

Voices of Israel - Pluralism in Action

You are cordially invited to join AJC for a special program honoring the multicultural messages of coexistence and diversity which make up Israeli society.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 12 NOON

The Ethical Society of Philadelphia
1906 Rittenhouse Square, Philadelphia, PA

\$10 - Middle Eastern Dairy Luncheon Included

Space is Limited - Please RSVP by calling AJC Philadelphia at 215.665.2300 and reserve your spot

Special performance by Artolerance, featuring musicians Udi Bar-David, Hafez Javier Kotain, and Hanna Khoury (see reverse for their bios). Through music, the powerful message of cooperation and coexistence will be created while demonstrating the uniqueness and diversity of Israeli society and culture. This interactive program will emphasize the multiculturalism of Israeli society by highlighting each performer's musical heritage, their similarities, and the manner in which they can be blended - much like Israel herself.

Funded in part by a grant from the Israeli Cultural Fund



Jewish Federation
of Greater Philadelphia

AJC Philadelphia/Southern NJ

TOGETHER, WE HAVE THE POWER TO ACT

AJC is the leading global Jewish advocacy organization. Through our unparalleled access to diplomats, government officials, and religious leaders, AJC is able to impact opinion and policy at the highest levels.

AJC is fighting for a safer, more peaceful future for the Jewish people, Israel, and all humanity. You have the power to amplify our advocacy. Won't you join us? Now is the time to stand up and be counted.

The Musicians

UDI BAR-DAVID, cellist, is widely considered one of the most versatile cellists in the world today. Equally at home as a classical cellist and an innovative improviser of music of all genres, he has enjoyed performing on international stages with both classical and ethnic musicians from all over the world. His training began in Tel-Aviv, supported by the American Israel Cultural Foundation. Later he came to the United States to study with Leonard Rose at the Juilliard School.

An acclaimed soloist, **MR. BAR-DAVID** performed with leading orchestras in Israel and recorded at the Jerusalem Music Center, founded by Pablo Casals. He served as principal cello in the International Youth Orchestra, the National Orchestra of New York, American Ballet Theatre, Concerto Soloists of Philadelphia and in 1987 joined The Philadelphia Orchestra, where he served on the Board of Directors and as the artistic coordinator for the Hear O Israel concert at the CoreStates Center. As a chamber musician, Mr. Bar-David has collaborated with Christoph Eschenbach, Leon Fleisher, Jaime Laredo, Rudolph Buchbinder, Emanuel Ax and others. He is founder, president, and artistic director of Intercultural Journeys, a non-profit organization based in Philadelphia that is committed to the pursuit of co-existence and peace through the arts. In partnership with The Philadelphia Orchestra in 2007-08, Intercultural Journeys presented multi-media concerts, including Arab/Jewish cross-cultural presentations, and paid homage to Native-American music and its influences on Dvořák's "New World" Symphony.

Spreading the messages of hope, understanding, and co-existence, Mr. Bar-David continues to work tirelessly to perform and create opportunities for open dialogues, bringing people together from different cultural backgrounds at universities, public venues, and peace-loving communities. His unique genre of cross-cultural music has been heard all over the world. Mr. Bar-David has toured Europe, Israel, the Palestinian territories, Asia, and across the United States with world-renowned artists, including Jie Bing Chen, Nawang Khechog, Hanna Khoury, Wu Man, Diane Monroe, R. Carlos Nakai, Kareem Roustom, Mandy Patinkin, and Simon Shaheen. Together they have made numerous appearances on international radio and TV programs. Udi Bar-David has recently founded Artolerance- an important new effort to expand the crucial role music and the arts play in fostering understanding and tolerance between communities in conflict

HAFEZ JAVIER KOTAIN, an accomplished master percussionist, is fluent in both Arab and Latin rhythms — a fluency he honed in his native countries of Syria and Venezuela. He began studying the dombek in Syria at the age of seven, first performed on stage at age nine, and went on to study with master Syrian percussionist Hady Jazan, winning national percussion competitions in Syria for five consecutive years. In Venezuela he studied percussion at the TMV Institute for Music in Valencia, where he also taught a variety of percussion styles, blending Arab and Latino music, to young people. Kotain has performed with Lebanese composer/musician Marcel Khalife and Al Mayadine Ensemble in their latest US and Canada tour for "Fall of the Moon: An Homage to the Poet Mahmoud Darwish." He has also toured with Syrian singer George Wassouf in Canada and the US, and has performed in Philadelphia with acclaimed artist Sting and the Philadelphia Orchestra. Kotain has worked with Al-Bustan for over three years as a performer and teacher in various school and community-based programs.

HANNA KHOURY is a violinist and violist trained in both Western classical and Arabic classical music styles. In addition to directing the Arab Music ensemble at Penn, which intersects with his work as an Artist-in-Residence and Music Director with Al-Bustan Seeds of Culture in Philadelphia, Khoury is the Artistic Director of the Arabesque Music Ensemble, with whom he has led nationwide tours, performing traditional Arab music in major venues and universities. He is also a violinist and Arab music advisor with Intercultural Journeys, frequently performing with cellist Udi Bar-David. Khoury recently toured with Lebanese superstar Fairuz and played lead violin with Iraqi singer Kazem Al-Saher and Grammy-winner Youssou N'Dour. In addition, Khoury can be heard on several pop recordings including Grammy-nominated song "Beautiful Liar" (featuring Beyonce and Shakira), and "Love and Compassion" (featuring Paula Cole and Kazem Al-Saher). Khoury recorded strings for Shakira's Grammy performance of "Hips Don't Lie," and he has collaborated with musician/composer Roustom on multiple projects, including an Arabic jazz album with Al-Zafeer Ensemble. A recipient of the America-Israel Scholarship and Gattan Foundation Award, Khoury graduated Magna Cum Laude with departmental honors from UCLA with a Bachelor's in Economics and Music Performance, and obtained his Master's degree in Music from Temple University. He is a recipient of the 2010 Pew Fellowship in the Arts, awarded each year to 12 Philadelphia artists of exemplary talent.