

[PHOTO ATTACHMENT]

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KCO to Present ‘Bernstein’s Jeremiah Symphony + KlezmerJazz’ in Groundbreaking Performance at FAU

BOCA RATON, Fla. (Feb. 1, 2016) — Maestro Aaron Kula will lead two Klezmer Company Orchestra (KCO) ensembles in a unique and innovative crossover concert, “Bernstein’s Jeremiah Symphony + Klezmer Jazz,” on Sunday, March 6 at 3 p.m. at the Carole and Barry Kaye Performing Arts Auditorium, 777 Glades Road, FAU’s Boca Raton campus.

The program opens with Kula conducting an expanded 60-member symphony orchestra, with guest vocalist Jouvanca Jean-Baptiste performing Leonard Bernstein’s Symphony No. 1 “Jeremiah,” an award-winning orchestral work Bernstein composed in 1942 and dedicated to his father. The piece is a powerful combination of biblical chanting, lyrical strings, bombastic percussion and fiery brass. The second half of the innovative concert features KCO’s 14-member Latin Klezmer jazz ensemble performing selections from its newly released CD “JubanoJazz” as well as original works by winners of the third annual 2016 Composition Competition.

“Never in the history of orchestral concerts has Jeremiah Symphony and Klezmer Latin Jazz been performed on the same program.” said Kula. “This will be a new experience for the audience as they will hear music from two distinct musical genres that are tied together by imagination and Jewish culture.”

KCO is FAU Libraries’ professional ensemble-in-residence and Kula, director of music performance and education at FAU Libraries.

The concert is the cornerstone for Kultur Festival 2016, the Libraries’ eighth annual celebration of Jewish music and arts, which showcases the libraries’ special collections through film, lectures, humor, storytelling and music. The weeklong festival begins Saturday, March 5 and continues through Saturday, March 12. The Jewish Cultural Society (JCS) at FAU is the lead sponsor for the festival, as well as KCO’s third annual composition competition, which draws interest from young musicians around the country. The winners of this year’s competition are Mike Conrad, Eastman School of Music and University of Northern Colorado; Elijah Shiffer from the Manhattan School of Music and Ki Woong Nam from the University of Virginia. Kula

consulted with each of the winning composers to tailor their music to meet the specific needs of the KCO ensemble.

Other Kultur festival events include a screening of “Arranged,” a film based on the friendship of two school teachers, one an Orthodox Jew, and the other, a devout Muslim who discover they have much in common; a concert by Shtreiml and Ismail Fencioglu that is rooted in the Ottoman and Jewish traditions; actor and comedian Avi Liberman, a favorite in comedy clubs from Los Angeles to New York; San Francisco opera singer Anthony Mordechai Tzvi Russell, who will present a vocal recital accompanied by renown Miami pianist Alan Mason; Columbia University Yiddish expert Miriam Hoffman, Ph.D., who will share stories based on her seven-year work relationship with the late Joe Papp, one of the most influential producers in the history of the American theater; Aaron Kula who will present a lecture on the unique musical relationships between blacks and Jews; and vibraphonist Brian Potts who will return with his jazz quartet to perform Yiddish, Israeli, Russian, Hungarian and Chassidic melodies.

“KCO and the Kultur festival at FAU have evolved into a world-class celebration of Jewish music, art and culture for the broader community, our students, faculty, and staff,” said Kula.

“Jeremiah Symphony + Klezmer Jazz” concert tickets are \$20- \$45 and tickets for the other festival events are \$10-\$15. To purchase tickets, call 800-564-9539 or visit www.faevents.com. To experience KCO, visit www.youtube.com/user/klezmercompany or www.klezmercompany.com

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Photo Caption

Jeremiah1.jpg: Klezmer Company Orchestra and KCO’s Latin jazz ensemble will present ‘Bernstein’s Jeremiah Symphony + Klezmer Jazz on Sunday, March 6 at FAU’s Carole and Barry Kaye Performing Arts Auditorium.

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