

## Musethica Israel News – August 2015

Musethica (music and ethics) is an International innovative project featuring a ground-breaking idea to transform classical music education, so the social involvement of excellent young musicians will be a key element in their musical education excellence. Trained by top musicians from here and overseas they will perform a classical repertoire of the highest order to wide-ranging audiences with the emphasis on people with special needs.

Musethica provides an encounter of mutual support for the giver and the receiver as they engage on a direct personal and social level, inspiring a relationship between the young musicians and a variety of groups in Israeli society.

These groups offer the young musicians abundant opportunity to develop the skills required for performing in public, while the young musicians provide an artistic experience that such an audience would not usually encounter.

The concerts take place at the institutions themselves so enabling total access for all.

The young musicians benefit; their special needs audience benefits; and so does Israeli society as a whole.

In all aspects Musethica fosters cooperation, dialogue and understanding – the outstanding qualities of Chamber Music on the one hand, and social solidarity on the other.

Until now Musethica young musicians have performed in institutions such as Ilan, Akim, Beit Issie Shapiro, Maasiyahu prison, closed wards in psychiatric hospitals, seniors clubs, Holocaust survivors' associations, schools for the blind, institutions for youth at risk, autistic treatment centers and many more. Since the establishment of Musethica in Israel, in February 2014, 20 different musicians from Israel and overseas have played 69 concerts in various locations across the country, for a total of 4,000 listeners. Most of the concerts were performed in community, education, health and welfare centers, and a few more at concert halls, in Tel Aviv (Auditorium of the Israel Conservatory of Music), Jerusalem (YMCA), Ein Hashofet Kibbutz (Beit Hakshatot), and the Voice of Music Festival in Kfar Blum.



## Review of Musethica activities in Israel 2015

Musethica ended 2014 in Jerusalem and at Sapir College, in the south of the country, where a Musethica ensemble, led by the founder of the program violist Avri Levitan, performed for Music and Arts students. We are currently negotiating with college officials to enable closer cooperation to extend Musethica activity in the Northern Negev.

In March 2015 Musethica, again led by Avri Levitan, went up north for a week of music at Kibbutz Ein Hashofet. For one week young musicians held intensive rehearsals and appeared in 11 concerts for audiences with special needs, as well as in concerts open to the general public at the kibbutz itself. The concerts took place at institutions for adults with mental disabilities, with severely handicapped autistic children, at a retirement home, a mental health center for teenagers and a kindergarten. The concert for the general public was held at Beit Hakshatot auditorium in Ein Hashofet kibbutz.

Participating were Eddy Kotler, violin, Haran Meltzer, cello and Avri Levitan, viola.

After the success in Ein Hashofet, Musethica returned there for another week in June with 10 concerts in similar community venues, as well as the kibbutz itself.

Participating this time were Yuval Herz, violin, Eyal Hayman, cello and Avri Levitan, viola.

In July, Musethica took part for a second time in the Voice of Music Festival, Upper Galilee at Kfar Blum, with 7 concerts in the community and two more for festival audiences. Musethica appeared at the Dialysis department and at the Oncology department at Rebecca Sieff Hospital in Safed, at Shchafim School in Mevo'ot Hermon, in a special class at the Kfar Blum regional school, at Renanim School in Kiryat Shmona, as well as the Ma'as Rehabilitation Employment Factory in Kiryat Shmona.

Participating were Ori Wissner-Levi, violin, Michal Beck, cello and Avri Levitan, viola.

Right after the Kfar Blum Festival an Israel Musethica ensemble set off for a series of concerts in Sweden, as part of the Gotland Chamber Music Festival. There too they performed in concerts for the community as well as for the general public.



## Musethica Israel String Quartet gets started

In June young musicians attended auditions for the establishment of the Musethica Quartet.

The response for the auditions, held at the Felicja Blumental Music Center, was impressive, and after 16 months of successful, productive rich and varied activities in the Musethica rehearsal rooms, community concerts and concert halls, we are pleased to announce the establishment of Israel Musethica Quartet.

Israel Musethica Quartet members for 2015-16: Tal First violin, Anna Seigreich violin, Yoav Yatskan viola and Uriah Tutter, cello.

Musethica String Quartet Israel will start their studies in September 2015, with members of the Jerusalem Quartet. They will participate the second International Festival of Musethica Israel in October and from December they will give community concerts regularly.

A second, younger quartet is expected to start its activities in November. Both ensembles will operate with the collaboration and support of the Jerusalem Music Center.

In addition, within the framework of cooperation between Musethica Israel and the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance, a Chamber Ensemble selected by the Academy will start community concerts in Jerusalem and its environs which will be organized by Musethica.



## The 2nd International Musethica Festival – October 2015

It's almost a year since the first international Musethica Festival in Israel and we are looking forward for the second edition.

The 2nd Musethica International Festival will be held in Tel Aviv from October 16 until October 25 2015.

The Festival will feature 14 musicians from Israel and around the world, students and instructors, who will play together in different formations about 20 concerts in the community and for the general public, in central Israel and the South.

Tutors:

Roi Shiloah (Israel) – violin  
Sergey Ostrovsky (Switzerland/Israel) – violin  
Avri Levitan (Germany/Israel) – viola  
Orfeo Mandozzi (Austria/Switzerland) – cello

Young Musicians:

Tal First (Israel) – violin | Elvira van Groningen (The Netherlands) – violin | Henrik Naimark Meyers (Sweden) – violin | Anna Siegreich (Israel) – violin | Lara Fernandez Ponce (Spain) – viola | Alicia Salas Ruiz (Spain) – viola | Yoav Yatskan (Israel) – viola | Haran Melzer (Israel) – cello | Uria Tutter (Israel) – cello | Valeriy Verstyuk (Moldova/Switzerland) – cello

The festival repertoire will include string quintets and sextets by Mozart, Brahms Tchaikovsky and Richard Strauss, and other pieces for smaller string ensembles.

The concerts for the general public will constitute part of the tel series of the Chamber Music Center in the Jerusalem Conservatory of Music in Tel Aviv (on Friday, October 23 at 12:00 and on Saturday, October 24 at 21:00) and the Chamber Concert series at the Beersheba Music Conservatory (on Wednesday, October 21 at 20:00).

Detailed information to be advised.



## Make a Donation

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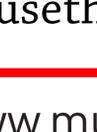
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