

## Past Events at Sephardic House 2001

### February 27, 2001 **Meet the Author Series: *Goodbye, Evil Eye: Stories***

Author: Gloria DeVidas Kirchheimer The stories in the book revolve around the tensions between Sephardic Jews - whose multilingual roots lie in Spain, Turkey, Greece, Egypt, the Middle East-and contemporary life in the United States. The stories address the particular experiences of women, immigrants, and Jews in a pluralistic society. **Location: Center for Jewish History** Free Admission

**March 4, 2001 *Piamenta in Concert***: A performance of Oriental Jewish music from the traditional to the cutting edge of modern Sephardic songs. Yossi Piamenta, 14th generation Jerusalem born Sephardi, grew up in Israel surrounded by the sounds of Middle Eastern music. His musical repertoire delves deep into the Sephardi-Oriental tradition while fusing the influence of rock and jazz.

**March 27, 2001 *Meet the Author Series: The Heritic: Understanding the Tragic History of Christian anti-Judaism*** Author: Lewis M. Weinstein The Heritic describes the anti-Judaism of the church in compelling and emotional detail set in 15th century Spain. It tells the story of Gabriel Catalan, a goldsmith, printer, tax collector, and power broker in Seville in the years preceding the Spanish Inquisition. The sights, sounds and smells of medieval Spain come to life in an exciting portrayal of a painful history. **Location: Center for Jewish History** (6 pm) Free Admission

**April 23, 2001 *Sephardic Kosher Cooking Class with our chef, Carole Basri***. Monday evening. **Location:** At the home of Carole Basri in the West Village, NYC; (Between 8 th Street & Waverly Place) featuring The Cuisine of the Jews of Singapore: A Shabbat Menu: Mango Chutney, Red Snapper Madras Curry, Chicken & Curry with Basmati Rice, Chicken Satte, Banana Bread, Lemon Loaf, Various Salads, Cost - \$25 Members \$30 Non-members, space is limited.

**April 24, 2001 *Out of Spain: Creative Resources for Youngsters*** Editor: Andree Aelion Brooks; Out of Spain is an excellent resource and curriculum which is lively, and interactive for use in the classroom, in informal educational settings and in the home to teach youngsters about the history and culture of Sephardic Jews. The series contains three books which cover : Our Spanish Heritage, Off to Other Lands, Celebrating Sephardic Culture, a Teacher's Resource Guide, a musical cassette and/or CD and a 12 minute teaching video which is narrated by Theodore Bikel. It tells the story of the Jews whose ancestors came from the Iberian peninsula. **Location: Center for Jewish History** Free Admission

**Wednesday, May 16, 2001** (Free event) **BUT WHO AM I, AND WHO ARE MY PEOPLE: A RABBI'S REFLECTION ON THE RABBINATE AND THE JEWISH COMMUNITY** Author: Rabbi Marc D. Angel, Congregation Shearith Israel, The Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue in NYC. Rabbi Angel, the spiritual leader of the oldest synagogue in the United States, former president

of the Rabbinical Council of America, prominent Orthodox Jewish leader sets out to explain in this fascinating and highly personal book what it is that rabbis do and why. As the book's organizational principle, he imaginatively and effectively utilizes the ten Sefirot of the Kabbalah, the mystical emanations in which aspects of the divine find expression in human life.

**Wednesday, June 6, 2001** THE ROAD TO FEZ - AT MAKOR, 35 West 67 St NYC Co-sponsored with Sephardic House With Ruth Knafo Setton, Yoel Ben-Simhon. Delight in a Sephardic-Mediterranean odyssey that weaves a tapestry of music and verbal imagery. Follow poet and fiction writer, Ruth Knafo Setton, author of the new novel, The Road to Fez, and musician and composer Yoel Ben-Simhon, as they cross borders to explore desire and memory in Sephardic culture. The Road to Fez has been described as "a daring leap into a seductive realm of scent, sound and longing. Admission \$8.00.

**Sunday, June 10, 2001** At the Center for Jewish History OFRI ELIAZ & SAHAR ENSEMBLE Medieval Judeo-Spanish (Ladino) music with a Middle Eastern Flavor. Performers: Ofri Eliaz, vocalist, John LaBarbera, oud, guitar, mandolin, bouzouki, Joe Deninzon, Violin, Emmanuel Mann, bass, Raquy Danziger, percussion Ladino is the medieval Spanish dialect of the Sephardic Jews. After their expulsion from Spain in 1492, Sephardic Jews migrated to many lands, including Greece, Turkey, the Balkans, Italy and North Africa. Their music reflects these diverse cultural influences. The Sahar Ensemble interprets this music freely. Sponsored by Sephardic House, Yeshiva University Museum, and the Office of Cultural Affairs of the Consulate General of Israel in New York City. Tickets: \$18. For Members of Sephardic House, YUM, seniors and students with ID card. \$22. for general public. Box office reservations: 917-606-8200 Special Dessert Reception for Patrons with the artists following the concert in honor of Sephardic House. \$100 Patron (concert ticket included).

**Wednesday, June 13, 2001** (free event) A SHORT REMARKABLE HISTORY OF NEW YORK CITY Author: Dr. Jane Mushabac With close to 1,500 entries on a fast-paced timeline, with illustrations from the Museum of the City of New York, this book tells the story of the past five centuries in New York City and highlights the remarkable contributions of Sephardic Jews in the building of our great city.

**Wednesday, July 18, 2001** (Free event) SEMANA SEPHARAD: THE LECTURES STUDIES ON SEPHARDIC CULTURE Author: Rabbi Dr. M. Mitchell Serels, editor. This volume of articles recounts the remarkable history of the Sephardim in Spain and their cultural adaptation in the lands of their dispersal. Their story is told by scholars of great reknown from the United States, Israel and Europe.

October 14,  
THE JEWS OF PORTUGAL  
Complementing the YUM exhibition Signs of Judaism in Portugal  
Tickets: \$12; \$8 YUM & SH  
Concert and Lecture with video, featuring Judith Cohen and Tamar Adams Cohen  
Music in the Lives of the Crypto-Jews of Portugal

Special Dessert Reception following the concert: \$75 Includes concert and YUM admission.

October 25,

Tickets: \$9; \$7 YUM & SH

Understanding Jewish Continuity in Portugal

Without the Past: The Story of the Portuguese Jews, 1997, 24 mins.

Speaker: Isaac Bitton with special Tribute to honor the righteous memory of Dr. de Sousa Mendes.

November 1,

Tickets: \$9; \$7 YUM & SH

The Last Marranos. France, 1990, 65 mins., Portuguese with English subtitles

Speaker: Ms. Nan Rubin, lecturer, producer of National Public Radio broadcast on Crypto-Jews of New Mexico.

November 8,

Tickets: \$9; \$7 YUM & SH

Illustrated Lecture: The History of the Jews of Portugal... Then and Now.

Speaker: Judge Jerome S. Medowar

November, 18,

Mr. Michael Salinas, member of Hispanic Genealogical Society

Talk: Discovering My Sephardic Roots. Ms. Nan Rubin, Lecturer, Producer of National Public Radio Series,

The Hidden Jews of New Mexico: Talk: Crypto-Jews and Historical Research; Mr. Randall C. Belinfante, Librarian/Archivist of American Sephardi Federation Talk: Sephardic Genealogical Resources: Collections & Archives. Sponsored by Sephardic House, Jewish Genealogical Society, Inc. The Puerto-Rican/Hispanic Genealogical Society and the Office of Cultural Affairs, Consulate of Israel in NY - Place: Center for Jewish History, 15 West 16th Street (between Fifth and Sixth Avenues) - Free event - \*The Center Genealogy Institute will be open 12:30-2:00pm - for networking with other researchers.

November 26,

Special event in co-operation with the Portuguese National Tourist Office

Celebrating the Jews of Portugal: An evening of music, lectures and refreshments.

*Sephardic House, The Portuguese National Tourist Office,  
The Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue*

*Special Event*

**PROGRAM**

*An evening of music, lectures and refreshments.*

*v Greetings: Mr. Roger M. Mendes, Jewish Market Consultant for the Portuguese Tourist Office*

*v Lecture: Dona Gracia and the House of Mendes: A Tale of Portuguese Jews During the Renaissance presented by Andree Aelion Brooks, Journalist,*

*lecturer, author of "The Woman Who Defied Kings: The Life and Times of Dona Gracia Nasi" (to be published June, 2002 ).*

*v Music in the Lives of the Crypto-Jews of Portugal featuring Judith Cohen, Canadian ethnomusicologist and performer who has been researching music in the lives of Crypto-Jews since 1996.*

*Refreshments: Le Marais Restaurant and wines compliments of Abravanel Wines.*

*Place: The Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue, 2 West 70th Street, NYC*

*Free Event*

MEET THE AUTHOR SERIES Sponsored by the Braka Philanthropic Foundation

October 16,

Free

THE ROAD TO FEZ, a novel

Author: Ruth Knafo Setton

Ms. Setton's first novel tells the story of 18 year-old Brit Lek's return to Morocco, her birthplace. She plans to fulfill her mother's dying wish that she make a pilgrimage to Fez to the grave of Suleika, a 19th century Jewish martyr revered by both Arabs and Jews. It allows us a rare glimpse behind the veil into an intense world filled with passion and compelling characters, mixture of cultures, and of the real and magic - all so utterly original while familiar, the way that best tales are told. Book available \$23.

November 15,

Free

MOTHER OF THE POUND: Memoirs on the life and history of the Iraqi Jews

Author: Dr. David Kazzaz

This new second edition chronicles the 1950 exodus of the Iraqi Jews that was sparked by an heroic young woman who became known from Baghdad to Jerusalem as "Mother of the Pound". The author brings intimate knowledge and unique insights gained in nearly three decades as a practicing psychiatrist educated in Lebanon, Israel and the US to the story of the Jews of Iraq. Book available \$30.

LADINO (Judeo-Espanol) LANGUAGE CLASS

Sponsored by Congregation Shearith Israel in cooperation with Sephardic House and The American Sephardi Federation at The Center for Jewish History.

October 15, 22, 29, November 5, 12, 19, 16, December 3.

Fall Semester - Monday evenings 6-7:30pm - 8 sessions

Winter Semester - Monday evenings 6-7:30pm - 8 sessions - ( on 6th floor )

January 7, 14, 28 February 4, 11, March 4, 11.

Instructor: Daisy Sadaka Braverman

Registration Fee: \$50 per semester  
 Contact: Rabbi Ira Rohde at 212/873-0300 Ext. 217 to register.

**LADINO PLAYERS THEATER WORKSHOP** of Congregation Shearith Israel  
 Monday evenings 7:30 - 9pm following the Ladino class. Open to anyone interested in performing, singing and to assist in the production. The workshop will prepare a series of traditional "konejas" and "Kantigas" (folktales and folksongs) to be performed on Yom Yerushalayim, May 9, 2002.  
 Please register as above. No fees.

**SEPHARDIC KOSHER COOKING CLASSES** with our chef Carole Basri.  
 Wednesday, September 12 at the chef's home in the West Village, NYC.  
 Sephardic Kosher Cuisine of Myanmar (Burma) (To be rescheduled)  
 Cost: \$25 members; \$30 non-members. Limited space. Prepayment necessary  
 Future Dates to be announced: Sephardic Kosher Cuisine of Portugal in November  
 Sephardic Kosher Cuisine of Japan in December,

November 18,  
**RESEARCHING SEPHARDIC GENEALOGY**  
 In co-operation with The Puerto-Rican/ Hispanic Genealogical Society, The Jewish Genealogical Society, Inc. and The Office of Cultural Affairs of the Consulate General of Israel. The Center Genealogical Institute will be open from 12:30-2:00 for networking with other researchers.

December 1- December 9,  
**6TH INTERNATIONAL SEPHARDIC FILM FESTIVAL** with a Tribute to the Sephardic Experience in Israel  
 Multiple Screenings/\$30 Five-Film Festival Pass

Featured will be the world premiere of The Sandak and Demonstrations produced by Suri Druker, Israel Multicultural Fund and the U.S. premieres of Cafe Noah, Warp & Weft, and Fantasia by Israeli filmmaker Duki Dror. The Israel Film Service, which has produced significant documentaries on Sephardic communities, will show Because of That War, Acts of Faith and Worlds Apart. This year's festival will include a special afternoon screening for high school students, Pillar of Salt, by Israeli director Haim Shiran. For films, screening times, single tickets, and festival pass information, call Sephardic House at 212-294-6170. Sponsored by Yeshiva University Museum and Sephardic House  
 Funded in part by the New York State Council on the Arts,

December 13 and 18,  
 \$18  
**"FLAMENCO SEPHARAD"** New York Premiere! The Gerard Edery Ensemble featuring singer/guitarist Gerard Edery, oud virtuoso, George Mgrdichian and percussionist, Rex Benincasa, plus guest musicians and dancers.  
 Sponsored by the American Sephardi Federation. For Info (212) 294 - 8350 .

December 20 - 30,  
**BRIAH/CREATION** based on the life of Rabbi Shlomo ibn-Gvirol, one of the great Spanish poets of the Golden Age.  
 La MaMa Experimental Theater, 74A East 4th Street, NYC

In association with Sephardic House. Tickets: \$15; \$12 Sephardic House Members  
Info & Box Office: 212/475-7710

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