

Press Release

Monday 1st November 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

85 Years of singing!

London Jewish Male Choir celebrates with Gala Concert

Sunday, 18th December 2011, 7:30pm
New West End Synagogue, Bayswater

Tickets from the London Jewish Cultural Centre - www.ljcc.org.uk - 020 8457 5000

The London Jewish Male Choir will be celebrating its 85th birthday with a gala concert at the beautiful New West End Synagogue in Bayswater on Sunday 18th December.

Established in 1926, the London Jewish Male Choir (LJMC) has been at the forefront of Jewish music around the world for 85 years performing a mix of traditional religious, Yiddish, Israeli, and Broadway music.

Michael Etherton, the choir's 10th Musical Director is looking forward to the concert "It's a huge pleasure and privilege to be leading the London Jewish Male Choir into its 85th year. The choir continues to regenerate itself year on year bringing its fresh take on Jewish music including outstanding newly commissioned works to audiences across London and the UK.

The choice of venue for the celebration was apt as the synagogue has a strong musical heritage. The New West End had as a previous conductor one of the authors of the famous 'Blue Book', which has been the standard song book for Anglo-Jewish Synagogue music for over 100 years."

Flying in from Canada especially for the evening is Stephen Glass, a legend in the world of Jewish Choral music. Stephen is the Musical Director of the Shaar Hashomayim Synagogue in Montreal and is well known in the UK for his innovative harmonic arrangements of much of the liturgical music sung in synagogues today. Stephen has written a special medley of iconic LJMC pieces for the concert and will act as compere as well as accompanist on the night.

Chairman Dan Jacobs says that the choir's diversity makes it unique "the choir grew out of a tradition of Orthodox choirs, which for religious reasons, were mainly made up of men and boys or just men. However the LJMC's membership comes from across the religious spectrum and has often included non-Jews. We are proud of this diversity."

Soloists will include Cantor Steven Leas from the local Central Synagogue who has been lead soloist for the LJMC for almost 10 years.

The concert is being co-produced by the Golders Green based, London Jewish Cultural Centre with whom the choir have developed a strong relationship over the past 3 years. The choir performs several times a year at the home of the LJCC, Ivy House.

Tickets: www.ljcc.org.uk

Choir website: www.ljmc.org.uk

New West End Synagogue: www.newwestend.org.uk

For more information and images contact Dan Jacobs: dan@danjacobs.com