

[PHOTO ATTACHMENTS]

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## **Kultur Festival, Celebration of Jewish Culture, Returns to FAU**

**BOCA RATON, Fla. (February 18, 2013)** — Best-selling author Thane Rosenbaum, PBS radio personality Martin Bookspan, musician and scholar Leonard Lehrman, soprano Helene Williams and the award-winning Klezmer Company Orchestra (KCO) are among the artists booked for “Kultur Festival 2013,” the fifth annual celebration of Jewish culture that will take place from Saturday, March 2, through Saturday, March 9, at Florida Atlantic University, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton campus.

Sponsored by the FAU Libraries and the Jewish Cultural Society (JCS) at FAU, the annual festival showcases the libraries’ special collections through film, humor, lectures, storytelling, book arts and music.

The main event concert, “2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue Jazz’n Jive,” will be presented by the internationally-acclaimed 25-piece KCO, guest vocalists Lloyd Reshard and Leo Williams, and the 40-voice Ebony Chorale of the Palm Beaches, on Sunday, March 3, at 3 p.m. in the Carole and Barry Kaye Performing Arts Auditorium. The concert, under the direction of Aaron Kula, will debut innovative arrangements that originated in New York’s Second Avenue theater district and were influenced by legendary musicians of the Harlem jazz era from the 1920s to the 1950s.

The Wimberly Library’s schedule of Kultur Festival events is:

On Saturday, March 2, at 7 p.m., the festival will screen “Mahler on the Couch,” a German-released movie based on a 1910 encounter between composer Gustav Mahler and Sigmund Freud after he discovers his wife’s affair with a young architect. Desperate for help, Mahler tracks down Sigmund Freud, who is vacationing in Holland. The film score features Mahler’s sublime and powerful music.

On Monday, March 4, at 7 p.m., “My Religion is Funnier than Your Religion! Interfaith Humor,” will be presented by a panel of scholars and clergy who explore common and comical topics about their religions.

On Tuesday, March 5, at 2 p.m., Martin Bookspan, who was the announcer for the PBS series “Live from Lincoln Center” from 1976 until his retirement in 2006, will present “My

Friends Bernstein and Copland,” a discussion about composers Leonard Bernstein and Aaron Copland.

On Wednesday, March 6, at 2 p.m., Leonard Lehrman and Helene Williams will present “The Broadway You Know and Don’t Know,” a concert of old favorite songs and under-sung gems composed by Lerner & Loewe, Rodgers & Hammerstein and Cole Porter.

On Thursday, March 7, at 2 p.m., “Judaic Manuscript Illuminations & Hebrew Calligraphy” will be presented by Rabbi Eliezer Reiner, a master in manuscript illuminations, who will discuss the art of working with handmade quills, parchment paper and kosher ink.

On Friday, March 8, at 2 p.m., “Klezmerola: Yiddish Music on Pianola,” will be presented by Bob Berkman, who will play a collection of rare piano rolls, Yiddish theater hits and music by George Gershwin on his 1912 piano.

On Saturday, March 9, at 7 p.m., “Golems of Gotham” will be presented by author Thane Rosenbaum, KCO violinist Randi Fishenfeld and accordionist Aaron Kula. Rosenbaum will read excerpts from his best-selling novel of moral philosophy and unforgettable enchantment.

Parking is free in non-metered spaces at the library, nearby garage and on Volusia Street. For more information or to purchase tickets, call 800-564-9539 or visit [www.fauevents.com](http://www.fauevents.com). Tickets can also be purchased at the FAU Box Office, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton campus.

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**Photo Captions:**

[KulturFestival1JPG](#): Aaron Kula, music director and conductor, with Klezmer Company Orchestra.

[KulturFestival2JPG](#): The Ebony Chorale of the Palm Beaches, with music director and conductor Orville Lawton.

[KulturFestival3JPG](#): Cover from “Mahler on the Couch,” a German-based film based on a 1910 encounter between Gustav Mahler and Sigmund Freud. The film will be screened during Kultur Festival 2013 at Florida Atlantic University’s Wimberly Library.

**About Florida Atlantic University:**

*Florida Atlantic University, established in 1961, officially opened its doors in 1964 as the fifth public university in Florida. Today, the University, with an annual economic impact of \$6.3 billion, serves more than 30,000 undergraduate and graduate students at sites throughout its six-county service region in southeast Florida. FAU’s world-class teaching and research faculty serves students through 10 colleges: the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters, the College of Business, the College for Design and Social Inquiry, the College of Education, the College of Engineering and 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. FAU is ranked as a High Research Activity institution by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. The University is placing special focus on the rapid development of three signature themes – marine and coastal issues, biotechnology and contemporary societal challenges – which provide opportunities for faculty and students to build upon FAU’s existing strengths in research and scholarship. For more information, visit [www.fau.edu](http://www.fau.edu).*