



Put A Yid On It!



Festival of New Yiddish Culture

June 7 - 13, 2026

**Carrying the flame of Yiddish into the future!
Music, Movies & More!**

www.radyjcc.com



**I.L. Peretz Folk School
Endowment Trust**

**Laurie Mainster
Community Visionary Fund**



Put A Yid On It! is supported through the Asper Cultural Enrichment Initiative



Welcome to Put A Yid On It! Festival of New Yiddish Culture

People often say that klezmer lives between a cry and a dance—moving, in a single phrase, from sorrow into joy. This festival moves in that spirit.

‘Put a Yid on It!’ celebrates the unfolding world of New Yiddish Culture as something living and in motion—carried across generations and reshaped in the present. Through music, dance, food, and film, we gather memory and invention, grief and celebration, all in one shared space.

This has been a complex time to be Jewish in the world. In moments like these, the unfolding world of New Yiddish Culture offers a way to connect—and this gathering is open to all. Whether you arrive with deep roots or simple curiosity, whether or not you know the language, you are welcome here.

Step into the circle—into the rhythm, the table, the story.

Moved by music, swept up in song and story, we come together in motion and in presence.

We’ll see you on the dance floor!

— Shira Newman

Producer, 2026 ‘Put a Yid On it!’

Festival of New Yiddish Culture

Rady JCC Festival Staff:

Laura Marjovsky, *Director of Programming*

Natali Halberthal, *Manager of Programming*

Karolina Garlinska, *Coordinator of Adult and Older Adult Programming*

Tomer Levy, *Community Engagement Coordinator*

Roberta Malam, *Programming Assistant*

Chris Allinotte, *Communications & Digital Content Manager*

Gwendolyn Penner, *Coordinator of Graphic Design & Digital Content*

Tickets:

Visit www.radyjcc.com or

click on “Tickets” on the following pages

Rady JCC Members receive 25% off total price.

It pays to be a Member!

SUN
JUN 7



North End Knishery: The Art of Traditional Knish Making

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Multi-Purpose Room, Rady JCC | 123 Doncaster
Street

\$10 per person

This is knish making the way your baba would want you to do it!

Harriet Zaidman—beloved voice behind the *North End Nosh* blog—brings deep knowledge and warmth to the kitchen. Known for her passion for preserving the food traditions of the many cultures which historically mixed in the North End—Ukrainian, Polish, Jewish and more—Harriet will guide participants through the traditional art of knish-making.

Using the classic stretched-dough method, participants will learn how to patiently pull dough until it becomes so thin you can see through it,—transforming simple ingredients into something both humble and extraordinary. Along the way, Harriet weaves stories of migration, memory, and the role of food in sustaining culture across generations.



Tickets

FOOD FAMILY DANCE

SUN
JUN
7

Freylekhs (A Joyful Dance): A Yiddish Family Dance Party!

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Kanee Foyer, Rady JCC | 123 Doncaster Street
Free | Pre-registration required

This is a joyful, high-energy gathering for the whole family.

Move, sing, and dance together in a room full of music and play.

Led by **Avia Moore**, Artistic Director of *KlezKanada* and a leading voice in *New Yiddish Culture*, participants are warmly guided into traditional Yiddish circle and clapping dances, and group movement that anyone can join.

Live music by Winnipeg klezmer favourites **Kinzey Posen** and **Shayla Fink** fills the space, alongside songs in English with a little Yiddish, plus playful musical games.

And of course—there's always time for a little nosh.

Join us for a welcoming celebration of Yiddish culture designed for all ages.



PHOTO: AVIA MOORE

FOOD FAMILY DANCE

 Tickets

SUN
JUL

FOOD FAMILY DANCE



Take My Hand: A Yiddish Tantshoysz – Dance Workshop & Party

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Multi-Purpose Room, Rady JCC

123 Doncaster Street

\$10 per person

Join us for an evening dance gathering rooted in Yiddish tradition and shared celebration.

Led by **Avia Moore**, Artistic Director of *KlezKanada* and internationally celebrated Yiddish dance instructor, participants are gradually welcomed into a living repertoire of freylekhs, bulgars, zhoks, and partner and circle dances drawn from Eastern European Jewish communities. Steps are introduced with care, allowing the room to move together as the circle forms and the rhythm settles in.

Live music by **Myron Schultz**, **Myron Kurjewicz**, and **Daniel Koulack** sustains the dance floor throughout the evening, with melodies that stretch and respond to the dancers—grounded in klezmer rhythm and tradition.

As the night unfolds, the space shifts between learning and social dance, where movement is shared, repeated, and made collective.

No experience is needed. Come alone or with others—take a hand, join the circle, and be part of a dance space that is as welcoming as it is enduring.

Refreshments will be served.



Tickets

TUE
JUN
6

Payadora Tango Ensemble: The Soul of Yiddish Tango

7:30 p.m.

Berney Theatre, Rady JCC | 123 Doncaster Street

Under 30: \$15 | Over 30: \$25



“Extraordinary”

— Toronto Star

Payadora Tango Ensemble has built an international reputation for their passionate, finely detailed performances of Argentine tango music. With backgrounds spanning classical, jazz, and folk traditions, the group brings both precision and emotional depth to everything they play.

With a sold-out European tour behind them, their multi award-winning album *Silent Tears: The Last Yiddish Tango* reached #1 on the World Music Charts in Europe.

In this special program, they trace the journey of tango into Yiddish culture—following its path from Buenos Aires to Warsaw in the early 20th century. Jewish composers and lyricists embraced tango as a modern expressive form, writing songs in Yiddish that captured longing, displacement, romance, and urban life.

Joined on stage by master dancers **Fabien and Roxana Belmonte**, the performance becomes more than a concert— it’s a vivid encounter with a moment when cultures intertwined and something entirely new emerged.

“Payadora plays tango like it’s meant to be played... sultry, steamy - with grace and precision” — Words & Music Magazine

 **Tickets**

TANGO CONCERT

WED
JUN
10



I Have Sinned / Al Khet על חטא

7:30 p.m.

Berney Theatre, Rady JCC | 123 Doncaster Street
Under 30: \$8 | Over 30: \$12

Director: Aleksander Marten | 1936 | 95 Minutes
Poland | Yiddish with English Subtitles

A long-unseen, genre-defying gem of 1930s Yiddish cinema, *I Have Sinned* (*Al Khet*) is the first Yiddish sound film made in Poland. Blending melodrama, comedy, and musical elements, it traces a story of love, rupture, and consequence set against the upheaval of World War I.

When a rabbi's daughter, Esther (**Rachel Holzer**), becomes pregnant by a German Jewish officer, she abandons her baby and flees to the United States as the Russian army advances on her village. Spanning two decades, her journey moves through shifting landscapes of family, memory, and survival.

The film features the celebrated Polish comedy duo Dzigan and Schumacher in key supporting roles as a pair determined to reunite Esther with her child, adding moments of levity and momentum to the unfolding drama.

Restored by the **National Center for Jewish Film**, this presentation returns a rare landmark to circulation after decades out of view, newly presented with English subtitles and a full digital restoration.

Restored with new English subtitles by
The National Center for Jewish Film



The National Center
for Jewish Film

 Tickets

YIDDISH FILM

THU
JUN
11

YIDDISH FILM

DO YOU BELIEVE IN LOVE?

LAZER WEISS

MALKI WEISZ

ROMEO & JULIET

(IN YIDDISH)



an eve annenberg film

VILNA CITY FILMS DBA ANATEVKA FILMS IN ASSOCIATION WITH STRATFORD UPON THE DNEIPER AND OSCAR PRODUCTIONS PRESENT AN EVE ANNEBERG FILM "ROMEO AND JULIET IN YIDDISH" STARRING LAZER WEISS MALKI WEISZ MENDY ZAFIR YDELL "BOBBLES" WEISS AND EVE ANNEBERG INTRODUCING YOSSI FRIEDMAN TRANSLATION BY MARG SPINTER AND LAZER WEISS CINEMATOGRAPHY BY YOUNG CHOI EDITOR JACK HAIGIS COMPOSER JOEL DIAMOND PRODUCTION MANAGER STEPHANIE SHARPE LINE PRODUCERS BEATRISLAV BATA AND BILJANA ILIC ASSOCIATE PRODUCERS ESHAGH MALEKAN AND DAVID JAROSLAWITZ PRODUCED BY LAZER WEISS, MENDY ZAFIR AND EVE ANNEBERG WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY EVE ANNEBERG

SECTS, DRUGS & ROCK 'N' ROLL

Romeo and Juliet in Yiddish

7:30 p.m.

Berney Theatre, Rady JCC | 123 Doncaster Street

Under 30: \$8 | Over 30: \$12

Director: Eve Annenberg | 2010 | 92 minutes

USA | English and Yiddish with English Subtitles

A sharp, funny reimagining of Shakespeare set in contemporary Brooklyn.

A graduate student is tasked with translating Romeo and Juliet into modern Yiddish and enlists three young men who have left ultra-Orthodox communities. Each brings streetwise humour, lived experience with Yiddish, and a complex relationship to language and identity.

As translation becomes collaboration, Verona is reimagined through Brooklyn's streets—subway cars, fire escapes, and Purim celebrations replacing courtyards and palaces.

Shot with non-professional actors from Williamsburg's former Hasidic community, the film blends fiction with lived experience to create a vivid portrait of language, change, and belonging.

 [Tickets](#)

SAT
JUN
13

The Klezmatics – We Were Made for These Times 40TH Anniversary Tour

8:00 p.m.

Crescent Arts Centre | 525 Wardlaw Avenue

Under 30: \$15 | Over 30: \$25



“The Klezmatics have been one of the most adventurous roots bands in New York for more than a quarter of a century.” — The Guardian

A landmark night of Yiddish and world music—The Klezmatics celebrate 40 years together with their new album *We Were Made for These Times*. A Grammy Award-winning ensemble and founding voice of the New Yiddish renaissance, they remain one of the most influential klezmer bands in the world.

Formed in New York’s East Village in 1986, The Klezmatics transformed klezmer from revival into reinvention—turning tradition into a living, evolving musical force. Deeply embedded in New York’s world music scene, they became an organic part of its creative pulse, with an adventurous, boundary-crossing presence that helped shape the city’s musical landscape.

Deeply rooted in the emotional world of Yiddish music, they move with ease between punk intensity, jazz improvisation, folk melody, and gospel energy.

Acclaimed collaborators, they have worked with Itzhak Perlman, Arlo Guthrie, Tony Kushner, Joshua Nelson, and Allen Ginsberg, among many others.

Keenly aware of klezmer’s history as a musical voice of the marginalized, their new album responds to a fractured world with music of solidarity, defiance, and joy—reaching out to all who still struggle.

On stage, The Klezmatics are known for their brilliant and precise musicianship, as well as their ecstatic improvisation and willingness to push songs to the edge—where they open into moments of freedom, expansion, and draw the room together into a shared spirit of dance.

Reception at intermission

Transportation from the Rady JCC available upon request.

Contact Karolina: kgarlinska@radyjcc.com

YIDDISH SOUL MUSIC

 Tickets