

SESSION LEADERS



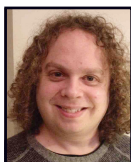
Viv Bellos is the Emeritus Director of music at Alyth synagogue having recently retired from the post of Director of Music which she had held for 35 years. She has been a driving force in the regeneration of interest in Jewish music in this country.

She continues to teach and inspire singers young and old. Viv was awarded a MBE in the 2015 New Year honours list for services to music.



Robert Davis is a professional singer, his credits include ENO, Grange Park, Dutch Touring Opera and Montepulciano Festival but his interests extend to jazz. He is Chadian Sheini at Edgware and District Reform

Synagogue and sings in most of the country's foremost Orthodox synagogue and concerts choirs. He is an acclaimed singing teacher.



Joseph Finlay is a composer, musical director and pianist, trained at Cambridge and the Royal Academy of Music. He is musical director at Hendon Reform Synagogue and the London Jewish Male Choir. He is a member of the Book Music and Lyrics Programme for writers of Musical Theatre.



Katie Hainbach is a mezzo soprano from Dublin. She trained at The Guildhall School of Music & Drama. Katie is a committed recitalist and member of the GSMD Song Guild. She performs as a soloist in concerts and oratorio and heads Music & Arts at

Alyth Synagogue. Her interest is Jewish influence in Western Classical Music.



Daniel Jonas is founder of the Sephardic music group Los Desterrados. Over the past decade, 'Los Des' have helped the revival of Sephardic music in the UK and internationally as a genre-busting category appealing to fans of world music, flamenco, Latin, North American,

Balkan and folk whist remaining deeply rooted in the Jewish community and contemporary London.



Ronen Kozokaro has been a professional musician for 25 years. He was recently awarded a Masters degree from the London College of Music.

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Ronen is currently working as an accompanist/composer at the TrinityLaban conservatoire for Music & Dance and at the Matthew Bourne Dance Company. He also performs with the Jewish band *Shir & Steward Curtis K-Groove*.



Vivi Lachs, teacher and educational advisor, just completed a PhD analysing Anglo-Yiddish popular culture 1884-1914. She has lectured nationally and internationally on education, multimedia and Anglo-Yiddish culture. She sings Yiddish songs of London with Klezmer Klub and Cockney-Yiddish music hall with Katsha'nes. She leads Yiddish East-End singing tours and continues to work as an academic



Malcolm Miller is a musicologist and pianist and Associate Lecturer at the Open University.

He has published articles on Beethoven and on Jewish music, including the shofar, for which he has written several compositions.



Alexander Massey is a prayer leader, celebrant, creative liturgist, writer, cantorial soloist, all-round musician & composer; teacher of voice, communication and personal

development. He sees prayer as a whole-person tool for change—rich with challenge, joy, discipline, healing, discovery and nourishment.



Polina Shepherd is a UK-performer, composer, choir leader. She joined Russia's first klezmer band and soon became the principal Yiddish choir leader of the Soviet Union. Moving to the UK in 2003, she leads three choirs

including The London Yiddish Choir. Polina's current project brings together the world of traditional and newly composed Yiddish song blended with Klezmer and Mediterranean Music.



Benjamin Wolf works as a conductor, pianist, composer, singer and academic. He is Musical Director of the Zemel Choir, the Wallace Ensemble and the Royal Free Music Society, Choirmaster of Belsize Square Synagogue and a regular conductor of the Quorum

Chamber Choir. He is the founder of the bOYbershop quartet and a lecturer in music at Regent's University.