

# KlezmerQuerque 2015

## Jake Shulman-Ment: Violin and Yiddish Song

Born in New York City, violinist Jake Shulman-Ment is among the leaders of a new generation of Klezmer and Eastern European folk music performers. He has performed and recorded internationally with Daniel Kahn and the Painted Bird, Di Naye Kapelye, Adrian Receanu, The Other Europeans, Frank London, Duncan Sheik, David Krakauer, Alicia Svigals, Michael Alpert, Deborah Strauss, Jeff Warschauer, Adrienne Cooper, Margot Leverett and the Klezmer Mountain Boys and many more.



An internationally in-demand teacher, Jake has been a faculty member of New York's Henry Street Settlement, KlezKamp, KlezKanada, Klezmer Paris, the Krakow Jewish Culture Festival, Yiddish Summer Weimar, and other festivals around the globe. An avid traveler, Jake has made several extended journeys to collect, study, perform, and document traditional folk music in Hungary, Romania, and Greece. In 2010 Jake received a Fulbright research grant to collect, study, perform, and document traditional music in Romania.

His wide range of styles includes klezmer, classical, Romanian, Hungarian, Gypsy, and Greek. His classical music experience has consisted of performances with orchestras and chamber music groups throughout New York and New England, as well as study with internationally renowned concert artist Gerald Beal and widely acclaimed violin pedagogue Joey Corpus.

Jake has created, directed, and performed music for a number of theater pieces, including several shows with theatrical wizard Jenny Romaine of Great Small Works, and the Folksbiene Yiddish Theater. He co-founded and regularly performs at "Tantshoyz," New York's monthly Yiddish dance party sponsored by the Center for Traditional Music and Dance, and is frequently invited to accompany dance workshops led by Yiddish dance master and world-renowned ethnomusicologist Walter Zev Feldman.

Jake's debut solo CD, *A Redele (A Wheel)* (Oriente Musik, 2012) was nominated for the German Record Critics' Award. <http://www.jakeshulmanment.com/>



## Benjy Fox-Rosen: Bass Violin and Yiddish Song

Benjy Fox-Rosen is a singer, bassist and composer creating new Jewish music. Ranging from re-imaginings of Yiddish art songs to original settings of the poetry of Krakow's Mordechai Gebirtig, Fox-Rosen's music has received critical acclaim from around the globe. Hailed by *The Forward* as "one of the rising stars in the Yiddish music scene", Fox-Rosen performs with many of the living legends of the so-called Klezmer Revival.

Fox-Rosen has performed at Celebrate Brooklyn (USA), the Chicago World Music Festival (USA), the Speigeltent at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival (UK), KlezMORE Festival (AU), as well as venues throughout the Americas and Europe. He has taught workshops at Klezkamp, Klezkanada, The New England Conservatory, Krakow's famed Jewish Festival, The Vilnius Yiddish Institute and many other festivals.

Fox-Rosen was the recipient of a Fulbright research grant for 2012-2013 to Chisinau, Moldova where he was immersed in the shared musical languages of Yiddish and Moldovan music. In 2012 Fox-Rosen was the recipient of a New York State Council for the Arts 'Folk Apprenticeship' grant to study with master Yiddish singer/composer Joshua Waletzky.

Fox-Rosen has recently relocated from Brooklyn, NY to Vienna, Austria, where he can combine his love of Yiddish music with his passion for Apfelstrudel.

<http://www.benjyfoxrosen.com/>

**Special Guest Michael Alpert!**

Michael Alpert (born 1955) is a klezmer singer and multi-instrumentalist and has been called a key figure in the klezmer revival of the 1970s and 1980s. He has played in a number of groups since that time, including Brave Old World, the New York Bandura Ensemble, Khevrisa, Kapelye, and also with clarinetist David Krakauer and bandurist Julian Kytasty. He is also a noted teacher of Yiddish folkdance and has worked to see dance retake its traditional place in klezmer music.



Alpert has travelled in Eastern Europe and the Americas to find and learn from older musicians. He has been credited for reviving the use of rhythm "sekund" fiddling in klezmer music, an important aspect of traditional klezmer string bands which had fallen out of use in the revival.

Alpert was musical director of the PBS special Itzhak Perlman: In the Fiddler's House. We're excited to welcome him to KlezmerQuerque 2015!