KCJO to Present ‘The American Klezmer-Yiddish Songbook’ at FAU

BOCA RATON, Fla. (October 27, 2017) — The Florida Atlantic University Libraries and the Jewish Cultural Society will host Aaron Kula’s nine-member Klezmer Company Jazz Orchestra (KCJO) for “The American Klezmer-Yiddish Songbook,” a concert of traditional and beloved Yiddish songs and klezmer melodies, on Sunday, Nov. 19 at 3 p.m. at the Barry and Florence Friedberg Auditorium, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton campus.

KCJO, now in its 21st season, will perform classic klezmer and Yiddish songs from the Jewish Sheet Music Collection in the FAU Libraries Special Collections. Many of these songs were composed for the Yiddish Theater on Second Avenue in the lower eastside of Manhattan and performed on WEVD radio.

Israeli-born vocalist Rachel Joy Weiss, who has sung with leading orchestras in Israel, including the Israel Philharmonic, Haifa Symphony Orchestra, Ra’anana Symphonette, and Israel Chamber Orchestra, will join KCJO on stage. Weiss also will lead a sing-along of several well-known Yiddish songs including, “Belz,” “Tumbalalaika,” “Shein Vi D’ L’vone,” “My Yiddishe Moma” and Glezele L’Chayim.”

“Playing these classic songs from the collection is always especially heartwarming for KCJO because the audience feels a strong connection to the music and its meaning,” said Kula.

This concert is sponsored by FAU Libraries and the Jewish Cultural Society, a volunteer support organization whose mission is to advance Jewish cultural traditions and education at FAU Libraries through philanthropic endeavors and programs.

Kula, director of music performance and education at FAU Libraries, founded KCJO to perform and promote music from a range of cultures and historical periods from the Libraries’ collections. Since its inception, KCJO has successfully taken hundreds of works from the print music collection from shelf to stage.

Admission to the program is free for FAU students with an OWL card; $30 for the general public; $25 for JCS members; and $40 for JCS couple members. To purchase tickets, visit fauf.fau.edu/JCS17-18, or contact James Drayton at 561-297-2186 or jewishculturalsociety@fau.edu.

Donations to the FAU Libraries and the Jewish Cultural Society are encouraged. Cash, checks and major credit cards are accepted for donations.

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Photo Caption
KCJO1: Klezmer Company Jazz Orchestra will present “The American Klezmer-Yiddish Songbook” in concert on Sunday, Nov. 19 at 3 p.m. at FAU’s Barry and Florence Friedberg Auditorium in Boca Raton.

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 critical areas that form the basis of its strategic plan: Healthy aging, biotech, coastal and marine issues, neuroscience, regenerative medicine, informatics, lifespan and the environment. These areas provide opportunities for faculty and students to build upon FAU’s existing strengths in research and scholarship. For more information, visit www.fau.edu.