



# LEIPZIGER SYNAGOGALCHOR

(The Leipzig Synagogical Choir)

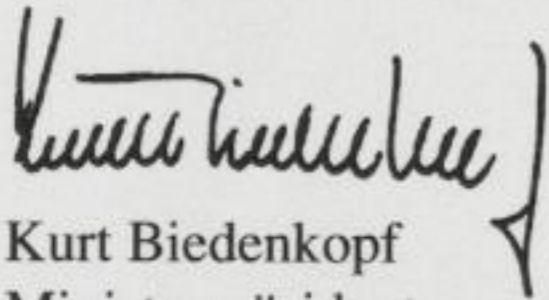
Concert Guest Performance  
from January 4th to January 16th 1993  
to Israel

Program



Salute on the occasion of the guest performance of the  
Leipziger Synagogalchor e.V.

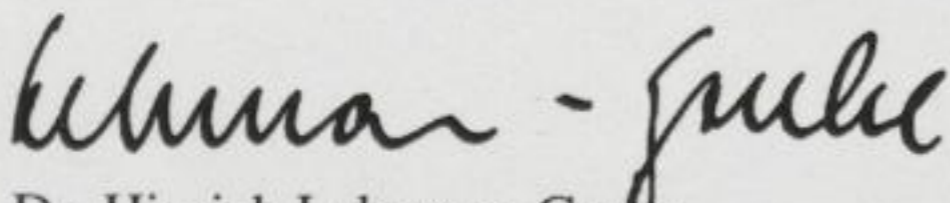
Music works as a medium between the nations since mankind. And so it is going to be in the future. The Leipziger Synagogalchor in more than hundred years old choir tradition of the state of Saxonia is still a young choir in the age of just 30 years, dedicates exemplary in keeping and caring and hebraic folkmusic in free concert arrangements. It is the excellent ensemble of committed non-Jewish amateur singers a unique in the Federal Republic of Germany and Europe in the heritage of the musical culture in the Jewish communities in Eastern Europe. The Leipziger Synagogalchor e.V. is going on the guest performance to Israel with a deep humanistic message. I am convinced the choir contribute with its art and message to construct a nationsconnecting bridge between the people of Israel and those of the Federal State of Saxonia. From the inner of my heart I wish you, dear visitors of the concert, an enjoyable music event as well as you, members and soloists of the choir, great artistic success.



Kurt Biedenkopf  
Ministerpräsident  
Federal State of Saxonia, Germany  
Dresden, 25th November, 1992

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My kindest regards I send to the listeners of the Leipziger Synagogalchor on its guest performance in Israel. More than 30 years the choir was caring and keeping the German-Jewish music tradition. Now finally the members of the choir meet the country where Jewish culture and in this occasion this music has its roots and spiritual center. I hope the choir is successful, to bring you dear listeners joy and happiness. Shalom, peace this is my greatest wish and desire for you and the whole world.



Dr. Hinrich Lehmann-Grube  
Mayor City of Leipzig, Germany



**Synagogal Music**  
**Jewish and Hebraic folkmusic in free arrangements**

# **LEIPZIGER SYNAGOGALCHOR**

(The Leipzig Synagogical Choir)

Marita Posselt, soprano  
Leipzig Opera House

Helmut Klotz, chamber-singer, tenor  
Leipzig Opera House

Rudolf Riemer, chamber-singer, baritone  
Leipzig Opera House

Ulrich Vogel, piano  
Leipzig Opera House

**Conductor:**  
**Helmut Klotz, chamber-singer**



## Synagogical Music

**Ma towu** - tenor, choir a cappella (Louis Lewandowski)

Homage singing by psalm-verses by entering the synagoge: How beautiful are your tents, Jacob, your homes, Israel.

**Ham, chabe es haner** - tenor, choir, piano (Samuel Alman)

Talmutical explanations about ritualic usage at Nights of Sabbat, especially the kindleing of the candles of Sabbat: Who is exthingishing the lights in case of fear against pagans, robbers and bad spirits or to help a suffering human into sleep - is in absolution.

But if it is his aim to save Lamps, oil or wick - than he is breaking the law of Sabbat.

**Haschkiwenu** - tenor, choir, piano (Samuel Alman)

Evening prayer for security at night an keeping away of all bad things.

**W, schomru** - choir a cappella (David Nowakowski)

Part of the bible telling about appreciation of the Sabbat, the day of relaxing after a hard working week.

God has given his children Israel for all times as an ever existing; because in a time of six days he created heaven and earth, but on the 7th day he was celebrating and resting.

**Ssißu w, Bimchu** - sopran, choir, piano (Hirsch Weintraub/Werner Sander)

In the gladness at Thora celebration are included figures of the holy bible.

**Schir hamalauß** - choir a cappella (Salomone Rossi)

Psalm 126, the joy in case of the return from the babilonic captivity.

**Ono towau l, fonecho** - choir a cappella (Salomon Sulzer)

Confession of sin at day reconcoliation; oh god please take our finally confession of sin. Nobody can say about himself: he is free of sin. We all know and tell the truth: oh Lord, our God, we did sin.

**Naariz, cho** - tenor, baritone, choir, piano (Abraham Dunajewski)

Annunciation of magnificence of the ever-lasting: Holy, Holy, holy is the god of host. As long as the world riches is existing his magnificence. The prayer contains even the Jewish confession of believe: Sch, ma jißroel - Höre Israel; the ever-lasting is our God; the ever-lasting is the only.

## Jewish and Hebraic folkmusic in free arrangements

**Hava nagillah** - choir, piano (arr.: Friedbert Groß)

Come and let us be happy; come and let us sing!



**Lomir sich iberbetn** - sopran, choir, piano (arr.: Friedbert Groß)

After a dispute ask a girl her boy-friend not to be angry anymore. He should not stand on the door, he should look at her, smiling, to drink tea together with her and kissing.

**Spiel sche mir a Liedele in Jiddisch** - choir a cappella (arr: Friedbert Groß)

The songplayer (Klesmer) shall play a Jewish song, a song free of sadness and tears, to demonstrate the Judaism is alive. A song of peace and understanding of the nations.

**Itzikl** - baritone, choir, piano (arr: Werner Sander)

Ironically is introduced Itzik. He already had his marriage (Chafene) but you cannot even see and feel that. All of his life is still empty - no table, no banch. But there is a broken bed standing on three of it's legs. But he own's right now a thin little wife for kissing. And she just has to tell him - how life should go on.

**Fuhrt a Choßidl zu dem Rebben** - sopran, choir, piano (Arr. Werner Sander)

A chassidic young man was surprised by a heavy thunder storm on his way to a Rabbi and find a stop in a small village hotel (Kretschan). There he meets a beautiful girl. She is taken his coat but does not like to come in a closer touch to the young man. At this time he feels like a dog „in that nine days“, the time to a serious day of fast, where enjoying of meat is not allowed.

**Nigun** - choir a cappella (Werner Sander)

Usually every Jewish music is named as Nigun, especially the liturgicall. But in a serious view these are songs, singing without a text and only as a vocalism as a typical sign for Jewish melos.

**A Semerl** - sopran, choir, piano (arr. Werner Sander)

This is a happy song playing in a ghetto, showing the difference by getting food between the poor and the rich. In the rows of the poores people, bread is an excellent meal - but in the eyes of the richer people - just a nothing or „by the side“ order.

**As der Rebbe Elimelech** - baritone, choir, piano (Arr: Friedbert Groß)

The Rabbi Elimelech is very happy after finishing a synagogical service and ask two violinists and two zimblers and two poiklers to play. But after a short time it was too much music and noises to him and he screamed:“ My head, oh my head.“

**Horra banechar** - choir, piano (arr: Friedbert Groß)

Do not be sad, friends. The Rabbi ordered: „Be happy!“ Our whole life is blended with sadness - forget about that! Let us drink wine and beer! The older and the younger people should dance the horra in this strange country.



## The Leipziger Synagogalchor

(Leipzig Synagogical Choir)

The Leipziger Synagogalchor was founded in 1962 by Werner Sander, leading cantor of Jewish communities of Leipzig and Dresden.

As the only worldly ensemble of this kind in Europe the 26 singers of synagogical music devote to predominant music of the 18th and 19th century as well as Jewish and Hebraic folk music in arrangements for concert.

Sources for the national titles are for instance the old Jewish communities of Latvia, Ukraina of Poland and Romania.

At this time the choir is making accessible musical treasures Israelic collections.

The singers are seeing themselves as a strong community having pleasure by doing arts and knowing about the big value of their work for the German-Jewish relationship.

After the death of Werner Sander in 1972, Helmut Klotz from the Leipzig Opera House became the artistic head and precentor of the choir.

The quality of his choir - pedagogical work opened the ensemble the stages of famous concert halls in Germany and abroad.

Herefore stand for example the Leipziger Gewandhaus, the Berlin Schauspielhaus., the radio-broadcast „Hour of Music“, the musical festival to Dresden even the Old Opera House of Frankfurt/Main and the Berlin Philharmonic.

Guest performances in the abroad were represented by the choir in Paris, Breslau (Wroclaw), Krakau (Krakow) and the Czech capital of Prague.

Main impressions were given by concerts in Warsaw and Krakow (Poland).

Every year the Leipziger Synagogalchor is singing in the religious service at the Leipziger St. Thomas Church in memory of the night of programs on 9th November 1938.

Especially this kinds of concerts are expressing the clear human position of the non-Jewish choir having their roots in an active ecumenical consciousness.

Four records produced by the East German Eterna Record Company give a representative view at the repertoire of the choir and demonstrating the artistic-professional format.

The amateur choir whose members are doing many different professions is supported by the city of Leipzig and the Federal State of Saxony.

Since the 1st January 1991, the Leipziger Synagogalchor is an official registered association.





The Leipzig Synagogical Choir  
Conductor: Helmut Klotz, chamber-singer  
in the Leipzig St. Thomas Church



## Helmut Klotz Synagogalchor

Chamber-singer Helmut Klotz was born in 1935 in the city of Oederan (Federal state of Saxonia, Germany) got his basicly musical education in subjects like violin, piano, clarinet and violincello.

From 1954 to 1960 he was studying at the Musikhochschule Dresden (Musical University of Dresden) named „Carl Maria von Weber) in the subjects violincello and singing. During his students time he was an additional member of the Dresdner Staatskapelle.

After the state examination in both subjects he was engaged as lyrical and characterical tenor at the Leipzig Opera House, until today as one of the leading members.

He mostly appeared as public singer and soloist in oratorios by Johann Sebastian Bach. His work is not just limited to the Leipzig Opera House. He is also singing in cooperation at the Semper Opera House in Dresden.

Many-sided Kinds of presentation and singing flexibility describing the artistical work of Helmut Klotz also demonstrated by the repertoire with more than a hundred plays.

Some of the singer-verse are David (Wagner „The Mastersingers of Nürnberg“), the mate (Wagner „The Flying Dutchman“), Belmonte and Petrillo (Mozart „ The Abduction for the Serail“), Almavira (Rossini "The Barbir of Sevilla"), Raoul (Meyerbeer „ The Hugenots“), the fox (Janacek „The Sly Fox-Cub“), and the captain (Berg „Wozzeck“).

The singer Helmut Klotz has given guest performances in various Eastern and Western European countries and overseas.

At this moment he is engaged with 12 different soloist-verses at the Leipzig Opera House.

With the appeal to the head of the Leipziger Synagogalchor by the Association of Jewish Communities in the former German Democratic Republic in 1972 the artist got a task where he was working with a strong power and consistency.

He helped to guide the Synagogical Choir to a choir with European importance and created an ensemble with artistic and human conviction.

Specialists in music appreciate the excellent connection between sensitive conducting, empathy and the lead of the precentor.

Chamber-singer Helmut Klotz is a conductor of a choir with a special expression of music and character giving to his choir in a precise mimic-gesturic conducting. (English translation from the "Wormser Zeitung" Newspaper, Worms, Germany)





Helmut Klotz, chamber-singer  
Conductor of the Leipzig Synagogical Choir



## The Repertoire

The repertoire of the Leipziger Synagogalchor (Leipzig Synagogical Choir) is deeply influenced by composers of the 19th and 20th century mostly Jewish cantors (precentors) from the Eastern Europe area. That is the reason why synagogical music by Louis Lewandowski, Salomon Sulzer, Samuel Alman, Abraham Dunajewski, David Nowakowski, Mordechaj Zeira and Samuel Naumbourg are greatly performed. The Hebraic texts of the songs song at the time of synagogical services are psalms und prayers based on the praying book or deeply religious texts be the Talmud. In accordance with Jewish tradition and synagogical practice the most of compositions are made as an antiphony between the choir and the cantor including accompany of organ or piano music. Even acappella themes are possible. The lively folkmusic song in Jewish or Hebraic language is full of feeling and spirit mostly descending from the Jewish centers of Eastern Europe. The music demonstrates a proper life, has a sense of humour and melancholy at once. In almost every song you will even find dancing elements. The main part of the traditional songs performed by the Leipziger Synagogalchor is arranged by Werner Sander and Friedberzt Groß. Both of them enriched the songs for concert by a masterly part on the piano or chamber-musical accompany of the orchestra. The soloists are taking the role of a story-teller. It is important to say that this kind of folkmusic can even be representend in a cappella. A manifold repertoire and the various kinds of musical accompany allow a flexible formation of the program suitable to the performing places for example large and small concert halls, synagogos or churches.





The Leipzig Synagagalchor, Conductor: Helmut Klotz in the Berlin Philharmonie

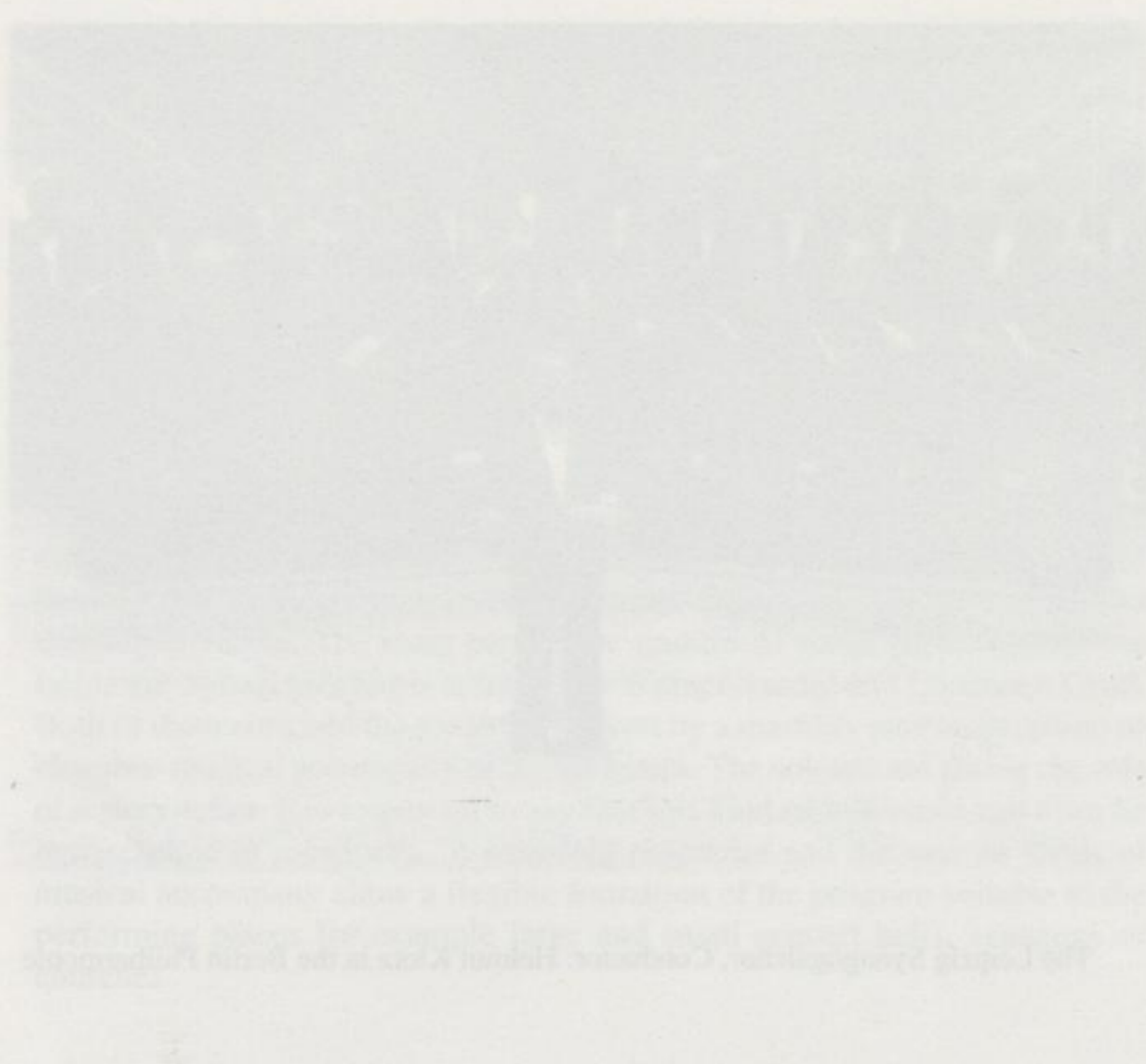
Concerts in Israel  
January 1993

6th January 1993  
7th January 1993  
9th January 1993  
11th January 1993  
12th January 1993  
13th January 1993  
16th January 1993  
17th January 1993

Eilat  
En Gedi  
Jerusalem  
Tel Aviv  
Tel Aviv  
Tiberias  
Haifa  
Haifa



## The Repertoire



Special thanks for kindly support

Deutscher Musikrat e.V. (German Council of Music Association)

Federal State of Saxonia (Germany)

City of Leipzig

Dresdner Bank AG, Leipzig

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