



YIVO INSTITUTE FOR JEWISH RESEARCH



NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2021



LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

In 2009 when I joined YIVO, I imagined a dynamic organization built on scholarship, public education, and the preservation of the vibrant cultural, creative, and intellectual life of Eastern European and Russian Jews throughout the world. This complex, often tragic life is at the core of our modern era and YIVO's materials are essential for its study.

We have realized much of this vision through the dedication and professional excellence of YIVO's staff, the commitment of the YIVO board, but moreover because the YIVO community has embraced and rewarded our efforts. During the difficult, dark, and insecure time of the 2020 pandemic, YIVO has remained on schedule to finish the extraordinary *Edward Blank YIVO Vilna Online Collections* project; enrolled the greatest number of students in the history of its *Zumer Program* and the largest *Winter Program* since its founding; significantly expanded our adult Yiddish language programs; produced innumerable online public concerts, lectures, seminars and events attended by thousands of viewers from around the world and in all 50 United States; continued to answer all research inquiries to our Archives and Library; and launched the award-winning *YIVO Bruce and Francesca Cernia Slovin Online Museum*. The base of our support has nearly doubled.

But perhaps YIVO's most important accomplishment over this time is that we have laid the foundation for a twenty-first century, forward-looking, global organization—one that can produce programs for the general public while maintaining its commitment to the highest level of academic scholarship and critical thinking. YIVO's imagination and flexibility during the pandemic has been inspiring, and I salute YIVO's dedicated staff which made this possible.

Yet without the continued vision and enthusiasm of the YIVO board and the vital support of our growing community none of this could have been accomplished. This vision and support ensure our commitment to YIVO's historic mission, as well as the expansion of YIVO's unmatched Archives and Library and the growth of our educational and public programs and exhibitions. If you are not a member, please consider becoming one today and be part of YIVO's future.

JONATHAN BRENT
Executive Director & CEO

ABOVE:
Program highlights from YIVO's 2020 fall season.
(SEE PAGE 8 FOR DETAILS)

COVER:
Child painting in a window. Haifa Children's School Album, 1932.
YIVO Archives.

BECOME A PROUD YIVO MEMBER

Your membership matters! Each visit to the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research connects you with our global community. Members enjoy and help shape enriching educational and public programming while supporting the preservation of YIVO's Archives and Library, which offer new ways of experiencing Jewish history and culture. Recently launched, the YIVO Bruce and Francesca Cernia Slovin Online Museum is among these treasures. To become a member or renew your membership, please visit yivo.org/Membership.

PROGRAMS SPRING SEASON

For tickets, more information, and program updates: yivo.org/Events

WEDNESDAY
FEB 17
1:00PM ET
BOOK TALK
LIVE ON ZOOM

YIDDISH: BIOGRAPHY OF A LANGUAGE
Join us for a conversation celebrating the publication of Jeffrey Shandler's new book, *Yiddish: Biography of a Language*, with Shandler, Anita Norich, and Ayala Fader, moderated by YIVO's Academic Advisor and Director of Exhibitions Eddy Portnoy.

MONDAY
FEB 22
1:00PM ET
JAN KARSKI & POLA NIREŃSKA
AWARD LECTURE

Co-sponsored by
Jewish Historical
Institute in Warsaw
LIVE ON ZOOM

THE PICTURE AND PRICE OF JEWISH ASSIMILATION IN DOCUMENTARY & FEATURE SILENT FILM
Using documentaries and feature silent films, 2019 Jan Karski & Pola Nireńska Award recipient Professor Daniel Grinberg analyzes the changing character and perception of Jews in both the United States and Poland in the early twentieth century and the price of assimilation for Jewish communities of this period.

TUESDAY
MAR 02
1:00PM ET
PANEL
DISCUSSION
LIVE ON ZOOM

BEBA EPSTEIN: THE EXTRAORDINARY LIFE OF AN ORDINARY GIRL
Join us for a discussion celebrating YIVO's online exhibition featuring Beba Epstein's son, Michael Leventhal, scholar Antony Polonsky, museum chief curator Karolina Ziulkoski, and YIVO's Executive Director and CEO Jonathan Brent. The discussion will be moderated by Gal Beckerman (*The New York Times Book Review*).

MONDAY
MAR 08
1:00PM ET
JAN KARSKI & POLA NIREŃSKA
AWARD LECTURE

Co-sponsored by
Jewish Historical
Institute in Warsaw
LIVE ON ZOOM

LEAVING BEHIND THE FROYEN-VINKL, OR HOW WOMEN FUNCTIONED IN THE MALE WORLD OF YIDDISH LITERATURE
2020 Jan Karski and Pola Nireńska Award recipient Dr. Joanna Lisek presents the strategies women used to break their way into the sphere of the printed Yiddish word when few avenues were available for them to make their voices heard.

WEDNESDAY
APR 21
1:00PM ET
SIDNEY KRUM
YOUNG ARTISTS
CONCERT SERIES

PREMIERING
ON FACEBOOK
AND YOUTUBE

CONTINUING EVOLUTION 2: YIDDISH FOLKSONG IN CLASSICAL MUSIC
Join us for a digital premiere performance of five new compositions by composers Derek David, David Ludwig, Anthony Russell, Daniel Schlosberg, and Dan Shore, commissioned by YIVO, performed alongside archival recordings of the Yiddish folksongs they engage with.

THURSDAY
APR 22
1:00PM ET
BOOK TALK

Co-sponsored by the
Yiddish Book Center
LIVE ON ZOOM

SUTZKEVER ESSENTIAL PROSE
In Partnership with Carnegie Hall's Voices of Hope: Artists in Times of Oppression
Translator Zachary Sholem Berger and scholars Miriam Trinh and Karolina Szymaniak, in a discussion moderated by Justin Cammy, celebrate Berger's new translation of the largely unknown prose of seminal Yiddish poet Avrom Sutzkever.

TUESDAY
APR 27
4:00PM ET
PANEL
DISCUSSION
LIVE ON ZOOM

THE JEWISH EXPERIENCE IN OPERA
Composers Ofer Ben-Amots, David Schiff, Bruce Adolphe, and Alex Weiser, and librettist Ben Kaplan discuss Jewish themes in music and what qualifies as a "Jewish opera" in this panel moderated by YIVO's Anne E. Leibowitz Visiting Professor-in-Residence in Music Neil W. Levin.

WEDNESDAY
APR 28
1:00PM ET
CONCERT
LIVE ON ZOOM

CRY, MY HEART, CRY: SONGS FROM TESTIMONIES
In Partnership with Carnegie Hall's Voices of Hope: Artists in Times of Oppression
The Fortunoff Video Archive at Yale University and Zisl Slepovitch are releasing *Cry, My Heart, Cry: Songs from Testimonies in the Fortunoff Video Archive, Vol. 2* featuring arrangements of songs transcribed from Holocaust survivors' testimonies. Join us for this release with performances and a live digital discussion with the musicians behind this project.

TUESDAY
MAY 04
1:00PM ET
PANEL
DISCUSSION
LIVE ON ZOOM

LEFTISTS ON LEFT-WING ANTISEMITISM
This unique panel brings together a range of scholars and activists on the Left to discuss conflicting notions of what Left antisemitism consists of, where different parts of the Left stand in relation to this issue, and constructive ways it can be dealt with.

WEDNESDAY
MAY 12
1:00PM ET
COOKING
DEMONSTRATION
LIVE ON ZOOM

A TASTE OF ROME'S HISTORIC JEWISH CUISINE
Join Leah Koenig for a cooking demonstration of *concia*, an ancient and delicious fried/marinated zucchini dish—part of the cuisine that developed in Rome's Jewish ghetto.

TUESDAY
MAY 25
1:00PM ET
BOOK TALK
LIVE ON ZOOM

SALOMEA PERL & WOMEN YIDDISH PROSE WRITERS
Translator Ruth Murphy, Anna Fishman Gonshor, and Justin Cammy, in a discussion moderated by Rokhl Kafrissen, celebrate Murphy's new translation of Salomea Perl's writings and reflect on how previously ignored or lost female authors are being brought into the Yiddish canon.

**FEB 28
MAR 14
APR 11**

NEW! YIDDISH CLUB
A new event for Yiddish enthusiasts the world over, the YIVO Yiddish club is an informal monthly gathering to celebrate *mame-loshn*. Hosted by Shane Baker with a new guest each month, sessions will take place in English and will include ample time for audience questions and group discussion.

Unable to attend our programs?
Watch past YIVO events at yivo.org/Video.

EDUCATION

WINTER PROGRAM & YIDDISH INTENSIVES

Held annually in January since 2012, the YIVO-Bard Winter Program invites students to delve into Ashkenazi Jewish life and culture covering its thousand-year history in Eastern Europe and across the diaspora. Hosted online for the first time, the 2021 Winter Program boasted over 300 student registrations and featured courses taught by Anna Bikont, Jonathan Brent, Anita Norich, Richard Ovenden, Ronald Robboy, Timothy Snyder, Ilan Stavans, and Miriam Udel. The keynote lecture, given by Russian politician and economist Grigory Yavlinsky, discussed the political system of modern Russia and its significance to the world.

Running concurrently with the Winter Program was YIVO's series of intensive winter Yiddish courses, returning for its second year. Due to increased demand for Yiddish language classes, the program expanded from two classes last year to nine this year, with 152 students.

2021 URIEL WEINREICH SUMMER PROGRAM IN YIDDISH LANGUAGE, LITERATURE, AND CULTURE

Learn more and apply at summerprogram.yivo.org.

JUNE 21 – JULY 30, 2021

Taking place online for the second year, our six-week intensive program offers peerless instruction in the Yiddish language and an in-depth exploration of the literature and culture of East European Jewry and its diaspora communities. The program features six levels of language study, history and culture seminars, *shmuves* (conversation) classes, a theater workshop, lectures by visiting scholars, a Yiddish song workshop, and more.

The Weinreich Program treats Yiddish as a living language and emphasizes spoken Yiddish.

If six weeks isn't enough, join us for our additional programs to expand your Yiddish learning:

REFRESHER COURSE | JUNE 14-18, 2021

Instructor: Dovid Braun

YIDDISH: THE NEXT LEVEL | AUGUST 2-13, 2021

Instructors: Miriam Trinh and Eliezer Niborski

Financial Aid Applicants Apply by: **February 26**

General Applicants Apply by: **March 26**

Education in 2020 BY THE NUMBERS



44 classes



60 countries
and all **50**
U.S. states
represented



17,784
students

DEADLINE EXTENDED!



All of YIVO's Shine Online Educational Series courses are now free through August 31, 2021.

OVER 17,000 REGISTRATIONS SINCE MARCH 2020 ACROSS FOUR CLASSES

Visit YIVO.ORG/SHINE ▶

SPRING CLASSES

YIDDISH

All Yiddish classes are 12 sessions.

BEGINNER II CONVERSATIONAL YIDDISH FOR HERITAGE LEARNERS (MORNING)

February 7 – May 9 | 10:00am-11:30am ET | Instr.: Mikhl Yashinsky

BEGINNER II CONVERSATIONAL YIDDISH FOR HERITAGE LEARNERS (AFTERNOON)

February 7 – May 9 | 12:00pm-1:30pm ET | Instr.: Mikhl Yashinsky

BEGINNER I YIDDISH (MONDAY)

February 22 – May 24 | 11:00am-12:30pm ET | Instr.: Mikhl Yashinsky

BEGINNER I YIDDISH (TUESDAY MORNING)

February 23 – May 11 | 11:00am-12:30pm ET | Instr.: Eve Jochnowitz

BEGINNER I YIDDISH (TUESDAY EVENING)

March 2 – May 18 | 6:00pm-7:30pm ET | Instr.: Nina Warnke

BEGINNER II YIDDISH (MONDAY I)

February 22 – May 24 | 8:30am-10:00am ET | Instr.: Vera Szabó

BEGINNER II YIDDISH (MONDAY II)

February 22 – May 24 | 11:00am-12:30pm ET | Instr.: Vera Szabó

BEGINNER II YIDDISH (TUESDAY)

March 2 – May 18 | 7:00pm-8:30pm ET | Instr.: Josh Price

BEGINNER II YIDDISH (THURSDAY)

March 4 – May 20 | 11:00am-12:30pm ET | Instr.: Josh Price

BEGINNER III YIDDISH

February 22 – May 24 | 6:30pm-8:00pm ET | Instr.: Perl Teitelbaum

BEGINNER IV YIDDISH

March 3 – May 19 | 6:00pm-7:30pm ET | Instr.: Nina Warnke

INTERMEDIATE I YIDDISH

February 24 – May 12 | 6:00pm-7:30pm ET | Instr.: Dovid Braun

INTERMEDIATE II YIDDISH

March 2 – May 18 | 6:00pm-7:30pm ET | Instr.: Anna Fishman Gonshor

INTERMEDIATE III YIDDISH

February 23 – May 11 | 6:00pm-7:30pm ET | Instr.: Sheva Zucker

ADVANCED YIDDISH

March 4 – May 20 | 6:00pm-7:30pm ET | Instr.: Dovid Braun

- ▶ Questions? Visit yivo.org/Class-FAQ to help determine which Yiddish class is right for you!

Given growing demand for Yiddish classes, YIVO increased our usual fall class offerings and saw record attendance. Continuing this trend, we are offering 19 classes this spring. Space is limited and classes fill up quickly, so be sure to register today.

All classes will be held on Zoom. To learn more and register, visit yivo.org/Classes.

HISTORY AND CULTURE

All history and culture classes are 10 sessions.

EASTERN EUROPE: A PORTABLE JEWISH HOMELAND

March 18 – May 20 | 4:00pm-5:30pm ET | Instr.: Aleksandra Jakubczak

- ▶ This course explores the social and cultural history of Eastern European Jewry in a transnational perspective, drawing upon primary, secondary, and digital sources. It will explore the transformation of Eastern European Jewry from a primarily traditional to a modern society and trace the transcontinental journey of their Eastern European heritage.

קורצע דערציילונגען לייענקרײַז SHORT STORY READING GROUP

March 7 – May 23 | 5:00pm – 6:15pm ET | Instr.: Anita Norich

- ▶ This *leyenkrayz* will begin with a story by Y.L. Peretz and will continue with stories by both well-known and lesser-known writers, guided by student interest. All texts will be given and discussed in Yiddish.

VICTORIAN JEWISH LITERATURE

March 16 – May 18 | 12:00pm-1:30pm ET | Instr.: Lorraine Rumson

- ▶ Victorian England's reputation for buttoned-up Anglicanism masks a colorful world of Jewish culture. This course will dive into literature written by Jews in Victorian England, from Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli to first-generation immigrants in late-Victorian London, as a means to explore this period of Jewish history.

YIDDISH MODERNISM IN UKRAINE

March 10 – May 12 | 5:30pm – 7:00pm ET | Instr.: Tetyana Yakovleva

- ▶ This course provides a survey of Yiddish Modernism in Ukraine in 1920-30s. We will read and discuss selected prose, poetry, and press works representing eminent Soviet Yiddish poets and writers, many of whom were members of the Kiev's Kultur-lige and the Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee. All texts will be given and discussed in English.



The Edward Blank YIVO Vilna Online Collections

The Edward Blank YIVO Vilna Online Collections project is an international project to preserve, digitize, and virtually reunite YIVO's prewar library and archival collections located in New York City and Vilnius, Lithuania, through a dedicated web portal. The project will also digitally reconstruct the historic, private Strashun Library of Vilna, one of the great prewar libraries of Europe.

This project is a partnership between the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, the Lithuanian Central State Archives, the Martynas Mažvydas National Library of Lithuania, and the Wroblewski Library of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences, and includes the cataloging, conservation, and digitization of documents and books in both New York and Vilnius.

Approximately 1 million of the expected 1.5 million pages of archival documents have been digitized and 900,000 pages from 44 collections are available to view online now at vilnacollections.yivo.org/Collections-Online.

We are entering the last year of this seven-year landmark digitization project. Learn how you can be a part of this major initiative at vilnacollections.yivo.org/Donate.

PROGRESS THROUGH JANUARY 15, 2021

YIVO has raised
\$6 million of our **\$7 million** goal

OVER 3 MILLION PAGES DIGITIZED



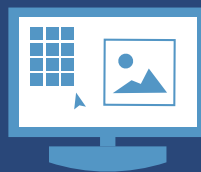
100%

books digitized
50% available online
[Project goal: 12,500 books]



Over 75%

archival documents digitized
[Project goal: Est. 1.5 million pages]



Over 50%

images of books and documents available online
[Project goal: Est. 4.1 million pages]

Featured Artifact



SHEIMOS FOUND AMONGST THE ASHES OF THE DESTROYED YIVO BUILDING IN VILNA

These scorched pages, fragments of destroyed religious and secular works in Hebrew and Yiddish, were found among the ruins of the YIVO building at 18 Wulwulskiego Street and brought to YIVO in New York by Leyzer Ran in 1947. These remnants include the title page of volume II of the second edition of a Yiddish translation of Solomon Maimon's autobiography published in Vilna in 1938; the title page of volume II of L. Borovski's Yiddish translation of Petr Alekseevich Kropotkin's *The History of the Great French Revolution*, published in Vilna in 1929; and a page containing a printed portrait of the Ba'al Shem-Tov. Encased in four glass and wooden enclosures for over seven decades, these destroyed pages are what remains of the materials the Paper Brigade had hidden in YIVO's attic in the hopes that these materials could be saved from Nazi destruction. Images of these cases are now available online as part of **The Sutzkever Kacerginski Collection Part II** (RG 223.2), the collection of YIVO documents and artifacts that the Paper Brigade successfully hid in the Vilna Ghetto and recovered after the war (archives.cjh.org/repositories/7/resources/19985).



LEFT:
Lucy Fitz Gibbon and Jonathan Woody,
with pianist Miki Sawada, perform at
YIVO's 2018 program, "Sweet Is Thy
Voice: The Song of Songs in Concert."

BELOW:
Sheet music for Joel Engel's *Jewish
Folksongs* with art by Leonid
Pasternak, 1909. YIVO Archives.



REVITALIZATION OF JEWISH CLASSICAL MUSIC AT YIVO

ALEX WEISER, *Director of Public Programs*

There is a wealth of music amid the treasures of YIVO's collections. Folksong field recordings and song books, liturgical music, hundreds of sets of parts for Yiddish operettas, thousands of popular music broadsheets, recordings in the form of 78s, LPs, CDs, and much more.

As a composer of contemporary classical music myself, one aspect of these collections has been particularly exciting for me to get to know: Jewish classical music. There are arrangements of Yiddish, Hebrew, and Ladino folksongs; art songs which set to music Yiddish and Hebrew poetry; chamber music elaborating on Jewish melodies and musical styles; and more.

These works themselves are artifacts of history that can deepen our understanding of the musical, literary, cultural, and political worlds they came from. Even lesser known musical gems broaden the richness of their respective traditions, allowing us to listen beyond the celebrated canon of perennial favorites. What is more, their beauty and inherent musical value have much to offer audiences today.

Curating concerts that bring this music to light has been one of my great joys working at YIVO. By performing this music and putting it into the hands—and on the music stands—of up-and-coming musicians, we ensure that it remains part of a living and breathing tradition. Furthermore, we keep that tradition vital by

adding to it. New works contribute a fresh perspective to these traditions and offer an opportunity for contemporary composers to musically think through the meaning and relevance of the past.

Towards this end, YIVO—with generous support from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs—has commissioned a variety of new compositions that add to these repertoires.

YIVO commissioned Annie Gosfield's *Number Six Goerck Street* which is about a rent strike in the Lower East Side; Ofer Ben-Amots's *Nigun & Hora* for cello and piano; works reflecting on the *Song of Songs* from Loren Loiacono and Na'ama Zisser; *Book of Doubt / Book of Faith* from Adam Roberts as a companion piece to Morton Feldman's *Rothko Chapel* and David Lang's *Little Match Girl Passion* on our "Secular Sacred Music" concert; and new works based on Yiddish folksongs from Martin Bresnick, Marti Epstein, Aaron Kernis, and Judith Shatin.

This coming April, YIVO will be adding five more works to this list with another concert exploring Yiddish folksongs which will feature new works from Derek David, David Ludwig, Anthony Russel, Daniel Schlosberg, and Dan Shore. I hope you'll join us at this concert as we celebrate, reflect upon, and expand the rich musical legacy preserved in our collections.

Curious to hear our past concerts? Listen now on YIVO's YouTube Channel: [youtube.com/user/yivoarchive](https://www.youtube.com/user/yivoarchive)

NEWS FROM YIVO

SUKKOT AROUND THE WORLD

YIVO hosted “Sukkot Around the World,” a virtual gala celebrating international Jewish cuisines. Dr. Eddy Portnoy, Academic Advisor and Exhibition Curator, led a memorable journey into the kitchens of four chefs who prepared Sukkot dishes unique to Ethiopia, Hungary, Italy, and North Africa. Ron Arazi, co-founder and culinary director of New York Shuk, introduced his spicy and flavorful Moroccan fava bean soup. Beejhy Barhany, chef and owner of Tsion Café, revealed the secrets to goman—Ethiopian stewed collard greens served with injera. Joan Nathan, acclaimed for books such as *King Solomon’s Table*; *Jewish Cooking in America*, prepared the sweet and savory Italian pasta dish, masconod. The chef and owner of HUDA restaurant, Yehuda Sichel, shared his technique of making authentic Hungarian apple strudel. Adding to the festivities were interactive chats with our chefs, tasters, YIVO board members, supporters, and staff. Visit YIVO’s YouTube Channel to access this wonderful program.

YIVO RECEIVES \$20,000 GRANT FROM SILVIAN FOUNDATION PHILANTHROPY

The YIVO Institute for Jewish Research is delighted to announce a grant of \$20,000 from the Slomo and Cindy Silvian Foundation, Inc. to help fund the preservation of the Nachman Blumental Archive. Pioneering historian Nachman Blumental, a Holocaust survivor, compiled an expansive archive that includes original documents from the Łódź Ghetto. Many of these rescued materials were used during the Nuremberg Trials to corroborate survivor testimonies. YIVO is honored by the Silvian Foundation’s commitment and generosity.

THE YIVO BRUCE AND FRANCESCA CERNIA SLOVIN ONLINE MUSEUM NOW LIVE

This August, YIVO launched its landmark YIVO Bruce and Francesca Cernia Slovin Online Museum with its first interactive exhibition, *Beba Epstein: The Extraordinary Life of an Ordinary Girl*. The exhibition explores East European Jewish life in the 20th and 21st centuries through the true story of one young girl. Developed in consultation with scholars and Beba Epstein’s family, the exhibition combines innovative technology with first-rate storytelling to showcase rare materials from YIVO’s archive. This is the first public presentation of Beba’s childhood autobiography from the 1930s. The YIVO Cernia Slovin Online Museum won a 2020 Vega Award: the Arcturus Award in the Websites – Cultural category. Visit the museum free of charge to the global public at museum.yivo.org.

Since its launch, over 10,000 people from 92 countries have

visited the website. The team behind the exhibition has participated in a variety of webinars and online events to discuss the project and its importance, including:

- ▶ “Teaching with Testimony across the Curriculum”, a webinar with the University of Birmingham for teachers featuring Karolina Ziulkoski, Chief Curator of the YIVO Cernia Slovin Online Museum
- ▶ “Holocaust education in the virtual COVID-19 world”, an event with the United Nations featuring Jonathan Brent (YIVO Executive Director & CEO) and Ziulkoski
- ▶ “An incredible journey of a teenage girl of pre-war Vilna, the Holocaust and post-war America”, an event with the Johannesburg Holocaust & Genocide Centre featuring Brent, Ziulkoski, and Michael Leventhal (Beba Epstein’s son)

On March 2, YIVO will host a discussion celebrating this exhibition (SEE PAGE 3).

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS FALL 2020

ASHKENAZI JEWS AND CHINESE FOOD

(DECEMBER 22) For many Ashkenazi Jews in the U.S., Christmastime sparks memories of egg rolls and General Tso’s chicken. Over 1,600 people tuned in live to hear Andrew Coe, author of *Chop Suey: A Cultural History of Chinese Food in the United States*, trace this delicious history from the turn-of-the-century Lower East Side to today’s take-out lo mein. This program now has over 6,500 views on YIVO’s YouTube channel.

JOEL ENGEL’S “JEWISH FOLKSONGS” VOLUMES I & II

(NOVEMBER 10) This digital performance featured Joel Engel’s “Jewish Folksongs” Volumes I & II—twenty influential but now little-known arrangements which inspired the composers affiliated with the Society for Jewish Folk Music to create a vast oeuvre of classical compositions similarly engaged with Yiddish folksong. Engel’s work also influenced other composers who used Yiddish folksongs in their music including, famously, Sergei Prokofiev who wrote his *Overture on Hebrew Themes* based on Yiddish folksong melodies. There was previously no available recording of the complete collection of these songs. Now the songs, along with song texts and translations, are available for free for anyone in the world to enjoy. This program has over 3,700 views across YIVO’s YouTube channel and Facebook page.

YIDDISH CHILDREN’S LITERATURE TODAY

(OCTOBER 7) The Jewish children’s literature field is booming and the demand for representation of Jewish children in books, for Jewish children, has played a big part in that boom. Miriam Udel, Naomi Seidman, and Jennifer Young, in a conversation moderated by Rokhl Kafrissen (*Tablet Magazine*), explored Yiddish literature’s potential to educate readers, how Yiddish literature differs from other texts aimed at young Jewish readers, and what Yiddish literature can bring to the field of Jewish children’s literature. Over 100 people watched live on Zoom and over 700 people have watched on YouTube.

א שיינעם דאנק!

*YIVO thanks its many incredible volunteers
for all their hard work and assistance.*

Dr. Evelyn Ackerman	Lorraine Korn
Moishele Alfonso	Alys Kremer
Jason Appelbaum	Aaron Krishtalka
Annette Aronowicz	Aileen Kroll
Rebecca Bailin	Ruby Jane Landau-Pincus
Sonia Bay	Dr. Chava Lapin
Cameron Bernstein	Michael Levgur
Catherine Bindman	Dr. Gail Malmgreen
Sarah Biskowitz	Selma Marks
Eric Blitz	Yvette Marrin
Rena Borow	Elliot Matz
Faivus Brauer	Dr. Ellen Mausner
Francine Brown	Andy Meraz
Alex Bruner	Ellen Messer
Bella Bryk Klein	Susan Milamed
Faina Burko	Jory Miller
Sandra Cohen	Anne Moorhouse
Stefanie Cooper	Kiyoshi Nature
Anna Czamara	Jeremy Paton
Dorota Czarnocha	Renée Paton
Michele Doctoroff	Selma Perlstein
Sophie Edelhart	Tina Persson
Cheri Eisenberg	Bina Presser
Leon Fay	Alexandra Price
Gabriel Feldman	Martin Quetsche
Linda Finkin	Joshua Rivera
Ari Firester	Susan Roth
Jane Foss	Julia Rothkoff
Mark Friedman	Elissa Samberg
Rosalie Frost	Mimi Sandler
Asia Fruman	Reuven Schlenker
Adam Gelman	Elle Schweber
Beth Gerson	Sara Shafer
Denisa Glacova	Rochelle Sibley
Aleksandra Godlewska	Akarin Simiamphone
Charles Goldfischer	Alexander Simon
Mariya Goncharenko	Maciej Skwierawski
Amanda Gordon	Maxine Spiegel
Osnat Greenbaum	Johanna Spilman
Mark Grinberg	Michael Stock
Nikki Halpern	Sofia Tarnagurskaya
Shirley Hochhausen	Jules Trachten
Elena Hoffenberg	Paula Trushin
Harriet Holzman	Ella Weiner
Charlotte Hovland	Seth Weisberg
David Isaak	Katharina Hadassah Wendl
Aleksandra Jakubczak	Danielle Winter Langer
Joshua Johnson	Robin Wright
Laurel Kallen	Tetyana Yakovleva
David Katz	Justyna Zajac
Vera Katz	Hindy Zand
Beverly Katzman	Dr. Aurora Zinder
Milan Kende Loewer	

YIVO IN THE MEDIA

Here are some of YIVO's media highlights from Fall 2020:

YIVO BRUCE AND FRANCESCA CERNIA SLOVIN ONLINE MUSEUM

Jewish Journal (NOVEMBER 30, 2020)

YIVO Institute Virtual Exhibition: "Beba Epstein"

Radio Sefarad (NOVEMBER 12, 2020)

YIVO Online Museum, with Karolina Ziulkoski

South African Jewish Report (OCTOBER 15, 2020)

Jewish exhibition reveals mother's past life

The New York Times (SEPTEMBER 30, 2020)

Beba's Story Tells of Jewish Life Before the Nazis

The Jewish Chronicle (SEPTEMBER 4, 2020)

Mum's life? The whole world is now piecing it back together

YIVO'S SHINE ONLINE EDUCATION SERIES

JUF News (NOVEMBER 25, 2020)

Hungering for Connection?

South Sound Magazine (NOVEMBER 25, 2020)

Culinary Experts Share Insights Into Jewish Tradition

Hadassah Magazine (OCTOBER 14, 2020)

At YIVO Online, (Food) Class Is in Session

YIVO ARCHIVES

In Geveb (DECEMBER 14, 2020)

Briv funem Arkhiv: A Family Treasure, Protected at YIVO

The Archivists Roundtable (OCTOBER 29, 2020)

In Plain Sight

Smithsonian Center for Folklife & Cultural Heritage Magazine

(OCTOBER 16, 2020)

How Jewish Newspaper Editors Flipped Anti-Semitic

Imagery into the First Yiddish Cartoon

Jewish Renaissance (OCTOBER 2020)

Songs of the Suffragettes

YIVO NEWS

The Algemeiner (DECEMBER 29, 2020)

'Democracy in Russia Has Failed,' Says Prominent Russian

Liberal Political Leader Grigory Yavlinsky

The Forward (DECEMBER 23, 2020)

YIVO winter courses cover tyranny, poetry and children's literature

The Forward (SEPTEMBER 16, 2020)

YIVO recognized by US government for saving cultural treasures

Oregon Jewish Life (SEPTEMBER 10, 2020)

YIVO Receives IMLS Save America's Treasures Grant

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JANUARY 1, 2020 – DECEMBER 31, 2020

THE BENEFITS OF PLANNED GIVING

Generous provisions in U.S. tax laws enable individuals to partner with charitable organizations to make donations that take estate, tax, and financial planning into account.

Whether planning for income for retirement, avoiding tax on long-term capital gains, reducing or eliminating estate taxes, easing the tax burden from IRAs or other qualified plans or making tax-advantaged charitable gifts, Planned Giving can offer a variety of strategies.

We can assist you and your advisors in customizing a plan. Please contact Melissa S. Cohen at 212.294.6156 or MCOHEN@YIVO.CJH.ORG.

OPTIONS

Charitable Gift Annuity – for partially tax-free fixed rate income for life.

Charitable Remainder Trust – for fixed rate lifetime income and avoidance of tax on long-term capital gains.

Charitable Lead Trust – to pass property to the next generation at low cost.

Bequest – leave a gift after lifetime and reduce estate taxes.

Endowment Fund – a named gift in perpetuity to carry out a special purpose.

Life Insurance – existing or new policies for tax deductions to leverage larger future gifts at low cost.

HOW TO MAKE A PLANNED GIFT

Cash – best for charitable gift annuities or outright gifts.

Securities – avoid tax on long-term capital gains.

Real Estate – deduct appraised value; no tax on long-term capital gains.

IRAs – designate charity as a beneficiary and avoid potential double tax.

Life Insurance – designate charity as a beneficiary or owner of a policy.

► yivo.org/Planned-Giving

YIVO would like to express its deepest gratitude to our **1925 LEGACY SOCIETY*** Members. Their legacy gifts make a lasting impact on the work YIVO does.

If you have already included YIVO in your estate plan, or would like to remember YIVO in your planning, please contact Melissa S. Cohen at 212.294.6156 or MCOHEN@YIVO.CJH.ORG to learn about your options.

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NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2021

ABOUT YIVO

The YIVO Institute for Jewish Research is dedicated to the preservation and study of the history and culture of East European Jewry worldwide. For nearly a century, YIVO has pioneered new forms of Jewish scholarship, research, education, and cultural expression. Our public programs and exhibitions, as well as online and on-site courses, extend our global outreach and enable us to share our vast resources. The YIVO Archives contains more than 23 million original items and YIVO's Library has over 400,000 volumes—the single largest resource for such study in the world.

Currently, YIVO is not open to the public. We are closely monitoring the situation and following the guidance from the offices of the Governor and the Mayor. The health and safety of our patrons and staff is our primary concern. YIVO is located at the Center for Jewish History, and we will be working with their team on reopening plans. In the meantime, YIVO staff continue to work remotely and can be contacted via email.

CONTACT

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Administrative Hours

Mon–Thu 9:00am–5:00pm

Fri 9:00am–4:00pm

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