

DELRAY BEACH TRIBUNE





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Klezmer Company Orchestra, Rabbi Irwin Kula Presents 'An American Jewish New Year: Jazz Wisdom Spirit' at Crest Theater



Rating 3.40 out of 5      [?]

By Janet Kirchheimer

Special to the Delray Beach Tribune

Music director Aaron Kula and his acclaimed Klezmer Company Orchestra (KCO), and Irwin Kula, one of America's most influential rabbis will present the second annual "*American Jewish New Year: Jazz Wisdom Spirit*" a celebration in music and wisdom of renewal, second chances, and human flourishing on Sept. 9.

The show will be at 3 and 7 p.m. at the Crest Theatre at Old School Square, 51 N. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach.

The nationally known brothers 'Kula and Kula' blend their unique talents to create a powerful American experience for the Jewish New Year. The celebration in music and wisdom fuses the spirited rhythms of jazz, Latin, Klezmer, and world music with wisdom on holiday themes of forgiveness, compassion, gratitude, and love to inspire and entertain anyone looking to enrich their life.

"This year's celebration will be even better than last year's sold out program as we have planned new music and interactive spiritual experiences that will transform people's lives," said Irwin Kula, author of the award winning book, *Yearnings: Embracing the Sacred Messiness of Life*.. "Nothing like this has ever been done before."

'An American Jewish New Year' mixes musical and spiritual idioms and is designed to rouse anyone, whatever their background, to feel awe, wonder and gratitude for life.

"We are reimagining an ancient tradition for anyone seeking meaning and connection," Rabbi Kula said. "Americans are increasingly mixing, blending, bending, and switching identities and getting what they need to have a good life from whatever tradition that works."

KCO's nine member ensemble with guest vocalist will include accordion, violin, sax, trumpet, trombone, bass, drums, percussion and piano will re-imagine familiar holiday tunes, combined with their unique improvisational style to create melodies for a unique multicultural experience.

"People from all faiths and cultures are searching for new connections, hope and inspiration," said Aaron Kula, director of the music collections and performance at Florida Atlantic University Libraries, who has worked with everyone from Yo-Yo Ma to Richard Stoltzman. "Our performance celebrates the intersection of tradition and innovation. We're making the experience relevant for today's generation by blending cantorial melodies with American Jazz and swing."

Both Aaron and Irwin Kula have worked along parallel tracks reimagining an ancient tradition in different media—Aaron in Jewish music and Irwin in Jewish wisdom, with the common goal of making Jewish tradition meaningful and relevant to people of all backgrounds and to help enhance their lives. This performance continues the powerful coming together of their careers.

Tickets are \$26 and \$36 and can be bought at the Crest Theatre box office at [561-243-7922, ext. 1](tel:561-243-7922), or online at www.oldschool.org/performances.asp.

For more information, or to speak to the Kulas, call [212-779-3300, ext. 111](tel:212-779-3300).

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