED	Join Flora Curzon (of Fran & Flora fame) for a close look at everything that will help you become an even better bowed strings player, solo or in your band. With traditional folk techniques in detail, and maybe some harmony practice and inner ear training too, Flora will help you develop tools that will make your playing more solid, more refined, groovier, and sweeter. Open to bassists, cellists, violists, kemenchists, gadulkists, and other fiddlers as well.
VALD TSIMER	

PM1 TUES-FRI	Intermediate Yiddish—Sholem Alaykum: Arabs Through Yiddish Eyes <i>Tal Hever-Chybowski</i>
INTERMEDIATE	This intermediate Yiddish course explores the portrayal of Arabs, both Jewish and non-Jewish, in Yiddish language and literature, beginning with pre-modern representations and examining how these figures were radically reconfigured at the period of Jewish migration to Palestine from the turn of the 20th century. We'll examine folk expressions and historical terms used to designate Arabs in Yiddish, while analyzing a diverse collection of prose, poetry, and newspaper articles. Our discussions will focus on the complex interplay of orientalist perspectives, cultural affinities, and distancing techniques employed by Yiddish writers. Students will develop their Yiddish language skills through engaging with authentic materials. The course materials draw from a 3-year research project that Tal is currently conducting at the Martin-Luther-University in Halle/Wittenberg. The course will take place entirely in Yiddish.
CHALET	
PM1 TUES-FRI	In the City of God <i>Frank London and hadar ahuvia</i>
OPEN TO ALL	In the City of God is a set of original spiritual melodies, created as Hakofos nigunim for parading with the torah on simkhes toyre. Each nign's text is taken from one of the shir shel yom, the psalm of the day. We'll learn the melodies by both singing and playing them, and arranging them for the ensemble. This class is open to all who love the ecstatic, meditative ritual of Hasidic singing — singers, instrumentalists, dancers, artists... everyone.
GRAND SALON	
PM1 TUES-FRI	Mandolin Orchestra <i>Eric Stein</i>
OPEN TO ALL	Join acclaimed mandolinist and Ger Mandolin Orchestra arranger Eric Stein for a plucked string ensemble in the great Jewish mandolin orchestra tradition. In addition to mandolins and guitars, this ensemble is also open to ukuleles, cellos, basses, and tsimbls. The group will perform original arrangements of klezmer and related music and study some rare and unique source material illuminating the history and role of mandolin family instruments in Jewish musical life.
PLATEAU TENT	
PM1 TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY	Me tantst mitn gantsn kerper! (You Dance with Your Whole Body): Style and Intention in Yiddish Dance <i>Michael Alpert and Avia Moore</i>
INTERMEDIATE/ ADVANCED	What makes our dances and our dancing Yiddish? In this workshop we will pay attention to the details, considering posture and attitude, and thinking about the flexion of our knees and wrists, the way we place our feet and lift our heels, and the energy of our elbows and leading arms. We will focus on dancing with kavone (intention), purposefully activating our whole bodies in the dance. As the Polish klezmer musician Ben Bazylar used to say to Michael: "Me tantst mitn gantsn kerper, un me tantst az got zol dikh zeyn!" (You dance with your whole body, and so that the heavens notice you!). This is an intermediate to advanced class. While all are welcome to attend, we will not be teaching basic repertoire. If you are new to Yiddish dance but want to attend this workshop we recommend that you take it in conjunction with the AM2 dance workshop.
HIML ZAL	

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

PM1-PM2

PM1
WEDNESDAY

OPEN TO ALL

PETIT SALON

Not Written on Water: The Literary Recovery of Yiddish Women’s Writings and the Feminists who Translated Them
Jessica Kirzane

In her keynote remarks at the 1995 conference in New York on “Di froyen: Women and Yiddish: Tribute to the Past, Directions for the Future,” Yiddishist, lesbian activist, and poet Irena Klepfisz remarked that “women’s history is too often written on water.” Knowledge about women easily falls out of favor and out of print, and new generations must work to remember that this knowledge exists before they can perform the essential acts that give literature vibrancy such as reading, appreciating, translating, and teaching. In this presentation Jessica Kirzane will discuss recent efforts to recover women who wrote in Yiddish and will (begin to) chronicle a history of the recovery work conducted in the 90’s to rediscover and begin to translate Yiddish writing by women, often with little support or interest from the academic establishment. She will discuss this work not as a one-time act of recovery but as a continuous project in which elements of the past can easily be returned to obscurity and must be rescued over and over again.

PM1
FRIDAY

OPEN TO ALL

PETIT SALON

One Foot in the Future (the Other on the Bass Drum): A Conversation with David Licht
David Licht and Uri Schreter

For over four decades, David Licht has been driving the rhythm behind some of the most dynamic and boundary-pushing music in klezmer, rock, and the avant-garde. As the founding drummer of the Klezmatics, he laid down their groove for 25 years, and went on to perform with groups such as the Tarras Band, T-Klez, and Michael Winograd and the Honorable Mentshn. Beyond klezmer, Licht has collaborated with psychedelic and experimental rock groups like Bongwater and Shockabilly, and studied West African Ewe drumming, blending global influences into a style that is uniquely his own. With “one foot in tradition and one foot in the future,” as he put it, Licht has helped shape the sound of the klezmer revival through steady experimentation and deep musical curiosity. Join musicologist Uri Schreter for a lively conversation with Licht, exploring his eclectic career and creative approach. The session will feature excerpts from recordings, stories from the stage and studio, and an open Q&A with the audience.

PM1
TUES-FRI

OPEN TO ALL

MILE END TENT

Sportivo Utopie (KlezKanada Branch) | ספּאָרטיווּט אױטאָפּיע | A Creative Theatre Workshop
Diego Rotman and Lea Mauas

Initially, there were words, anthems, and the desire to be together. Born from the idea of a soccer club without players, Sportivo Utopia is a performance workshop in which we investigate the theme of utopian dreams through collective storytelling. In this creative theatre workshop we will create a short performance consisting of multilingual stories and songs written, told, and sung by the participants about the theme of the team “Utopia,” as well as choreography building on theatrical gesture.

PM1
THURSDAY

OPEN TO ALL

PETIT SALON

The Shomer Sisters and Yiddish Plays by Women
Sonia Gollance

When Sonia Gollance began working on Plotting Yiddish Drama—a database of Yiddish play synopses created by the Digital Yiddish Theatre Project—she was struck by how little attention had been paid to plays written by women. While feminist scholars have made a concerted effort since the 1980s to translate and study Yiddish poetry, fiction, and journalism by women, the work of women playwrights has only recently begun to receive the recognition it deserves. In this talk, Gollance will share insights from her book-in-progress, which explores Yiddish plays by women within the world of popular theatre and the networks that supported their creative work. She will spotlight the family of Nokhem Meyer Shaykevitch (better known as Shomer), famous for his wildly popular Yiddish melodramas, or Shund. All four of his children wrote plays and were deeply involved in American Jewish institutional life. This talk will focus on the contributions of his daughters Rose Shomer Bachelis and Miriam Shomer Zuser—who co-wrote several plays—as a lens for considering women Yiddish playwrights more broadly.

PM1
TUES-FRI

INTERMEDIATE/
ADVANCED

DORTN GETSELT

The Winds of Klezmer Band
Marine Goldwaser and Michael Winograd

Explore the rich world of klezmer music in a hands-on ensemble, designed for wind instruments but open to all. We will learn and play traditional klezmer melodies, focusing on phrasing, stylistic nuances, and expressive interpretation. Along the way, we will introduce ornamentation and variation techniques in context, while also drawing occasional inspiration from related Romanian tunes. We will learn by ear, discover characteristic modes and rhythms, and bring them all together in this breezy winds band!

PM2 - 3:45-5:15

PM2
TUESDAY

OPEN TO ALL

PETIT SALON

Beyond the Dance of Death: Judith Berg’s Career in Interwar Warsaw
Sonia Gollance

Modern dancer Judith Berg (1905–1992) is best known as the choreographer for the film adaptation of Sh. An-sky’s *Der dibek* (The Dybbuk). Yet although she was a celebrity in 1930s Warsaw, most archival collections focus on her post-war life in the United States. This lack of pre-war materials has the rather unfortunate effect of erasing some of Berg’s most significant contributions, especially since archival collections emphasize the career of her husband, dance partner, and former student Felix Fibich. By bringing new historical materials to light, this talk will reconstruct Berg’s interwar career and involvement in the Warsaw Jewish art world, including the contemporaneous reception of her work, Berg’s engagement with Polish Jewish artists and the Warsaw theatre world, and her broader involvement with European modern dance.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

PM1

PM2 TUES-FRI	Doina Dub and Bulgar Bangers, Hip Hopkele and Electranukah: Explorations in Yiddish High Tech <i>Josh Dolgin and Francesca Ter-Berg</i> Ride the 5th (or 6th?) wave of the Klezmer Revival into the 21st century mixing folk culture with technology in this international, genre-bending, tradition exploding, hands-on, plugged-in workshop. Featuring post-cello scientist Francesca TerBerg and the godfather of Klezmer Hip Hop Josh "Socalled" Dolgin, this workshop will be an introduction to and exploration of electro-Yiddish fusion, using contemporary technology to make your own bangin'-est, legit Yiddish-inspired hip-hop, techno, house, drum and bass and beyond. Bring your Ableton live, fiddles, samplers, cymbaloms, live loopers and other electronics or acoustics, let's see what we can come up with. Open to all interested parties, no experience at the DJ booth necessary.
INTERMEDIATE/ ADVANCED	
KUNST ZAL	
PM1 & PM2 TUES-FRI	Dos Baushtibl: Yiddish Visual Arts Basics — Continued <i>Yevgeniy Fiks</i> <i>See description in PM1. This workshop takes place during both PM1 and PM2. It will be cumulative however will be structured so that participants may attend either or both sessions each day.</i>
OPEN TO ALL	
TAYKHL TSIMER	
PM2 FRIDAY	Elephants and Dybbuks: Two Sala-Manca Group Performance-Lectures <i>Lea Mauas, Diego Rotman, and Family</i> This session will feature two performance-lectures by Sala-Manca Group:
OPEN TO ALL	
GRAND SALON	<i>Elephants in the Nights of Metula</i> (2005–2024): A performance based on Avrom Sutzkever's poetry in English and Yiddish with translation to English. <i>Between Two Worlds:</i> A lecture-performance for scholars, artists, puppets, and a young musician, based on an academic lecture (2023) about Dzigan and Schumacher's parody, <i>Der nayer dybbuk</i> (1957). The work reflects on the performative role of the academic, the manipulative use of knowledge, the construction of trust, the need for self-humor, and alternative modes of staging knowledge.
PM2 WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY	Experimental Yiddish Tkhines <i>Noam Lerman</i> Yiddish <i>tkhines</i> are Ashkenazi supplications that were regularly written, prayed by, and centered the experiences of women, trans, gender non-conforming people, and poor and working class people of all genders. We will learn how Yiddish <i>tkhines</i> were once woven into the spiritual lives of many, and how they are still being practiced today in experimental and creative ways. We will sing new <i>tkhines lider</i> (songs) that have recently been created by contemporary songwriters, and we will write and embody our own <i>tkhines</i> .
OPEN TO ALL	
CHALET	

PM2 TUES-FRI	Fidl Kapelye: Listening Deeply <i>Deborah Strauss and Kirsten Lamb</i> The art of fidl-kapelye requires a special kind of interaction among the musicians to create a sound that is grounded and groovy, interactive, and improvisational. But how does this magic happen? By listening deeply!
INTERMEDIATE/ ADVANCED	
PLATEAU TENT	We'll work on developing spontaneous dynamics, rhythmic variation, and the tangly melodic conversation that makes this music so much fun to play. We'll be learning repertoire by ear and unravelling segments of early band recordings, so be sure to bring a recording device, music paper, and a pencil. For all bowed strings and tsimbls. Plucked strings and sensitive others also welcome.
PM2 & PM3 WEDNESDAY	Film and Discussion: Everything You Have Is Yours <i>hada ahuvia</i> In this sensitively crafted documentary, choreographer hadar ahuvia interrogates the roots of the Israeli folk dances she grew up dancing with her mother. Facing romanticized stories about her grandparents, Zionist 'kibbutznik' settlers in Palestine in the 1930's, she begins a personal endeavor unpacking and confronting the appropriate origins of this inherited dance. Through this vulnerable, personal story a larger weaving of powerful artistic portraits emerge—Jewish, Israeli, and Palestinian dancers living in New York City question what is inherited and what to choose to carry forward. Director Tatyana Tennenbaum conveys the power of dance as an embodied medium for grieving, healing, resistance, and reclamation. Everything You Have Is Yours honors these powerful associations, reminding us of our shared humanity and the need for collective liberation. This program will include a moderated conversation after the film (during PM3) with hadar ahuvia and Uri Schreter. In the context of Klezkanada, she is keen to talk about Israeli Folk Dance founders' rejection of Yiddish dance and their relation to other Jewish dance forms. <i>Please note that this session will include content and discussion related to Israel/ Palestine in historical and/or contemporary contexts.</i>
OPEN TO ALL	
PETIT SALON	
PM2 WEDNESDAY	Honga, Hora, and Beyond <i>Yeva Lapsker</i> Join Yeva Lapsker on a journey through the hongas, zhoks, and hora batuta — dances that traveled from Moldavian Bessarabia on the soles of countless dancers, into new worlds and communities. At the heart of this rich "transitional" klezmer repertoire, the lively hongas invite playful variations, its vibrant, inflected footwork unfolding with each new motif. The zhok, in contrast, draws us into gentle turns and reflective flow with its subtle syncopation, while the hora batuta follows right at its heel with accented steps and spirited, driving rhythms. Come dance and discover your individual expressiveness through these deep and evolving traditions.
OPEN TO ALL	
HIML ZAL	

PM2
TUES-FRI
The KlezKanada Yiddish Chorus!
Derek David
Join us for a fun, lively, and neshomedik choral experience! Participants will sing new arrangements of Yiddish folk songs, culminating in a performance at the end of the retreat. The chorus is open to all who wish to sing and express their Yiddishkayt, regardless of their vocal ability or experience. All are welcome! The chorus will be gender inclusive and welcome all to sing in their most comfortable range in the vocal spectrum.

PM2
TUESDAY
Looks Turkish to Me
Sarah Myerson
In this class, we'll choreograph a brand new *Terkisher!* We'll learn the step patterns already danced in the community for *Terkishers*. We'll figure out what elements make up a *Terkisher*, and then using those elements and our own creativity, we'll choreograph our own steps. This class is open to anyone with any dance or choreography experience (including no experience at all!)

PM2
THURSDAY
Miriam Karpilove: Yiddish Authoress
Jessica Kirzane
Miriam Karpilove (1888–1956) was a prolific Yiddish writer certain of her own importance, even as she was ignored by critics and largely forgotten during her own lifetime. In this lecture, Jessica Kirzane, who has devoted the past several years to translating and championing Karpilove's work, will explore the author's barbed criticism of turn-of-the-century Yiddish societal expectations around gender and sexuality. Interweaving Karpilove's biography with excerpts and discussion of her clever and humorous writing, Kirzane will paint a portrait of a quick-witted writer and the worlds she inhabited and created.

PM2
FRIDAY
Mourning a Lost Future: Miryeml, a Yiddish Drama of Children in Wartime
Sonia Gollance
Tea Arcizewska's play *Miryeml* is a modernist masterpiece that deftly integrates twentieth-century history and Jewish folklore into a narrative about children's response to pogroms and the Holocaust. The playwright was a dazzling figure in the prewar Warsaw Yiddish culture scene—as an actress, dramaturge, salonnière, and arts patron. She began writing *Miryeml* in Yiddish in the 1920s in response to the pogroms that followed World War I in Ukraine. By the time she published it in the 1950s, *Miryeml* was also understood to be about the Holocaust. Heralded by Yiddish critics as a powerful memorial to the million children murdered in the Holocaust, *Miryeml* received an I. L. Peretz Prize from the Congress for Jewish Culture for best Yiddish drama. Yet this play was not performed until 2024, when two staged readings of Sonia Gollance's English translation came at a time when depictions of children hiding in cellars had a startling new resonance, with regards to several recent conflicts. In this talk, Gollance will discuss Arcizewska's life and magnum opus *Miryeml*.

PM2
TUES-FRI
Return of Di Shrayers
Dan Blacksberg
Klezmer these days is full of wonderfully dynamic ensembles who play with so much quiet and nuance. Come join Dan Blacksberg and leave all that behind and get LOUD. In other words, Di Shrayers (The Shouters) are BACK to make some noise! We'll be jumping into the biggest band repertoire from the klezmer tradition as fuel. We will work mainly by ear to learn some rad tunes and turn them into bumping modern arrangements. This ensemble is open to everyone and we will make room for even the quiet folks as we learn how to play with balance and grace, even when we're turning it up to 11.

PM2
FRIDAY
Solo Dancing Dveykes Nigunim
hadar ahuvia
In this workshop hadar will share contemporary dance practices she has developed to embody the details of *dveykes nigunim*: devotional, unmeasured, free flowing melodies, with gorgeous details that distinguish Eastern European Jewish music. We will map the scales in our spine and hands, listen for what the nigunim evoke in each of our bodies, ask which part of the body *krekhts* and *dreydls*, and dance solo but together, in heterophony. This workshop is inspired by study with contemporary Hindustani artists Samitah Sinha, my long time dance *khevruse* composer, choreographer Tatyana Tenenbaum, and my study of Ashkenazi music with Hankus Netsky.

PM2
THURSDAY
Tnuos: the Sound is Movement
hadar ahuvia
In this workshop hadar will share contemporary dance practices she has engaged to embody the details of Ashkenazi pronunciation, vowels, consonants, and cadence with the whole body: hand to mouth, pelvis to feet. This process was inspired by many: matriarch of post-modern dance, Meredith Monk; Vocal artist Victoria Hanna and her teaching through *Sefer Yetzirah*; study of nigunim and nusakh with Hankus Netsky; and hadar's long time dance *khevruse*, composer, choreographer Tatyana Tenenbaum. Is it Yiddish dance? Or Dancing Yiddish? Bring a song or text to work with.

PM2
TUESDAY,
FRIDAY

OPEN TO ALL

CHALET

Writing Workshop: Become an In geveb Writer
Jessica Kirzane
In geveb: A Journal of Yiddish Studies (www.ingeveb.org), in addition to its role as an academic journal, is a leading place for writing on Yiddish culture, through interviews, reviews (of concerts, performances, and CDs as well as books), and personal essays. In this two-part workshop, you can hear from In geveb's editor-in-chief about writing for the journal, and you will work on becoming an *In geveb* writer yourself!

In part one of this workshop you will have an opportunity to explore the journal and hear about the various categories of writing it supports. Then, you will engage in hands-on brainstorming about pitching to *In geveb* with topics and formats that would appeal to the journal. At the end of this session, you will leave with an idea you'd like to write about, drawing on your experiences in KlezKanada. You will then have a few days to develop your pitch, build an outline, or even draft a few paragraphs for your blog post.

In part two of this workshop, you will bring your pitches, ideas, and drafts to the session. We will workshop these pieces together as a class, and work toward creating a potential blog series about KlezKanada for *In geveb*.

This is a two-part cumulative workshop and participants are encouraged to attend both sessions.

PM3 - 5:30-6:30

PM3
TUESDAY

OPEN TO ALL

GRAND SALON

Afternoon Concert: Fran & Flora
Fran & Flora (Francesca Ter-Berg on cello and Flora Curzon on violin) perform music steeped in Yiddish traditions, drawing on archival recordings and recovered manuscripts from Solinski, Bughici, Leibowitz, and Beregovsy, to the living string traditions of Transylvania and Moldavia.

Performing works from their critically acclaimed self-produced sophomore album *Precious Collection* (April '24, Hidden notes Records), Fran & Flora celebrate the aspect of tradition which embraces the context in which the music finds itself, exploring what it means to play this music today. Through combining drones, loops, free improvisation and live electronics Fran & Flora's music 'time-travels brilliantly between solid folk origins and avant garde play with a surprise at every corner' (Jude Rogers, *The Guardian*).

PM3
WEDNESDAY

OPEN TO ALL

GRAND SALON

Afternoon Concert: Josh Dolgin // Marine Goldwaser
Join Josh "Socalled" Dolgin as he rocks out with guests for a quick afternoon set of Yiddishness.
Marine Goldwaser will share some of her favourite yiddish tunes, accompanied by Josh Dolgin and other surprise guests, for a delectable musical mish-mash.

PM3
THURSDAY

OPEN TO ALL

GRAND SALON

Afternoon Concert: Jordan Wax
Singer/songwriter Jordan Wax creates innovative Yiddish songs from the bounty of the fruitful margins of diaspora in New Mexico. Rooted in relationships and oral history work with elders, his music celebrates cultural continuity and resilience while addressing contemporary issues with the tools that our aesthetic and linguistic inheritance provides.

PM3
TUES-FRI

OPEN TO ALL

VALD TSIMER

Kaboles-shabes Band: How to Give Your Friday Night Services a Real Yidishn Tam (a Heymish Yiddish Flavor)
Cantor Jeff Warschauer, with special guest Cantor Sarah Myerson
For singers and instrumentalists. We'll meet all week, as an ensemble, to learn special vocal and instrumental nigunim and synagogue melodies for welcoming the Sabbath Bride. On Friday evening we will fill the Egalitarian service with our singing and playing. As sundown approaches, we will put our instruments away, but the singing will go on. A wonderful musical experience for all and open to everyone. No previous, current, or future religious affiliation necessary or expected. We will be joined by special guest Cantor Sarah Myerson on Friday!

PM3
TUES-FRI

OPEN TO ALL

HIML ZAL

Tea and Jam
Pete Rushefsky and friends
After a long and full day of workshops and activities, sometimes you just want some Tea and Jam! Join us for some gentle tea-time jamming and intergenerational dancing. This is a great opportunity for families to dance together.

AFTER DINNER - 7:30

7:30 PM
TUESDAY,
WEDNESDAY,
THURSDAY,
SATURDAY

OPEN TO ALL

PETIT SALON

Lomir ale zingen: A Yiddish Sing Along
Sarah Mina Gordon
Lomir zingen a yidish lid! What could be better than sharing Yiddish songs with friends? Together we will sing old favourites and soon-to-be new favourites. All voices welcome, encouraged, and accepted. Come make a joyful Yiddish noise!

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

EVENING CONCERTS

8:30 PM
TUESDAY
GRAND SALON

Evening Concert: Michael Winograd plays TANZ!
Michael Winograd, Marine Goldwaser, Frank London, Christian Dawid, Josh Dolgin, Ilya Shneyveys, Kirsten Lamb, and David Licht

In 1956 the celebrated Jazz and Klezmer clarinetist Sam Musiker released the album TANZ! on Period Records. The album was filled with new compositions and inspired arrangements of Jewish dance music. Along with Sam, the record featured his father-in-law, Dave Tarras, the King of Klezmer. Joined by a team of brilliant musicians, TANZ! was a groundbreaking album, interweaving contemporary and traditional sounds in a programmatic context not seen before. With the backing of a major label the only thing that stood in the way of great success for TANZ! was the absence of an audience. By 1956 Jewish audiences were more interested in popular American music, and unfortunately TANZ! saw little commercial success, and the music was never performed live in its day. Now, nearly 70 years later, Brooklyn based clarinetist Michael Winograd brings the sounds of TANZ! to life, performing the full album from beginning to end. Like the original, Michael is joined by a stellar group of musicians who invite you on this journey back in time to hear the sounds of TANZ!

8:30 PM
WEDNESDAY
GRAND SALON

Evening Concert: Tantsndik! / In the City of God

Part One: Tantsndik!
Grounded in tradition, yet thoroughly contemporary, Deborah Strauss and Cantor Jeff Warschauer have been at the forefront of the international klezmer and Yiddish music scene for more than 30 years. Their sweet and soulful sound draws from klezmer, Yiddish, Hasidic, and liturgical music and culture, adding their own original compositions and song settings.

Exploring the special connection between musician and dancer, The Strauss Warschauer Duo will then be joined by other faculty musicians, and dancers Deborah Strauss, Sarah Myerson, Avia Moore, Michael Alpert, and Yeva Lapsker.

The first half of the concert will conclude with an excerpt from hadar ahuvia's project nefesh. In nefesh, hadar corporealizes the gestures of Ashkenazi nigunim and nusach into tangible offerings, no less physical than ancient sacrifice.

Part Two: In the City of God
In the City of God is a set of eight new hakafos nigunim for Simkhes toyre. The texts are taken from tehilim, from the shir shel yom—the daily psalms. The music is distinctly klezmer and Hasidic nigunim. The singing and playing are ecstatic, the repetition of the melodies trance-inducing.

EVENING AND LATE NIGHT

8:30 PM
THURSDAY
GRAND SALON

Evening Tantsshoyz/Concert: 80's Simkhe!
Take your passion and make it happen at our 2025 Tanshoyz—an 80's simkhe! Let the klezmerim, led by Michael Winograd and Christian Dawid, transport you as you take to the dance floor led by a kaleidoscopic array of Yiddish dance leaders, including Michael Alpert, Sarah Myerson, Deborah Strauss, Avia Moore, and Yeva Lapsker.

Open your closet and dress for your dream 80's b'nai mitsve, prom, or film set; think big-sleeved satin dresses, shoulder pads, ruffled shirts, three-piece polyester suits, and off the shoulder sweatshirts. Dressing up is encouraged (but not required); just wear something comfortable to dance in.

8:30 PM
SATURDAY
GRAND SALON

Evening Concert: Participant Concert
An annual extravaganza, the KlezKanada Participant Concert is a moment to celebrate all that we have learned and experienced throughout the week.

LATE-NIGHT PROGRAMS

10:30-ish PM
TUESDAY, THURSDAY
SATURDAY
GRAND SALON

KlezKabaret
Hosted by Uri Schreter and Zoë Aqua plus a rotating crew of special guests!
After the evening concerts, here's your chance to show off the new material you've been working on. The KlezKabaret is also a great place for new members of the KlezKanada community to perform, see, and be seen. From the eccentric to the beautiful, we welcome the gamut of performance possibilities and abilities.

10:30-ish PM
WEDNESDAY
GRAND SALON

!לעת נס! דער מעת-לעת נס! The Mes-Les Nes! (A Performance Mixer)
Hosted by Uri Schreter and Zoë Aqua
Our Wednesday evening late-night event will be a performance mixer! This is a great opportunity to meet and create in new constellations. In Yiddish, a "mes-les" is a 24 hour period of time and a "nes" is a miracle.

All those who want to participate will have the opportunity to put their name into a hat. We will draw names to form performance groups of 4-5 people. All disciplines welcome! Groups will have 24 hours to prepare a performance piece for Thursday night, be it music, theatre, poetry, or something else entirely. What will you create?

Why only 24 hours? Whether your group works for 24 hours, thirty-six minutes, or somewhere in-between, the short time is meant as a useful creative constraint. Remember, miracles can be messy!

How to Participate:
From Monday evening until Tuesday dinner there will be a box at the Info Desk where you can submit your name. We will post these groups at the Tuesday night cabaret, where we can help you find your new performance ensemble. Each group will be given a prompt to serve as a jumping off point.

**SHABES PROGRAMS
(LISTED CHRONOLOGICALLY)**

6:30 PM FRI	Backwards March We meet on the Auberge patio with instruments and voices to welcome in the shabes queen.
OPEN TO ALL	
MEET AT THE AUBERGE PATIO WITH INSTRUMENTS AND VOICES	Introduced to the festival by theatre-maker Jenny Romaine in 2001, the Backwards March is based on a shabes ritual from a Romanian village. At the 2001 edition of KlezKanada's Summer Retreat, Jenny Romaine led a workshop on Jewish processional walking. As part of the workshop, folklorist Itzik Gottesman shared the tradition of a backwards procession which he had collected in an interview with Arye-Leibush Laish, a Yiddish writer and singer. Laish described how, in the 1920s-30s, all the Jewish members of his village of Stănișești, Romania, would gather by the river on Friday evening. Facing the sunset, they would play a melody to usher in the shabes and proceed backwards into the village so as not to turn their back on shabes, or the shabes queen. When they reached the shul, they would put down their instruments and begin the shabes prayers. The Backwards March, as it has come to be known, has since become a beloved and integral part of the Summer Retreat each year.
<i>Learn more about the Backwards March here:</i> klezkanada.org/backwards-march	
	PS Right before the Backwards March, we will take a group photo of everyone at the Summer Retreat! Meet on the Auberge patio (we take the photo from the porch above).
7:15 PM FRIDAY	Kaboles-shabes Friday Night Egalitarian Service <i>Led by Cantors Sarah Myerson and Jeff Warschauer, with the KlezKanada Kaboles-shabes Band!</i>
OPEN TO ALL	
PETIT SALON	Let's join together in welcoming shabes with a special KlezKanada yidishlekh service! We will fill the room with our singing and playing. As sundown approaches, we will put our instruments away, but the singing will go on. A wonderful experience for all, and open to everyone. No previous knowledge needed, and no previous, current or future religious affiliation necessary or expected.
10:00 PM FRI	Shabes Tish <i>Led by Sarah Myerson and Ilya Shneyveys, with guests</i> On Friday night, after the shabes meal, we gather in the glow of the shabes candles to sing nigunim together. Often described as feeling otherworldly, the Friday night tish is a spiritual highlight of KlezKanada's Summer Retreat.
GRAND SALON	

FRIDAY EVENING TO SATURDAY EVENING	Exhibition: 1001 Lights <i>Mouvement Perpétuel</i> Marlene Millar and Philip Szporer's 1001 Lights, produced by Mouvement Perpétuel, is a three-channel video installation that immerses viewers in the intimate and rhythmic ritual of Sabbath candle-lighting, as performed by over 100 women from Montreal's diverse Jewish communities. Through panoramic projections and layered sound, the work conjures a contemplative space where gesture, light, and tradition converge. See a trailer for the project here: https://vimeo.com/542455206/d19b33fe0d
OPEN TO ALL	
KUNST ZAL	1001 Lights will be installed from Friday evening to Saturday evening. Please note that this program includes video and recorded music.
9:30 AM SATURDAY	Liberal Shabes Morning Services Liberal shabes morning services will be led by Rabbi Daniel Kirzane and Dr. Jessica Kirzane. We'll gather in sacred song and prayer for a Yiddish-inflected service that follows Reform Jewish liturgy that welcomes people of all genders and religious backgrounds as full participants.
OPEN TO ALL	
HIML ZAL	
10:00 AM SATURDAY	Sarah Rosenfeld Memorial Lecture Men lekt nisht keyn honik: vegn Dzigan un Shumachers teater <i>Diego Rotman</i>
OPEN TO ALL	מען לעקט נישט קיין האָניק: וועגן דזשיגאַן און שומאַכערס טעאַטער
THIS TALK WILL BE CONDUCTED IN YIDDISH	אַן אַרײַנפֿיר צו דער געשיכטע פֿון די צוויי פּאַפּולערסטע ייִדישע אַקטיאָרן שמעון דזשיגאַן (1980-1905) און ישראל שומאַכער (1961-1908), און צו זייער פּאַליטישער סאַטירע אין מדינת ישראל (1980-1950).
GRAND SALON	This talk will provide an introduction to the work of two of the most popular and distinguished theatre comedians of the Yiddish theatre, Shimen Dzigan and Yisroel Shumacher. Renowned for their sharp wit and social satire, Dzigan and Shumacher played a significant role in shaping Yiddish theatrical tradition and humour.
	<i>Please note that this program may include slide projections.</i>
10:00 AM SATURDAY	War and Peace in Ukrainian and Jewish Ukrainian Children's Books <i>Emily Finer</i> Writers in Ukraine are creating powerful books to help children engage with the difficult histories once silenced in the Soviet Union and now suppressed in contemporary Russia. This talk explores the playful yet poignant poetry of Hryhorii Falkovych, an 85-year-old Ukrainian Jewish author whose picture book about Rudy the Jack Russell Terrier helps young readers face the challenges of wartime displacement. We'll also examine recent picture and chapter books that address the Holocaust, the Holodomor, and other challenging subjects—stories intended to build an inclusive, multicultural, and Ukrainian children's literature for a peaceful future.
OPEN TO ALL	
PETIT SALON	<i>Please note that this program may include slide projections.</i>

10:00 AM
SATURDAY

Davenen Streams and Nigunim Islands
hadar ahuvia

OPEN TO ALL

PLATEAU TENT

The sounds of Eastern European Jewish music developed in and out of secular and religious spaces. Political, social, and religious developments since the 1950s have separated Yiddish roots music from liberal synagogue practices. In this workshop we'll practice weaving between nusakh and nigunim for morning davenen. Nusakh are scale fragments that distinguish time, within a service, day, week, and year, sung as recitatives in unmetered clouds of disorderly sound and nigunim—wordless, metered melodies sung in heterophonic unison. We consider the insight offered by these modes of Ashkenazi practice that allow for dissonance within a collective body. Bring a siddur, or come with the words on your heart.

2:00 PM
SATURDAY

Dancing Colours
Yeva Lapsker

OPEN TO ALL

OTSHERET GETSELT

Step into colour and let your feet become your brushes! In this playful session for adults, we'll dance barefoot across a large canvas, feeling paint beneath our soles as we create a shared artwork—a still moment from the ephemeral world of dance. You will be guided through improvisation by Yeva Lapsker to explore a different side of Yiddish dance, texture, and the joy of messy, embodied expression. No dance or art experience needed; bring your curiosity and a willingness to get your feet and heart drenched in colour. Come move, create, and connect!

This session is intergenerational but geared towards our grown-up participants. Youth participants will have their own Dancing Colours session during the Youth Program.

2:00 PM
SATURDAY

Here We'll Sing a New Song
Michael Alpert and Jordan Wax

OPEN TO ALL

HIML ZAL

A new Yiddish/Jewish songwriters' conversation and workshop for all, in which Michael Alpert and Jordan Wax share their processes and techniques for writing original songs in Yiddish (and other languages). We'll learn a couple of new songs that show the interplay between inherited and newly-envisioned texts and music and the interweaving of our cultural and linguistic heritages—wellsprings we can all draw from. As a group we'll put our heads together to create new bits of Yiddish or Yiddish-inspired song and leave with a bag of creative tricks we can all take home.



Photo: Lloyd Wolf, 2024

2:00 PM
SATURDAY

Absorbing "intonatsia"
Ethel Raim

OPEN TO ALL

PETIT SALON

Building on our sessions of "The Nuance of Traditional Yiddish Singing," this class will consist primarily of listening. Together we will listen closely to the different kinds of vocal gestures, word flow and articulation, and elasticity of musical phrasing (the expansion and contraction of rhythm and meter) employed by traditional Yiddish singers. We will draw on the concept of "intonatsia," coined by Russian composer and musicologist Boris Asafiev and further developed by Russian ethnomusicologist Izaly Zemtsovsky. This term describes the essential sound of a particular traditional singing style, capturing these expressive vocal facets.

Please note that this program includes recorded music.

3:30 PM
SATURDAY

1001 Lights Artist Talk
Mouvement Perpétuel: Marlene Millar and Philip Szporer

OPEN TO ALL

KUNST ZAL

1001 Lights is an immersive installation that weaves light, movement, and memory into a luminous tapestry of human connection. In this talk, Philip and Marlene of Mouvement Perpétuel reflect on the creative process behind the work, its international journey, and the poetic resonance of light and ritual in northern and global contexts.

Please note that this program includes video and recorded music.

3:30 PM
SATURDAY

KlezKanada Human Khevruse
Facilitated by Noam Lerman

OPEN TO ALL

MEET AT THE
AUBERGE PATIO

There are so many new faces this year at KlezKanada. Luckily we have a sweet opportunity to get to know some of the wonderful people who are here by participating in this year's Human Khevruse!

When you sign up for the Human Khevruse, you can choose if you would like to be paired with one or two other people to look at a sheet of interesting questions, or to choose your own adventure. You will have a chance to listen and share life experiences, stories, opinions, jokes, facts, parables, folk tales. You will be both a story-teller and a story-listener. Historically, Jews have been endearingly called 'people of the book'. What if instead of being 'people of the book', we saw each person as if they are a literal book filled with wisdom?

COMMUNITY CULTURE

CODE OF CONDUCT

KlezKanada unequivocally supports open and diverse creative expression and a shared commitment to community care and to doing no harm. All participants must agree to uphold the Code of Conduct when registering for the retreat or buying tickets to a KlezKanada event.

KlezKanada has a zero-tolerance policy towards any acts of discrimination, verbal, emotional, or physical abuse, destruction of property, harassment, or violence towards any festival participant or staff member on the basis of age, race, ethnicity, religion, language, national origin, political orientation, class, sexual orientation, gender or perceived gender identification, or levels of physical ability.

Any programs geared towards specific age groups, such as the scholarship program, are done to encourage participation by people who would otherwise be underrepresented in our programming. Making KlezKanada's programs safer and more inclusive is essential to us, whether we are meeting in person or online. Online harassment (verbal or written) is considered to be as serious as in-person harassment.

At KlezKanada's Summer Retreat or other events, if any participant or Board or staff member experiences discrimination, destruction of property, verbal, emotional, or physical abuse, harassment, or violence from a member of the Board, faculty or staff or another retreat or event participant, that person is encouraged to report the incident(s) to the ombudsperson (by email: ombudsperson@klezkanada.org). The ombudsperson will anonymize the information you provide and then relay the information to the Executive Director to investigate, (or a member of the Board of Directors at the retreat if the Executive Director is party to the complaint), using such resources and methods as deemed necessary by the Executive Director.

If the complaint is verified, the individual may be asked to leave the retreat or the event at the discretion of the Executive Director. If asked to leave, that individual may not be allowed to participate in future events and will not receive reimbursement for any retreat or event fees.

If an individual is asked to leave the event, they will be accompanied by at least two people, who will be either a member of the staff or Board of Directors while they collect their belongings and are escorted offsite. A letter from the Executive Director and Chair of the Board stating the circumstances for the decision and future consequences will be sent to the person after the event. In the event that the person does not comply with the request to leave the event, the Executive Director will determine if other means are required to ensure the individual safely leaves the venue.

DRUG POLICY

KlezKanada strictly prohibits the use of any illegal substance or drug at any time during the retreat and at any KlezKanada programs. Abuse of legally available substances such as alcohol, tobacco, or cannabis is strictly prohibited. Substance abuse may be defined as, but is not limited to: engaging in behaviour that results in the harm or discomfort of oneself or others; encouraging the use of any of the aforementioned substances by participants and staff under age 18 (minors); use of these substances by minors themselves. Participants and staff caught in violation of these rules will be removed from the retreat and may not be allowed to return in subsequent years. In the event that this occurs, no reimbursement will be offered to participants who are removed from the program. Use of tobacco and cannabis is only permitted in designated smoking areas. Designated smoking areas are provided for the consumption of tobacco and cannabis exclusively. Use of any other substances in these areas is prohibited.

KLEZKANADA'S RECORDING POLICY

KlezKanada documents the Summer Retreat through photography, audio, and visual means for both archival and marketing purposes. We reserve the right to use, reproduce, and distribute images, video, and sound recordings within the context of the organization. This may include licensing images, video, and sound recordings for use in media or documentary film contexts.

If you do not want to have your image included in published materials, please email us at info@klezkanada.org with the subject heading IMAGE CONSENT OPT-OUT and include your name and an image of yourself for reference. We can't guarantee that you will not be included in archival footage, in the background of images, or in images taken by other people. However, if you choose to opt-out, we will not publish or license any images that feature you as a primary subject.

RECORDING GUIDELINES FOR PERSONAL USE

We know that many of us love to take pictures and videos of our KlezKanada experience! It can feel as though everything around us is magical and needs to be captured. At the same time, we want to make sure that the Summer Retreat is a safe place for creative experimentation and simply hanging out with friends. For this reason, we have developed the following best practices for taking pictures and videos of the week.

- **Ask before posting cabaret performances online.** We want to make sure that the cabaret is a space where everyone feels as though they can participate. For many, this means stepping outside their comfort zone in new ways.
- **Ask before recording your teachers and fellow participants in workshop settings.** Many people like to record their workshops for personal reference (for example, to review a song after the retreat). We encourage this, but please ask first and please do not share recordings of your workshops without permission from the instructor.
- For many participants, shabes is a day of rest, which includes not using technology. **Please be especially mindful of recording in public spaces on shabes (including the late-night tish).**

RECORDING POLICY FOR MEDIA PROFESSIONALS

Are you planning to make a film, podcast, radioshow, news segment, etc, at KlezKanada's Summer Retreat? Whether you are a student making a project for school or a media professional, please follow the process below before proceeding with your project.

- Get permission from KlezKanada's leadership team ahead of time (email Executive Director, David Moss at david.moss@klezkanada.org). Once we have approved your project, we will discuss best practices for filming unobtrusively at the Summer Retreat.
- Obtain formal consent from anyone included, using an approved written consent form.
- Coordinate with the Artistic Director and documentation team at the Summer Retreat, as identified by our Directors.
- Create a production plan that does not interrupt or interfere with any formal or informal programming taking place during the Summer Retreat and submit to KlezKanada's leadership team at info@klezkanada.org for review and approval.

Follow up with KlezKanada as your project is completed and released.

Please note that we are not able to provide equipment or technical support for external projects.

COMMUNITY CULTURE

BUILDING THE CULTURE OF KLEZKANADA TOGETHER

We build the culture of KlezKanada together as a community, co-creating an environment where a diversity of identities, viewpoints, practices, and traditions are welcome. KlezKanada strives to cultivate a meaningful experience for everyone who would like to be a part of it. This requires active working together to create an environment that allows everyone to come into community as their full self. We ask that you take the time to go over these community guidelines and come to our programs with a commitment to treating every member of the community with respect.

KlezKanada unequivocally supports open and diverse creative expression and upholding a shared commitment to community care and to doing no harm. All participants must agree to uphold the Code of Conduct when registering for the retreat or buying tickets to a KlezKanada event.

Our community guidelines are living documents which we revisit and update each year. We invite you to read, engage with, and give us your feedback so we can continue to grow these ideas together.

Let us use this time to envision and enact the world we wish to see. Our actions large and small, individual and collective, may contribute to systems of oppression. Some of us are also subject to these systems of oppression in different ways. When we gather together at the Summer Retreat and other KlezKanada events, let us actively work in a spirit of togetherness and intentionality against these forces and build a community with an ethos of opening and striving, a place where all are truly welcome. As the old song says, let us work for a *tsukunft* where *libe iz greser un sine klener*, a future where love is greater and hatred diminished, and where we will at last *bafray un banay undzer alte velt*, liberate and renew our old world.

KEEP AN OPEN MIND ABOUT YIDDISH MUSIC AND CULTURE

We come together at KlezKanada events through a shared interest in and love for Yiddish culture and art. KlezKanada seeks to explore both the roots and the boundaries of this tradition, so keep an open mind, and be aware that the plurality of experiences and range of knowledge are what make this space rich.

Who comes to KlezKanada? In short, everyone comes, and everyone is welcome! Whether you want to rock out on the accordion, immerse yourself in Yiddishkayt or sing and dance along to your favourite klezmer tunes, KlezKanada is a place for anyone interested in Yiddish culture and Jewish music to come and enjoy themselves. We are proud of the religious and cultural pluralism in our community and we strive to create respectful spaces where everyone, of all levels of observance and secularity, and of all cultural backgrounds, can coexist with authenticity, integrity, and respect.

What is klezmer? You may already know that “klezmer” literally means “musician,” but klezmer has also come to encompass Eastern European Jewish music and its related culture. It’s the music of then and the music of now. For everyone here—whether they grew up with it or have just heard it for the first time—it is a music that brings us together and serves as a glue in our community. What gets called klezmer music today can encompass a wide range of repertoires, including new compositions, each with a rich history and context of its own.

HELP TO MAKE EVERYONE FEEL WELCOME, REGARDLESS OF THEIR BACKGROUND

At KlezKanada we encourage each other to be conscious of and celebrate differences in our community—whether in race, ethnicity, cultural and spiritual tradition, heritage, gender, or language.

Please do not disrespect or belittle any group’s cultural or spiritual traditions, especially when they’re not your own.

There are Jewish people of all races, and not all KlezKanada participants are Jewish. Don’t assume that someone is or is not Jewish based on race, and avoid making assumptions or asking unsolicited questions about people’s religious or cultural backgrounds.

It’s important not to push fellow participants to share personal information. Some folks may volunteer personal details while others may not, and both are perfectly fine! Everyone, whether participant or staff, comes here to participate fully; having to implicitly or explicitly justify one’s belonging is a barrier to full participation.

RESPECT OTHERS’ IMPLICIT AND EXPLICIT BOUNDARIES, INCLUDING PERSONAL SPACE AND PRIVACY

Consent is an important part of our community culture at KlezKanada and safety may look different for each person in the community. Respect others’ implicit and explicit boundaries, including personal space and privacy. Always take “no” for an answer — whether the question concerns playing music, singing, dancing, socializing, internet or phone communication, or sex.

Get consent before photographing, screenshotting, or recording others, and carefully follow all protocols involving recording and related technology (see Recording Policy).

RESPECT OTHERS’ GENDER IDENTITIES, INCLUDING USING THEIR CORRECT PRONOUNS

How does gender fit into the picture? KlezKanada is welcoming to people of all genders. We actively aim to facilitate women and non-binary folks coming forward and taking equal space both in formal and informal settings. We are actively supportive of those who are transgender, non-binary, and gender non-conforming (GNC). Please help us build a warm and welcoming space and refrain from making assumptions about people’s gender identities and pronouns. We invite all participants and leaders who feel comfortable doing so to share their pronouns and we remind our community that respecting pronouns is essential. It is also important to realize that it is not always safe or necessary for trans, non-binary, and GNC people to name their gender publicly.

RESPECTFUL COMMUNICATION AND DIALOGUE

The community of KlezKanada is made up of many voices. A culture of respectful dialogue and communication is central to our values and something that we aim to actively cultivate at all times. The need to nurture practices of resilient listening and thoughtful sharing is particularly foregrounded in times of war and violence.

We know that our community holds a wide range of experiences, opinions, ideas, political orientations, and affiliations. We celebrate that KlezKanada's Summer Retreat is a space where we gather together across differences through our shared love of Yiddish culture.

We have a shared responsibility to create safer spaces and the conditions in which everyone can show up as their full self.

We ask that you:

- Join us with an open mind and open heart.
- Be prepared to meet people who may be having similar or very different experiences to you at any moment.
- Cultivate curiosity and dialogue rather than debate, seeking to understand rather than to convince.
- Bring empathy to your interactions. If you find that you do not agree with someone, lean into empathy, strive to understand each other, and be kind to each other in your differences.
- Centre honest reflection rooted in your own experience. This means not trying to speak on behalf of a whole group or expecting others to speak on behalf of a whole group.
- Hold space for pause, stillness, and boundaries: no one should be pressured to speak or share anything that they are not comfortable sharing.
- Step back from the conversation if you feel uncomfortable, overwhelmed, or unable to engage with a conversation in a respectful manner. Disagreements/asymmetries may arise, but under no circumstances will aggression of any kind be acceptable. Any aggression will be addressed according to our Code of Conduct.
- Practice sitting with complexity. We all have the capacity to hold conflicting experiences, truths, and ideas within ourselves.

During the Summer Retreat, we aim to offer programs and facilitated spaces where we can reflect and share, practice listening, and learn communication tools.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Our community guidelines were developed from our work on equity and inclusion over recent years, and were developed in collaboration. In particular, they draw upon discussions between, amongst others, Zoë Aqua, Joanna Britton, Maia Brown, Asa Brunet-Jailly, Magdalena Hutter, Jeyn Levison, Sebastian Schulman, Rebecca Turner, Miriam Margles, Evelyn Tauben, Avia Moore, Michael Winograd, Kelly Steinmetz, David Moss, and Uri Schreter. It also draws, with thanks, on texts from Annie Kaufman and the "Let My People Sing" program. The Respectful Communication and Dialogue text draws from guidelines created by the Institute for Jewish Spirituality, Encounter, and Fentster.

FOSTERING A POSITIVE AND WELCOMING JAMMING CULTURE

What is a jam? Jams offer a chance for people to play informally together mixing all levels and instruments. They are an essential and fun part of KlezKanada! In order to make sure that everyone gets their share of this valuable space, we have come up with the perfect acronym for it:

J Join in: Many people hold back in jams because they lack confidence, or feel that they aren't good enough. But jamming is for everyone! If you only know how to play one note, then play that one note! Jams are a great space for learning, so we strongly encourage you to dare to play!

A All people have an equal right to contribute. If you suspect that you have more confidence or more experience than others, or if you play a louder instrument... use this week to learn about stepping back and supporting others. Also: making space in a jam is not about putting people on the spot to lead or take a solo; it's also about playing quieter, or slower... *Did everyone get that? Let's do it a bit slower... What tunes do you know? I'd love to hear one!* It's important to remember that taking up space is not merely physical—it's important to check in with yourself and others throughout all jam sessions (whether in-person or digital) to make sure everyone is able to contribute and take part in the jam session. Always feel welcome to ask questions! This will be helpful for the whole group and increase access for everyone.

M Be Mindful of the people around you. While jamming, ask yourself these questions: What is my intention? Am I sharing? Am I truly listening? Jamming is not about being the star: it is a chance to construct a group experience built on respect and inclusion. Who is leading? Does everyone who wants to start a tune get the chance to do so? We want people of all skill levels to have the chance to practice leading, especially those who are new at leading jams, as this is the key to sustainable community-building. Am I aware of my body? Can I see everyone? Are we in a circle? Is there space for everyone who is playing, or looks like they want to play? Can people find their way into the space, or onto the stage? Am I blocking someone with my body or my instrument?

QUIET SPACES & JAM SPACES

One of the things we all love about the Summer Retreat are the sounds of workshops and jams floating around the camp. That said, some participants seek quieter spaces, especially at night. In addition, we want to respect our neighbors around the lake.

- Please move instrumental music making into indoor spaces after 10:00 PM.
- Please do not jam at night in bedrooms or accommodation hallways.
- Luckily this venue has lots of great indoor and outdoor spaces to jam, rehearse, and socialize! Please leave all rooms tidy and ready for workshops after you use them.
- Try these rooms for jamming in the evenings: Himl Zal, Kunts Zal, Vald Tsimmer, Taykhl Tsimmer

VENUE INFORMATION

WELCOME TO DOS BISELE GLIK / LE P'TIT BONHEUR!

We are thrilled to return to our new home at Le P'tit Bonheur de Sablon, which has been an outdoor leisure destination for over 60 years. With 1,700 acres of land and six lakes, this site is a gem in the heart of the Laurentians.

We are honoured to be guests at this beautiful site. Please treat our new venue with care and respect. Help keep the site looking beautiful by picking up after yourself.

- Tidy social spaces after use so that others can enjoy them.
- Respect your housemates by keeping accommodations and shared bathrooms clean.
- Make sure garbage and recycling is placed in proper receptacles rather than left for someone else to clean up.
- Bring a water bottle and/or reusable mug in order to reduce waste.
- Reusable dishes and utensils should not be taken out of the dining areas.

Please bring all questions to the KlezKanada Info Desk. They will direct your questions to the right person. This includes all questions or concerns about accommodation, facilities, and meals.

Additional venue information can be found on the Participant Info webpage.

WATERFRONT

At Dos bisele glik, the lakefront is open at select times during the day. Please note that swimming and boating are ONLY allowed when a camp lifeguard is on duty and only in designated areas (see map).

- Life jackets must be worn at all times while boating and swimming.
- Participants must stay within swimming and boating areas designated by the lifeguards.
- Children and teens (under 18) may only swim and/or boat when accompanied by a parent or Kemp Vildkraft supervisor.

These policies are strictly enforced.

LAKE HOURS

TUESDAY TO FRIDAY
6:00-8:00 AM (SWIMMING ONLY)
2:00-6:00 PM

SATURDAY
6:00-8:00 AM (SWIMMING ONLY)
10:00 AM-12:00 PM, 2:00 PM-6:00 PM

SUNDAY
6:00-8:00 AM (SWIMMING ONLY)

FIRE SAFETY

As you are no doubt aware, wildfires have raged across Quebec and the rest of Canada in the past few summers. Many communities have had to evacuate, and the smoke from these fires has reached across central and eastern Canada as well as the eastern U.S.A. We know that campfires are part of the Summer Retreat experience. We will have a designated campfire area and we ask that you refrain from lighting any fires without the permission of our Operations Manager, Kelly Steinmetz. If you are given permission to light a campfire, please designate a person who will take responsibility for putting out the fire after use and ensure you have a plan to extinguish the fire (such as buckets of water). We will help you make a plan when you ask for permission. Please note that fires in the indoor fireplaces are not permitted. Thank you for doing your part to keep the forests, animals, and people around you safe.

SMOKING AREAS

Dos bisele glik is a non-smoking venue. We have a designated smoking area across from the Parking Lot entrance road, next to the beach gate.

RESPONSIBLE WATER MANAGEMENT

Dos bisele glik relies on a natural well to provide fresh drinkable water. This well also provides water for the toilets and showers. We ask that participants limit the length of their showers in order to help reduce the consumption of water.

CAMP NURSE

Our Camp Nurses are Zafer Mamilli and Leigh Hoffman. They can be found through the Info Desk or a member of staff, who will contact them for you.

EMERGENCY PROTOCOLS

KlezKanada's Emergency Protocols can be found at the Info Desk.

PARKING

All participant parking is in the main parking lot, to the right of the main entrance. Please do not park anywhere onsite without permission from KlezKanada staff.

INTERNET ACCESS

We encourage you to turn off your devices and enjoy being unplugged for a week!

While there is limited wireless access at Dos bisele glik, please remember that the site is in the mountains and internet and cellular access may be spotty.

In addition, the wireless network can quickly become slow or overloaded if too many people are trying to access it at the same time.



COVID-19 SAFETY POLICY

We continue to approach our programming with caution and care and our 2025 Summer Retreat will again include COVID-19 protocols designed to keep our community safe.

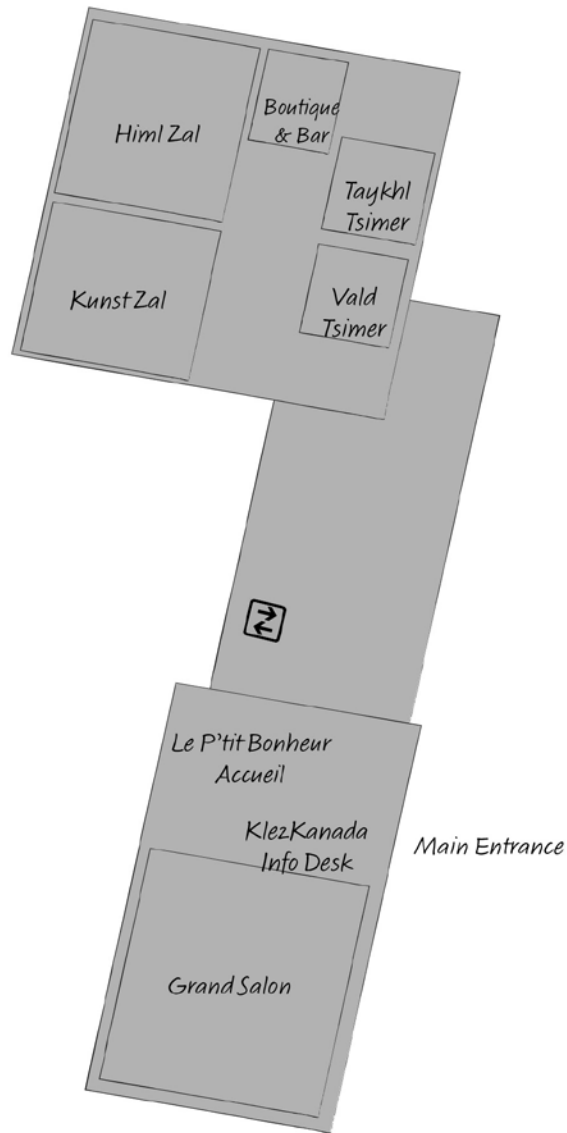
All participants, faculty, and staff are expected to respect the guidelines listed below and to support each other in their health and safety needs. Remember, your needs around safety may not be the same as the person next to you.

Our full 2025 COVID-19 Safety Policy is described on our website: klezkanada.org/summer-retreat/covid-19-safety

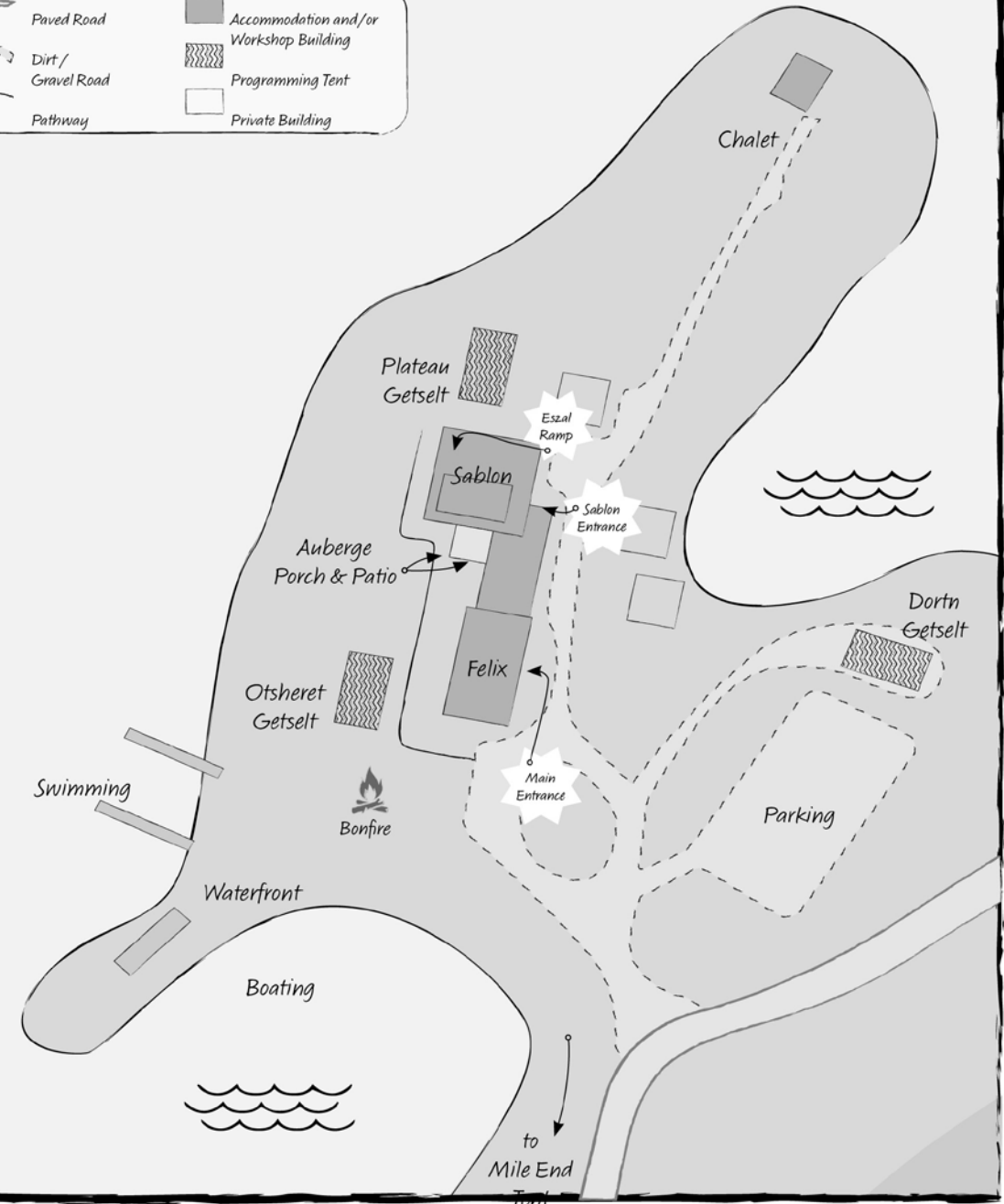
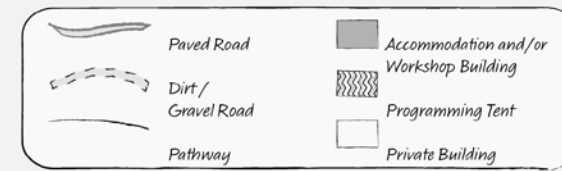
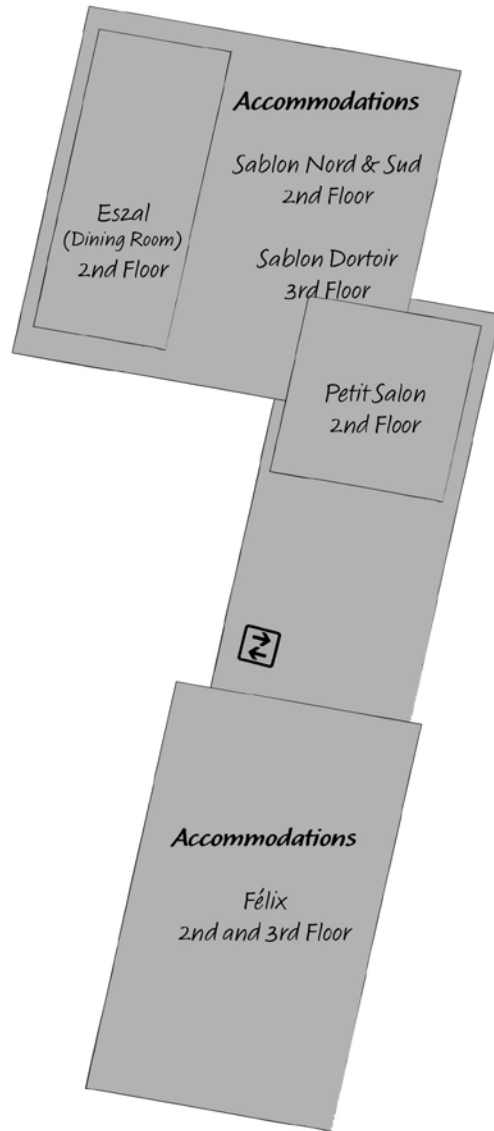
IN SUMMARY:

- Vaccinations recommended
- Pre-arrival tests are required
- 1 additional test during the week required (Friday) and additional testing recommended. Participants must provide their own tests.
- Masks recommended indoors
- Study, jam, and socialize outside when possible
- Take care of your health
- Respect the safety needs of others

Auberge Main Floor



Auberge Upstairs



DOS BISELE GLIK דאָס ביסעלע גליק

THIS BROCHURE BELONGS TO:



KLEZKANADA
קלעז-קאַנאַדע