

# SHOWBILL

Congregation Rodeph Sholom  
7 W 83rd St

NOVEMBER 13, 2025 • 7 PM • NYC IN PERSON & LIVESTREAM



NOAH ARONSON



ELANA ARIAN



JULIE SILVER



DAN NICHOLS



MICHELLE CITRIN

## HOOTENANNY

CELEBRATING JEWISH MUSIC + CAMP + COMMUNITY



NAOMI LESS



DAN FRELANDER



JOANIE LEEDS



ALAN GOODIS



JEFF KLEPPER



JACOB SPIKE KRAUS



TO BENEFIT URJ EISNER & CRANE LAKE CAMPS



# WELCOME TO THE HOOTENANNY

Every note we sing tonight carries a memory:  
of summers that shaped us,  
prayers that steadied us,  
and a community connected through music.

Tonight, we gather across generations,  
bringing sacred moments into everyday life,  
raising our voices in harmony  
and lifting one another in the process.

At Congregation Rodeph Sholom, we are grateful  
to welcome these remarkable artists,  
to stand with URJ Eisner and Crane Lake Camps,  
and to celebrate each of you, your voice, your spirit,  
your presence in peoplehood.

May this evening fill our hearts with belonging and our spirits with  
the rhythm of connection.

May the music we share ripple outward, strengthening us,  
inspiring us, and reminding us that we are at our best when we  
join together.

**Rabbi Ben Spratt**, Senior Rabbi

**Cantor Shayna De Lowe**, Senior Cantor

**Barbara Zakin**, Executive Director

**Scott Hertz**, Director of Marketing, Communications and Program

Congregation Rodeph Sholom

PRESENTS

# HOOTENANNY 2025

Celebrating Jewish Music + Camp + Community  
Benefiting URJ Eisner and Crane Lake Camps

Thursday, November 13, 2025  
Congregation Rodeph Sholom  
New York, New York

## Featuring

Elana Arian  
Noah Aronson  
Michelle Citrin  
Dan Freeland  
Alan Goodis  
Jeff Klepper  
Jacob Spike Kraus  
Joanie Leeds  
Naomi Less  
Dan Nichols  
Julie Silver

## Congregation Rodeph Sholom Production Team

Elana Arian	Rachael Evans
Jordan Bland	Scott Hertz
Cantor Shayna De Lowe	Joanna Schutzer

## URJ Eisner and Crane Lake Production Team

Ray Kimmelblatt  
Chanel Shirazi

## WITH GRATITUDE

This evening shines because of the generosity of those who made the Hootenanny possible. Thank you for believing in the power of Jewish music to connect, inspire, and sustain our community.

### SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR PRESENTING SPONSOR

**Other** - Now playing until December 6 at Greenwich House Theater.

We are deeply grateful for *Other's* generous support of The Hootenanny.

This new play, starring Tony Award® winner Ari'el Stachel, explores identity, heritage, and belonging – themes that resonate powerfully with the spirit of this evening.



Get tickets at [othertheplay.com](http://othertheplay.com)

#### PRESENTING SPONSOR

Adam F. Cohen

#### MEDIA SPONSOR

70 Faces Media

#### 20s&30s AFTER PARTY SPONSOR

Hebrew Union College

Stacy J. Kanter and

Eric Kornblau

#### HOSPITALITY SPONSOR

Carmine's Restaurant

#### GOLD SPONSOR

American Conference of Cantors

Clergy of Congregation Rodeph Sholom  
(New York, NY)

Congregation Beth Emeth (Albany, NY)

Scott Hertz

Hevreh of South Berkshire  
(Great Barrington, MA)

Erica and Kevin Penn

Henry Siegel

Mark Silberman

#### SILVER SPONSOR

Karen and Jeffrey Bank

Karen Berman

Heller and Jeffrey Goldberg

Susan Hertz

Temple Israel (Boston, MA)

# SPONSORING CONGREGATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS

ARJE – Association of Reform Jewish Educators	Temple Beth Shalom (Hastings-on-Hudson, NY)
Barnert Temple (Franklin Lakes, NJ)	Temple Emanu-El (New York, NY)
Brooklyn Heights Synagogue (Brooklyn, NY)	Temple Emanuel of Greater New Haven (Orange, CT)
Congregation Adas Emuno (Leonia, NJ)	Temple Isaiah (Lexington, MA)
Congregation Bet Ha'am (Portland, ME)	Temple Israel of New Rochelle (New Rochelle, NY)
Congregation Beth Elohim (Brooklyn, NY)	Temple Israel of the City of New York (New York, NY)
Congregation Kol Ami (White Plains, NY)	Temple Israel of Westport (Westport, CT)
East End Temple (New York City)	Temple Shaari Emeth (Manalapan, NJ)
Foundation for Jewish Camp	Temple Shaaray Tefila (New York, NY)
Larchmont Temple (Larchmont, NY)	Temple Shaaray Tefila of Northern Westchester (Bedford Corners, NY)
MRJ – Men of Reform Judaism	Temple Shalom (Scotch Plains, NJ)
NFTY: The Reform Jewish Youth Movement	Temple Sinai (Stamford, CT)
PJ Library in New York	The Reform Temple of Rockland (Nyack, NY)
Scarsdale Synagogue Temples Tremont & Emanu-El (Scarsdale, NY)	Transcontinental Music Publications
Shir Shalom Vermont	URJ – Union for Reform Judaism
Woodstock Area Jewish Community (Woodstock, VT)	URJ 6 Points Creative Arts Academy
Stephen Wise Free Synagogue (New York, NY)	URJ 6 Points Sci-Tech Academy
Temple Beth Abraham (Tarrytown, NY)	URJ 6 Points Sports Academy
Temple Beth Am (Framingham, MA)	Woodlands Community Temple (White Plains, NY)
Temple Beth El (Augusta, ME)	WRJ – Women of Reform Judaism
	WRJ Northeast District

## SPECIAL THANKS TO

LOGON Printing and Mailing  
Main Light  
Park Place Hotel

Sing Unto God  
Sound Associates, Inc.

## THANK YOU TO THE ARTISTS

The artists you'll hear tonight are the voices behind the melodies that fill our sanctuaries, our camps, and our hearts. Each of them has generously donated their time and talent to make the Hootenanny possible, raising their voices in support of URJ Eisner and Crane Lake Camps.

We invite you to support them in return: visit their websites, buy or stream their music, and bring them to your congregation or community as an artist-in-residence.



## ELANA ARIAN

ELANAARIAN.COM



A composer, multi-instrumentalist, and prayer leader, Elana Arian is one of the most influential voices in contemporary Jewish music. A nationally touring artist serving over 30 distinct communities each year, Elana's music is an important part of Jewish life across the globe. Elana just released her fifth album of original music, *If We Loved Like That*, and she is the subject of a forthcoming composer's anthology published by Transcontinental Music Publications. A beloved teacher, Elana serves proudly on the faculty of Hava Nashira (Oconomowoc, WI), the Wexner Heritage Foundation (Aspen, CO), Shirei Chagiga (London, England), and Hebrew Union College in New York, where she teaches in the Debbie Friedman School of Sacred Music. Elana has performed at Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, Tanglewood, and perhaps most memorably, five separate appearances at the (Obama) White House.

Raised on equal parts Mozart, Mingus, and Mitchell, Elana studied conducting and violin, jazz guitar, and songwriting at Yale. She has appeared on NPR's *Soundcheck*, as well as on PBS' *Finding Your Roots*. A sought-after studio musician, Elana maintains a busy recording schedule, working with such varied artists as Peter Yarrow, the Dirty Projectors, and Catie Curtis. She held the guitar chair on both the smash revival of *Sweet Charity* starring Tony award-winner, Sutton Foster, and on Kristin Chenoweth's acclaimed *For the Girls*, and has worked on multiple instruments in the pit orchestras of Broadway shows.

She lives in New York with her wife, Julia, and their two daughters, Maya and Acadia.



## NOAH ARONSON

NOAHARONSON.COM



Noah graduated from Berklee College of Music with a degree in piano and jazz composition, and has maintained a 20 year position as Artist-in-Residence at Temple Beth Elohim in Wellesley, MA.

In addition to attending Berklee, Noah completed the prestigious Lehman Engel BMI Musical Theatre Writing Program and received a certification from Dubspot Electronic Music School. Noah also attended rabbinical

continued on next page —>

school at Hebrew College in Boston and completed the one year Fellowship at Yeshivat Hadar in Manhattan.

Noah's groundbreaking album entitled 'The Left Side of the Page' revolutionized the way that contemporary Jewish communities engage with their liturgy. By setting contemporary readings to new music, progressive communities were able to redefine the ways they engaged with the traditional prayer experience.

Noah partnered with Behrman House Publications to produce the series 'Hebrew In Harmony,' a first of its kind multi-media curriculum that assists congregations and schools in teaching Hebrew and Jewish prayers through music.

During the Pandemic, Noah quickly pivoted to online engagement and began running programs through his online platform called BeMajor. Through BeMajor, Noah offers online courses as well as in-person workshops exploring themes of spirituality, creativity and movement.

Additionally, Noah hosts the BeMajor Podcast series where he interviews guests and offers his unique perspective. Noah also leads the Noah's Ark online community with courses and regular online events.

To date, Noah has released 8 albums as a solo artist and continues to break ground and innovate in his field making him one of the most sought after entertainers in contemporary Jewish music today.



## MICHELLE CITRIN

MICHELLECITRIN.COM



There is a reason why Time Magazine has listed Michelle in their Top Ten list of Jewish rock stars.

Best known as a pioneer in creating holiday viral videos on Youtube that have garnered millions of views and leading soulful worship services, Michelle enjoys "taking what's old and making it new" to help people connect to the rich tradition, culture and wisdom of Judaism.

Michelle's music is celebrated in Jewish communities around the world, on radio and on television and her knack for songwriting and composition has led to a variety of accolades such as ranking as one of Billboard Music's top Songwriters, A VHI Song of the Year Finalist, and is proud to have been considered one of Jewish Week's "Next Wave of Jewish Innovators."

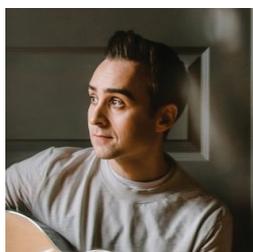


## KOL B'SEDER RABBI DAN FREELANDER AND CANTOR JEFF KLEPPER

[KOLBSEDER.COM](http://KOLBSEDER.COM)



Kol B'Seder has been composing and performing contemporary Jewish music since the early 1970s. Rabbi Dan Freelander and Cantor Jeff Klepper met as college students; over the past 50 years they have released numerous CDs and songbooks. With Debbie Friedman (z"l) and others, they forged a new musical sound for American Jewish camps, schools and synagogues. Their songs, such as "Shalom Rav," "Modeh Ani," and "Lo Alecha," have become traditional Jewish melodies around the world. They are delighted to be inaugurating their fiftieth anniversary celebration by appearing in support of URJ camps, where they first composed and incubated many of their early songs.



## ALAN GOODIS

[ALANGOODIS.COM](http://ALANGOODIS.COM)



Alan Goodis is a touring Jewish musician playing over 150 events a year. Born and raised in Toronto, Alan is a proud product of URJ Goldman Union Camp Institute. Noted for his dedication to building relationships and community through music, Alan tours throughout the US to serve as an Artist-In-Residence and performer at Temples, Youth Conventions and Jewish summer camps.

For more than a decade, Alan has been a strong presence in the Reform Jewish movement to engage and empower Jewish youth and adults through music. He's served as Musical Director for NFTY International Convention and on faculty at Hava Nashira. In 2011, he developed Nashir: NFTY Teen Song leading Institute in partnership with the URJ to provide meaningful song leader training to high school students. Alan has been a featured performer and presenter at URJ Biennials and the Wexner Foundation. In 2014, Alan released his long awaited full-length studio album "This Place." In 2016, Alan co-founded "Friday Night: A Key Shabbat Celebration" with two Chicago congregations to engage underserved young professionals. Later that year he was named to Chicago's Jewish

continued on next page —>

36 under 36. Later this year Alan will release a new album entitled Joy.

Alan lives in Chicago with his wife Codi and their daughters Noa and Maya.



## JACOB SPIKE KRAUS

JACOBSPIKEKRAUS.COM



Boston based Jacob Spike Kraus is a 33 year old singer-songwriter, producer, and educator. His music has been included in the cantorial curriculum of H.U.C. – J.I.R., and is featured on Jewish Rock Radio and PJ Library. His music is inspired by prominent pop, rock, and folk artists of the last 60 years, but also heavily influenced by jazz and classical traditions. Al shlosa d'varim...the three things that Spike stands on: deep understanding of Jewish content, musicianship of the highest caliber, and an infectious energy and joy for his work. Throughout the year, Spike tours Jewish communities across the country as a performer, teacher, composer, consultant, and energetically joyful individual.



## JOANIE LEEDS

JOANIELEEDS.COM



GRAMMY® Award-winning and three-time EMMY-nominated, NYC-based singer-songwriter Joanie Leeds is a nationally touring recording artist, early childhood educator, activist, and Governor for the New York Chapter of the Recording Academy.

Celebrated for her original children's music, Joanie has earned numerous prestigious honors, including 1st Place in the USA Songwriting Competition, an Independent Music Award, recognition as an International Songwriting Competition Winner, multiple Gold Parents' Choice Awards, NAPPA Gold Awards, Family Choice Awards, and finalist honors in the John Lennon Songwriting Contest.

Known for her engaging and high-energy performances, Joanie has appeared on many of the nation's most iconic stages, including Lollapalooza, Austin City Limits, Clearwater Festival, The Kennedy Center, Lincoln Center, Wolf Trap, and Levitt Pavilion. She also shares her music with communities nationwide, performing at Temples, JCCs, and Jewish

continued on next page —>

summer camps across the country.

Her work has been featured in leading publications such as The New York Times, People Magazine, Parents Magazine, Huffington Post, Billboard, and The Washington Post, as well as on several television news programs.

Joanie's most recent and twelfth album of original children's music, *Ageless: 100 Years Young*, was inspired by her beloved Bubby, who celebrated her 100th birthday this past August. The album features collaborations with her 10-year-old daughter, Joya, and acclaimed violinist Elana Arian, resulting in an intergenerational project that celebrates family roots, heritage, and the living genealogy that connects past, present, and future through music.

This February, Joanie will release her first children's picture book, adding a new creative chapter to her career devoted to inspiring and uplifting young audiences.



**NAOMI LESS**  
NAOMILESS.COM



Naomi Less (she/her) is a Brooklyn-based, internationally celebrated singer, composer, musician, ritual artist and experiential educator. A co-founder of Storahelling and ultimately Lab/Shul, Naomi has enjoyed the many hats she's worn in this sacred work – trainer, facilitator, worship leader, officiant, fundraiser and of course singer/musician. She tends to individuals and families in different life stages, particularly the B mitzvah cohorts and trainers and the Kaddish Club for grievors and mourners. Naomi's original music is sung in worship communities worldwide, including many she has visited as an artist in residence. Naomi is a critical part of the Jewish music ecosystem, hosting Jewish Women Rock, a show on JewishRockRadio.com, and as a Core Educator at Songleader Boot Camp. She has studied formally and informally music, education and spiritual training through mentors and programs including the Rising Song Institute Fellowship, Northwestern University, Jewish Theological Seminary, Institute for Informal Jewish Education at Brandeis University, Institute for Jewish Spirituality and ChangeCraft. Listen to Naomi's songs wherever you stream music.



## DAN NICHOLS

DANNICHOLSMUSIC.COM



Dan is a product of the URJ Jewish camping movement. He has toured Jewish summer camps across North America for the last 25 years. A classically trained singer, Dan received his Bachelor of Music degree in vocal performance at the University of North Carolina. In 1995, realizing the potential of music to make powerful connections with Jewish youth, Dan established the Jewish rock band Eighteen. Since that time, Dan and Eighteen have released 13 albums. Songs like, L'takein, B'tzelem Elohim, Kehillah Kedoshah, Chazak, Sweet As Honey, and Asher Yatzar have become Jewish communal anthems throughout North America.

Dan has toured over 190 days for the last 20+ years, where he often serves as artist-in-residence and teacher for congregations and camp communities. He has served on the faculty of Hava Nashira since 2001. In 2009 he co-founded Shulhouse Rock, a songleading workshop for Jewish high-school students. He has performed live in Israel at the historic fortress of Masada and in the studio for the groundbreaking XM Radio presentation of Radio Hanukkah.

Dan created the Road to Eden Deep South Sukkot Tour to bring the message of Sukkot to communities in the southern United States, where he and his band played 11 shows in 10 days. Their experiences are captured in the documentary film, Road to Eden. In addition to these highlights, Dan has been featured at conferences and conventions of nearly every major Jewish movement, including the URJ Biennial, NFTY Convention, BBYO International, Limmud and the Wexner Heritage Program.



## JULIE SILVER

JULIESILVER.COM



Julie Silver is one of the most celebrated and beloved performers in the world of contemporary Jewish music today. She tours throughout the world and has been engaging audiences with her gorgeous compositions and liturgical settings, her lyrical guitar playing, her dynamic stage presence, and her megawatt smile for over 25 years.

Although she resides in Southern California, Silver was raised in Newton, Massachusetts and by the time she was 18, she was leading raucous song

continued on next page —>

sessions throughout the Reform Jewish movement and playing coffeehouses in and around Boston.

She graduated from Clark University in Worcester, Massachusetts. After college, Silver landed a job as an on-air personality at WMJX, Magic 106.7 in Boston, starting as an overnight DJ. It was a natural fit for Silver who has impeccable comic timing as well as a silky-smooth speaking voice.

However, it was her singing voice, her overwhelming desire to play her own music that would eventually take center stage. Julie moved to Santa Monica in June of 1994 to continue writing and recording.

Without backing from a major label, Julie has sold more than 120,000 copies of her CDs. Between 1992 and 2020 she released some of the highest selling, successful albums of original Jewish music (Together, From Strength to Strength, Walk With Me, and Beyond Tomorrow). Her songs have become so tightly woven into the fabric of American Judaism that they have become “standards” in worship, camp, and academic settings.

In 2002 Julie released Notes from Montana, a collection of original folk/rock songs that featured a duet with the Academy Award winning actress Helen Hunt. Julie’s children’s CD, For Love to Grow, was released in spring 2005 and quickly honored as a Parents’ Choice Blue Ribbon Recommended work. It’s Chanukah Time, was recorded in 2007, and was the first Jewish holiday CD produced exclusively for the Barnes and Noble bookstore chain, reaching #5 on the Billboard charts.

Julie released Reunion in 2009, a mix of new liturgical settings and narrative story-songs with smart, sophisticated lyrics in English. As a bonus, Julie includes a cover of Carole King’s classic “Been To Canaan.” In 2014, Julie released Anniversary, a retrospective collection celebrating her 25 years of composing, recording and performing Contemporary Jewish Music throughout the world.

Julie is quite often the featured performer for many worldwide Jewish organizations including the Association for Reform Zionists of America (ARZA), The World Union of Progressive Judaism (WUPJ), The Union for Reform Judaism (URJ), National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW), Hadassah, The Women of Reform Judaism (WRJ), The Religious Action Council (RAC) and Women of the Wall in Israel. She also performs for American Jewish World Service and has performed and has served on faculty for The Wexner New Member Institute in Aspen, Colorado. In April of 2015, Julie helped lead a March of the Living trip through Poland and Israel.

In 2016 Silver was given a lifetime achievement award by ARZA, in honor of her work in supporting pluralism, peace, and progressive actions in Israel.

Silver lives in Southern California with her partner Mary Connelly, a highly acclaimed Executive Producer and their daughters, Sarah and Katie.

## CONTINUE THE CELEBRATION ONLINE

The spirit of tonight doesn't end here.

Our Virtual Ad Journal shines with the messages, memories, and generosity of those who help make this community sing.

We invite you to explore it, celebrate our supporters, and feel the joy that echoes beyond these walls.

Scan the QR code or visit  
[hootenannylive.org/journal](https://hootenannylive.org/journal)



## The Future of Jewish Music is Bright!

These programs are raising up the next generation of songleaders who will inspire our communities for years to come:

### **URJ 6 Points Creative Arts Academy Songeading Major**

for Rising 7th to 12th Graders

June 30 – July 12, 2026

*West Chester, PA*

[6pointscreativearts.org](https://6pointscreativearts.org)



### **Sing Unto God 34th Hava Nashira**

Camp Songleaders Track: May 15-20, 2026

Conference: May 17-20, 2026

*URJ Camp OSRUI*

*Oconomowoc, WI*

[singuntogod.org/havanashira](https://singuntogod.org/havanashira)



# Get Involved with Eisner and Crane Lake Camps



**The show doesn't end here!**  
Immerse yourself in the Eisner and Crane Lake community full of song, tradition, and lots of Jewish joy.

**Get Ready For Summer 2026!**

Scan this QR code for information about attending camp in summer 2026!



**Check out our 2026 Programs  
for Campers, Alumni and Families!**

**Jewish Family Camp (Winter): January 17-19**

**Jewish Family Camp (Spring): March 27-29**

**Alumni Mitzvah Weekend: May 15-17**

**Jewish Family Camp (Fall): October 9-11**

**Prospective Camper Weekend: October 16-18**



Questions?  
Email [Eisnercranelake@urj.org](mailto:Eisnercranelake@urj.org)



## Learn About Our UPCOMING EVENTS

Don't miss out on upcoming in-person and online events from across 70 Faces Media's publications. Sign up here to be the first to learn about what's happening!





# What will you do next?

Develop as a visionary.  
Grow as a leader.  
Make positive change.



**150**  
1875-2025



**Share the Power of Your Voice.**  
**Become a Cantor.**



**150**  
1875-2025

OLD AND NEW FAVORITES FROM  
CAMP AND YOUTH GROUP  
NOW IN ONE HUGE NEW SONGBOOK.

# SHIREINU

VOLUME II שִׁירֵינוּ

AVAILABLE NOW!

VISIT  
[TRANSCONTINENTALMUSIC.COM/SHIREINU](https://transcontinentalmusic.com/shireinu)  
FOR MORE INFORMATION



Transcontinental Music, the Reform movement music publisher,  
is thrilled to partner with Congregation Rodeph Sholom on the  
2025 Hootenanny!



# MUSIC AT CRS



**Make Note of These Musical Events and Join Us!**

## BRIDGES IN SOUND

*Bringing diverse musical voices together through shared song*

**January 15 • Spirituals and the Prophetic Voice**

**March 26 • Passover and Renewal**

**May 2 • Bob Dylan Reimagined**

Presented with 92NY and *New York Jewish Week*

## CHAMBER MUSIC

*Celebrating classical and modern works through a Jewish lens*

**February 7 • Sound and Structure: Exploring Musical  
Artistry and the Artwork of Rina Rotholz**

**April 25 • Musical Roots: The Search for Humanity in Music**

## SHABBAT MUSIC SERIES

*A joyful Shabbat morning of music, brunch, and connection*

**December 13 • Singer/Songwriter Hannah Gundersheim**

**March 7 • To Be Announced**

[rodephsholom.org/music](https://rodephsholom.org/music)



**NOW THROUGH DECEMBER 6TH**

**“MESMERIZING”**

THEATER PIZZAZZ

**“IMPRESSIVE  
AND BRAVE”**

NEW YORK THEATER

**“ COMICALLY  
BRILLIANT”**

EVAN MAYER

**“ HONEST, MOVING,  
BEAUTIFUL AND  
SO FUNNY.”**

JERYL BRUNNER, FORBES

**“AN INSPIRING  
MASTERPIECE”**

STAGE BIZ

**“NOT TO BE MISSED”**

FRONT ROW CENTER



**“UNGUARDED  
AND UNEDITED  
SOLO ODYSSEY”**

THEATER SCENE

A photograph of Ari'el Stachel, the actor, standing in a black t-shirt against a dark red background with a spotlight effect.

**other**

**TONY AWARD® WINNER  
ARI'EL STACHEL**

**DIRECTED BY  
TONY TACCONE**

**A DRAMEDY ABOUT THE ANXIOUS ART OF BELONGING.**

**OTHERTHEPLAY.COM**

**GREENWICH HOUSE THEATER  
27 BARROW STREET**

