



# TEMPLE EMANU-EL Bulletin

Volume 78, Number 22

February 3, 2006

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, February 7 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday, February 12 9:15 a.m.  
**Young Families: Storytime**

Temple librarian Elizabeth Stabler will read about *Tu B'Shevat* (the New Year for Trees).

Friday, February 10 6:15 p.m.  
**Family Shabbat: Worship and Dinner**

Youngsters through early school age will celebrate Shabbat as part of **Young Families**. Youth who can read (through B'nei Mitzvah age) will celebrate with our **Junior Congregation**. Afterwards, we'll gather for dinner and an art project. RSVP to (212) 744-1400, ext. 242 for *Young Families* or ext. 501 for *Junior Congregation*.

## SABBATH SERVICES

**SHABBAS SHIRA (Sabbath of Song)**  
Friday evening, February 10  
**Lowenstein Sanctuary**  
Organ Recital—5 p.m.  
Sabbath Eve Service—5:15 p.m.  
WQXR Radio (96.3 FM) and Internet  
(www.wqxr.com) broadcasts—5:30 p.m.

**Saturday morning, February 11**  
**Women's Auxiliary Lounge**  
Torah Study—9:15 a.m.  
**Lowenstein Sanctuary**  
Service—10:30 a.m.  
Torah Portion—Beshallah  
Readings—Exodus 13:17-17:16  
Judges 4:4-5:31  
**Sermon in Song: Cantor Lori Corrsin**

PIANO  
CONCERT

Sunday, February 12  
3 p.m.  
**Young Artists Concert**

Matthew Graybil, 17, of Willow Street, Pa., will be the featured performer in the second of three "Young Artists" concerts held at Temple Emanu-El and presented by the Stecher and Horowitz Foundation, sponsors of the New York Piano Competition. The concert will be held in Greenwald Hall and is free and open to the public. Enter through the Marvin and Elisabeth Cassell Community House, One East 65<sup>th</sup> Street.



The New York Piano Competition is open to young artists, ages 14 through 18, from across the country. Each artist competes for cash prizes and concert appearances. All return home winners, either as prize or scholarship award recipients.

Our final concert in the series will be held **Sunday, April 30** and will feature **Brandon Lee**, 18, of Logan, Utah.

For more information about these events or the New York Piano Competition, log on to [www.nypianocomp.org](http://www.nypianocomp.org) or call the Stecher and Horowitz Foundation at (212) 581-8380.

## PULPIT FLOWERS

**Pulpit flowers at Sabbath worship services this weekend are the generous donation of our congregants:**

Mrs. B.E. Brandes  
in loving memory of  
*Bernard E. Brandes*

Mr. Sanford P. Brass  
in loving memory of his mother,  
*Rose D. Brass*

Mr. and Mrs. Elliot Brownstein  
in loving memory of  
*Sol Brownstein and Benjamin Silverman*

Edward Fleur  
in loving memory of his sister,  
*Joette Stephanie Fleur*

Denny, Nicki and Alex Rein  
in loving memory of  
*Mark Alan Rein* on his birthday

## BAS MITZVAH

**The following student of our Religious School will become a Bas Mitzvah this weekend:**

*Julia Lindsay Levy*, daughter of  
Frances and Jack Levy

**We are grateful for their sponsorship of Friday evening's Oneg Shabbat.**

The Cemeteries of Congregation Emanu-El  
Salem Fields and Beth-El

A limited number of above-ground crypts are available in our community mausoleum. For information, please call Dr. Mark W. Weisstuch at the Temple Office, (212) 744-1400.

Charles S. Salomon

**The Universal Funeral Chapel**

1076 Madison Avenue (212) 753-5300  
Our service is available in the Temple, home, or our Chapel.

## CELEBRATING SHABBAS SHIRA: THE LITURGICAL MUSIC OF

*By Cantor Lori Corrsin*

**I**N THE BOOK OF EXODUS, when the Israelites crossed the Red Sea, they sang a special song—the *Song of the Sea (Shirat Hayam)*. Because of this passage, once a year we recognize aspects of Jewish music in the course of our Sabbath celebration. The day is called *Shabbas Shira* (Sabbath of Song), and this year, Temple Emanu-El has chosen to celebrate with the music of Salamone Rossi.

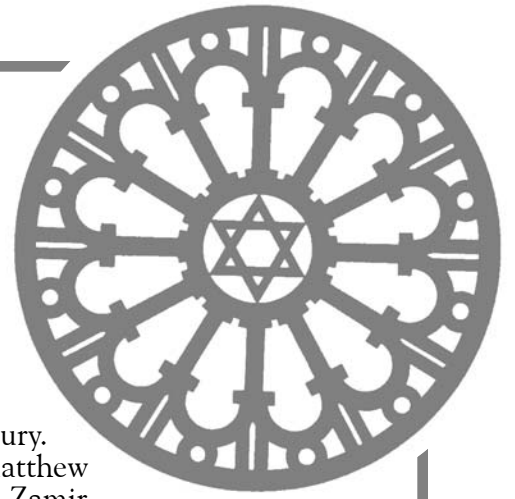
For Jews, Rossi is a composer of note because he is our first true Jewish choral composer. His compositions were written with the express intent of “modernizing” the ancient chant of Jewish prayer. In a *New York Times* piece about Rossi from November 2002, Barry Singer, the article’s author, writes:

*To hear the Hebrew of standard Jewish prayers surface within the church-conjuring sound of one of [Rossi’s] madrigals is to experience the truly delicious shock of the unexpected and very nearly inexplicable.*

Rossi’s manuscript of Kaddish Titkabel.  
The music reads from left to right, while the Hebrew words read from right to left.



# SALAMONE ROSSI (1570-1630)



The cover of Salamone Rossi's 1622 publication *The Songs According to Solomon (HaShirim Asher LiShlomo)*, a play on the opening line of the biblical Song of Songs (Shir HaShirim).

Like that of his contemporary, the famous Christian composer Claudio Monteverdi, Rossi's secular and liturgical music bridged the end of the Renaissance and the beginning of the Baroque eras in Italy. In the Jewish world, by publishing his *HaShirim Asher LiShlomo*, Rossi performed one of the most progressive acts in the entire history of Jewish music. His synagogue pieces were the first to use Western compositional techniques in the setting of Hebrew liturgical texts. Written for combinations of three to eight unaccompanied voices, the 33 pieces in *HaShirim* were the

only collection of polyphonic settings of synagogue texts prior to the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

In the words of Matthew Lazar, director of the Zamir Choral Foundation:

*It's very hard to have a music tradition without heroes. The British have Purcell. Everyone has Bach. Who do Jewish musicians have? Rossi is really our first hero.*

## SHABBAS SHIRA MUSIC OUTLINE

IN THE 1950s, American Jewish composer Isadore Freed adapted some of Rossi's works for the modern synagogue. Temple Emanu-El's Associate Organist Pedro d'Aquino also has written some arrangements that were commissioned especially for this service. Please join us on Friday, February 10 to hear our choir perform some of the gems of Rossi's glorious compositions:

- Tov LHodot.....Rossi
- Bar'chu.....Rossi/Freed
- Sh'ma.....Rossi/d'Aquino
- Yism'chu.....Rossi/d'Aquino
- May the Words.....Rossi/Freed
- Hashkiveinu.....Rossi
- Adoration.....Rossi/d'Aquino
- Va'anachnu.....Rossi/Freed
- On That Day.....Rossi/Freed
- Kiddush.....Rossi/d'Aquino
- Adon Olam.....Rossi

You can hear more works by Rossi during Saturday services on February 11. Cantor Lori Corrsin and the choir, conducted by Pedro d'Aquino, also will perform a Sermon in Song with music composed by Rossi.

# MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Wednesday, March 1 6 p.m.  
**Protecting Yourself  
 Against Identity Theft**

Statistics show identity theft to be one of the fastest growing crimes in the United States. With this in mind, the Women's Auxiliary invites all Temple members to one of their most important sessions of the year. Andrea J. Dunn of Citibank will discuss ways to avoid becoming a victim of identity theft and what to do if it should happen to you. Cost is \$15 for Women's Auxiliary members, \$20 for nonmembers. *RSVP by Wednesday, February 22 to (212) 744-1400, ext. 235.*



Sunday, March 19 6 p.m.  
 7:30 p.m.  
**Night Out  
 With the Knicks**



The Men's Club is sponsoring an outing to Madison Square Garden where the New York Knicks will play the Miami Heat. Cost is \$50 per person. Tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis to all Temple members. *Call the Men's Club at (212) 744-1400, ext. 250.*

Tuesday, March 21 6 p.m.  
**The Hidden God of Psalms**

Rabbi Posner will lead this discussion, preceded by a reception. *RSVP to the Women's Auxiliary by Wednesday, March 15.*

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