

[PHOTOS ATTACHED]

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**Klezmer Company Orchestra and Klezkatz Turn Up the Heat  
for ‘JudeoJazzistico’ Concert on March 7 at FAU**  
*Concert is Main Event for Six-Day Kultur Festival, Celebration of Jewish Music and Arts*

**BOCA RATON, FL (February 9, 2010)** – “JudeoJazzistico” will be presented by the innovative, international award-winning Klezmer Company Orchestra (KCO), under the direction of music director and accordionist Aaron Kula, on Sunday, March 7, at 3 p.m. at the Carole and Barry Kaye Performing Arts Auditorium in the Student Union, on Florida Atlantic University’s Boca Raton campus.

The concert’s music features rich orchestrations of colorful melodies and dynamic rhythms perfected by the critically-acclaimed KCO, FAU Libraries’ professional ensemble-in-residence. Kula, director of music collections and performance at FAU Libraries, spent eight months selecting centuries-old music from the print music archives and composing new arrangements for the 25-piece orchestra and the Klezkatz vocal trio.

“I am fortunate to be given the awesome responsibility and opportunity to transform vintage Klezmer melodies into new songs for a multicultural generation,” said Kula. “The FAU Libraries print music collection has one of the richest holdings in the country, and we want to share it with the world.”

“JudeoJazzistico” is the main event for “Kultur Festival 2010, a six-day celebration of Jewish music and arts hosted by FAU Libraries. The concert is the 13<sup>th</sup> annual benefit KCO has held for the library, and it draws its inspiration from Latin and Spanish dance melodies and rhythms. The concert blends Ladino, Hispanic and European music with dance rhythms from the Americas.

“The music on the “JudeoJazzistico” concert is global; however, there is no need for a passport as all you need are ears to be transported,” said Kula.

The concert will include 15 newly composed pieces and additional favorites from the KCO music folio. One of the new songs, “Malagueña a la Freylach,” is a fusion song that incorporates three editions of the well known Spanish melody “Malagueña” and a traditional Klezmer melody titled “Der Heyser Bulgar.” Another selection fusing Latin and Jewish musical cultures is “Klezmerengue,” a hot and fiesty big band dance number.

The compositions are intense and difficult to play and require both virtuosic playing and skilled improvisations from the KCO ensemble, Kula said.

A highlight of the concert will be the debut of the Klezkatz vocal trio featuring Georgene Barger, Elena Corriea and Cherill Rae, who will sing in Ladino, Spanish, English, Hebrew and Yiddish. “I am excited to perform with this professional vocal trio as they add personality and panache to the KCO

sound,” said Kula. “The vocalists are multi-talented and can sing in a variety of musical styles from ballads to swing.”

Since Kula founded KCO in 1997, the professional ensemble-in-residence has successfully taken music in the library’s collections from shelf to stage. The ensemble hit a milestone in 2009 when *Beyond the Tribes*, its independently produced CD, landed two international awards.

A cross-section of materials from the library’s special collections is incorporated throughout the festival in lectures, concerts, film and book arts. Dr. William Miller, dean of Libraries at FAU, said he is pleased that the music in the library’s Special Collections and Archives has evolved from the shelf to stage to a second annual festival. “It is gratifying to have our collections brought to life in this way,” said Miller.

Kultur Festival 2010 is sponsored by FAU Libraries with additional support from the Jewish Cultural Society at FAU, the Nathan and Marion Crosby Holocaust and Judaic Library Collections Endowment Fund, WXEL, and the South Florida Association of Jewish Libraries. Proceeds benefit FAU Libraries.

For tickets, call 800-564-9539 or visit [www.fauevents.com](http://www.fauevents.com). For more festival information, visit [www.library.fau.edu/news/kultur.htm](http://www.library.fau.edu/news/kultur.htm), and to experience KCO, visit [www.klezmercompany.com](http://www.klezmercompany.com).

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### **Cutlines**

Photo #1 Klezmer Company Orchestra, Aaron Kula, music director.

Photo #2 The Klezkatz vocal trio.

Photo #3 Klezmer Company Orchestra Conductor Aaron Kula.

### ***About Florida Atlantic University:***

*Florida Atlantic University opened its doors in 1964 as the fifth public university in Florida. Today, the University serves more than 28,000 undergraduate and graduate students on seven campuses and sites. Building on its rich tradition as a teaching university, with a world-class faculty, FAU hosts 10 colleges: College of Architecture, Urban & Public Affairs, Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts & Letters, the Charles E. Schmidt College of Biomedical Science, the College of Business, the College of Education, the College of Engineering & Computer Science, the Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College, the Graduate College, the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing and the Charles E. Schmidt College of Science. For more information, visit [www.fau.edu](http://www.fau.edu).*