

[PHOTOS ATTACHED]

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**Klezmer Company Orchestra and Guest Vocalists Cross Cultural Boundaries  
for ‘KlezmerOlogy’ Concert on March 6 at FAU**  
*Concert is Main Event for Six-Day Celebration of Jewish Music and Arts*

**BOCA RATON, FL (February 9, 2011)** – “KlezmerOlogy,” a high- energy concert that crosses cultural boundaries with music from the Americas, Europe and the Mediterranean, will be presented by the innovative, international award-winning Klezmer Company Orchestra (KCO), under the direction of Maestro Aaron Kula, on Sunday, March 6, 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, 777 Glades Road.

The concert will blend Klezmer melodies with other genres of world music, including a Viennese waltz, a Russian folk song, a Negro Spiritual, Latin Jazz, American swing and classic Yiddish songs. “The songs of the ‘KlezmerOlogy’ concert connect diverse cultures that do not have an obvious relationship,” said Kula, director of music collections and performance at FAU Libraries, as well as founder of KCO, FAU Libraries’ professional ensemble-in-residence. “The compositions are intense and require virtuosic playing as well as skilled improvisation from the KCO ensemble. The audience will have a great time listening to these spectacular arrangements.”

Kula spent eight months selecting centuries-old music from FAU Libraries’ print music archives and composing the arrangements on “KlezmerOlogy” for the 26-piece orchestra and three returning guest jazz vocalists, Cherrill Rae, a Canada native; Lianne Lyons, a Miami resident; and Daniel Cochran, a West Palm Beach tenor, to perform.

“I am fortunate to be given the awesome responsibility and opportunity to transform vintage Klezmer melodies into new songs for a multicultural and intergenerational audience,” 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.”

One of the 24 new compositions that will be performed, “Zaydeco Zaydie,” was inspired by syncopated rhythms found in the music of New Orleans and is based on a Rumanian Bulgar melody published in the early 1900s. Another selection, “Darling I Love You/You have a Lovely Face,” is a flashy show-stopper made famous by Al Jolson in 1946. Other selections include ballads and songs from Brazil, Russia and Spain, and a Latin Klezmer adaptation called “2nd Avenue Mambo.”

A highlight of the concert will be the three guest vocalists who will sing in Hebrew, Yiddish and English. “These are charismatic and talented singers who have beautiful voices and terrific energy,” said Kula.

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.

"KlezmerOlogy" is the main event for "Kultur Festival 2011, a six-day celebration of Jewish music and arts hosted by FAU Libraries at the Wimberly Library or the Live Oak Pavilion. In addition to the music featured in "KlezmerOlogy," materials from the library's collections are incorporated throughout the festival in lectures, film and book arts.

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 an annual festival. "It is gratifying to have our collections brought to life in this way," said Miller.

Kultur Festival 2011 is sponsored by FAU Libraries with additional support from the Jewish Cultural Society at FAU, the Sephardi Federation of Palm Beach County and WXEL. Proceeds benefit FAU Libraries.

For concert or festival 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:** Aaron Kula, director, Klezmer Company Orchestra, accordion

**Photo #3:** Randi Fishenfeld, Klezmer Company Orchestra, violinist

### ***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: the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts & Letters, the College of Business, the College for Design and Social Inquiry, the College of Education, the College of Engineering & Computer Science, the Graduate College, the Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College, the Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine, 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).*