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(Special to the News)

The Bursteins. Front, from left, are twins Susan and Mike Burstein, shown with their parents, Pesach and Lillian Lux, on the back row, in dark clothing. The others in the photo, taken in Argentina circa 1955, are unidentified.

Judaica Sound Archives at FAU get rights to Burnsteins recordings

The Judaica Sound Archives® (JSA) at Florida Atlantic University Libraries has obtained the rights to offer on its website a major collection of performances by the Bursteins, one of the most enduring family names in Yiddish entertainment.

The JSA, located on FAU's Boca Raton campus, created the collection from holdings to the archives at different times and from different sources. It includes 33 albums and features the combined works of Pesach Burstein, who produced musicals for audiences worldwide in the 1920s; his wife, Lillian Lux, who joined his troupe when she was 17; and their twins, Susan Burstein-Roth and Mike (Burstein) Burstyn.

The Burstein family audio collection is available at www.fau.edu/jsa.

Mike Burstyn, the only member of the "Four Bursteins" who is still performing, said he is delighted to share his family's legacy with the world. "There is a resurgence of interest in Yiddish culture, but not many people are actually able to hear Yiddish the way it was spoken," said Burstyn, who lives in Los Angeles.

"Being able to listen to these great old Yiddish songs will ensure that Yiddish will not become a dead language like Latin. This will be educational and an inspiration to future generations. I am extremely pleased with what the JSA has been able to accomplish."

Susan Burstein-Roth, a successful writer and philanthropist who lives in New Jersey, praised the JSA's online collection of recordings, many of which she herself



Mike (Burstein) Burstyn

didn't know existed. "I am extremely pleased, overjoyed," said Burstein-Roth. "I was so overwhelmed that it made me cry. The beauty of the website is stunning. It is just wonderful."

For more information about the Burstein collection or the JSA, call 561-297-2207.