



International Board of Governors Meeting - Highlights 2012 Concert Commemorating 80 years of the Academy



The meeting of the International Board of Governors, which took place 4-5.6.2012, opened with a festive concert commemorating 80 years of the founding of the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance. During the evening, Certificates of Inscription from the Academy's Golden Book were given to devoted teachers.

The Jerusalem Academy Chamber Choir, under the direction of Maestro **Stanley Sperber**, and joined by baritone **Guy Pelc**, performed the first movement of **Paul Ben-Haim's** "Liturgical Cantata" and the song "White Days"- **Shai Hemel's** arrangement of a poem of **Leah Goldberg** to music by **Shlomo Idov**. Also performing was the String Quintet,

working under the supervision of **Avi Abromovich**, recipient of the first prize in the 2012 Chamber Music Competition, whose members are violinists **Florence von Burg** and **Anna Kume**, violists **Dor Sperber** and **Nathalie Verdon** and cellist **Elizabeth Cook**. The ensemble played a movement from Mozart's Quintet in g minor K.516.

Professor Menachem Wiesenberg's Artistic Arrangements class for voice and piano was represented by singer and arranger **Vered Dekel**, head of the Vocal Division of the Cross-Disciplinary Music Department, who, together with pianist **Guy Frati**, performed "I Confess to Mother" to lyrics by **Anda Amir Pinkerfeld** and music of **David**

Zehavi. Hagai Rehavia's arrangement of **Emanuel Zamir's** song "Bowed Evening" was performed by singer **Anna Spitz** and pianist **Orel Oshrat**.

Later in the evening, an ensemble made up of JAMD faculty members performed one movement from **Haim Alexander's** "Five Movements for Wind Quintet". Playing in the ensemble were **Michael Melzer**-flute, **Dudu Carmel**-oboe, **Ilan Schul**-clarinet, **Isaac Leyva**-bassoon and **Ori Azran**-French horn.

Also performing in the concert were percussionists **Yoav Kfir**, **Li Ye** and **Meir Yaniger**; all are students of **Alon Bor**. A string quartet - violinists **Barak Schossberger** and **Daniel Zinn**, violist **Shir-Ran Yinon** and cellist **Tehila Machado** - performed "Miniatures" by **Mark Kopytman**.

The evening's program concluded with movements from Haydn's Symphony no.78 and from "Le tombeau de Couperin" by Ravel, played by the Ma'abada Orchestra and conducted by Academy students **Gadiel Dombrovner**, **Ido Spitalnik** and **Jonathan Spandorf**.

Professor Ilan Schul, president of the Academy, addressed the guests. **Professor Michael Wolpe** organized and moderated the evening, also mentioning milestones in the history of the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance.

The Academy's New Performance Hall



In discussion sessions of the Board of Governors the concept and design of the new performance hall were presented by architects **Marc Kushner** and **Matthias Hollwich** (HWKN, New York) and their Israeli partner **Erez Ella** (HQ Architects Ltd.) The concept and design were sponsored by **Murray Kushner** and family. The project consists of a new 400 seat performance space and a large courtyard that is designed to become the Academy social heart.

New Appointments

The Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance's International Board of Governors has approved the Board of Directors recommendations for the appointment of three senior positions:



Younes Nazarian

Following nine years as chairman of the International Board of Governors, Mr. Younes Nazarian from Los Angeles has been appointed Honorary Chairman of the International Board of Governors of the JAMD, the first role of its kind at the Academy. Mr. Nazarian and his wife Soraya continue giving their support to the Academy schools and to the advancement of excellence among the schools' students.

The building of the Conservatory and High School was constructed due to the Nazarians' most generous financial donation. The white harp sculpture, called "Sound", that stands at the front of the High School building, towering to a height of 3.5 meters, was designed and donated by Soraya Nazarian.

This year, Mr. Younes Nazarian established a scholarship fund to help support students from both the higher Academy and High School for studies in the coming years.



Attorney Yehezkel Beinisch

Yehezkel Beinisch has been appointed as chairman of the International Board of Governors. He will be assuming the role from Mr. Younes Nazarian, who held the position for a period of nine years. Mr. Beinisch is a graduate of the Faculty of Law, Jerusalem and has spent many years involved in music and other fields. In his high school days, he worked as a professional player in the Haifa Symphony Orchestra and, as a law student, he was a member of the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra IBA. Attorney Beinisch is active in public matters. He is a member of the directorate of the Israel Festival, of the managing committee of the Jerusalem Music Centre, is Vice President of the Jerusalem Arbitration Centre, and more. In 1998, he established the Jerusalem International Chamber Music Festival.



Professor Yinam Leef has been appointed President of the Academy, taking over from Professor Ilan Schul, who has completed nine years in the position. Professor Schul has been a leader in significant academic- and building developments of the Academy.

Professor Leef is a graduate of the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance, with a Ph.D. in Composition from the University of Philadelphia. In his 27 years as a member of faculty of the JAMD, he has held senior posts, among which are: Head of the Workshop of Contemporary Music, Dean of Students of the Academy and Dean of the Department of Composition, Conducting and Music Theory. Professor Leef is among the most important and prominent of today's composers in Israel. His works are performed frequently and by the finest ensembles in Israel and abroad; they have won him several prizes, among them the Prime Minister's Prize (1994, 2006) and the ACUM Prize for life work. Professor Leef will begin his term of office as President of the Academy in October 2012.

Dedication of the Music Library in the Academy from the Estate of Gary Bertini

At the meeting of the Board of Governors, a special room was inaugurated, as a section of the Academy library, containing the late Maestro Gary Bertini's collection of sheet music and books. Present at the ceremony were the conductor's wife, Mrs. Rosette Bertini - and his daughter Orit Bertini-Shavit, also people from the music community and friends. Mrs. Michal Smoira Cohn spoke about Gary Bertini. The collection includes some 3000 items scores, a few of which have performance instructions in Gary

Bertini's own hand, among them scores of Mahler symphonies, orchestral parts and recordings of concerts in which he had conducted. Gary Bertini's piano is also in that room.

In 2002, the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance saluted Gary Bertini as an "Honorary Fellow" of the Academy "for high quality of artistry, for establishing fine performance groups, for his significant contribution to Israel's cultural and artistic life and for impressive achievement on the international music scene".



From right to left: Mrs. Rosette Bertini and her daughter, Mrs. Orit Bertini-Shavit, at the sign unveiling ceremony.

Certificates Awarded to Academy Teachers Inscribed in the Academy's Golden Book



Yitzhak Navon, 5th President of Israel, with Aharon Harlap



Adv. Yair Green, Chairman of the Board of Directors, awarding the certificate to Ayala Goren-Kadman



Gilah Yaron with Prof. Schul



Professor Ilan Schul with Professor Yossi Yerushalmi

On the opening evening of the assembly of the International Board of Governors, certificates of inscription in the JAMD Golden Book were awarded to Academy teachers who have worked for the advancement of the institution: to dancer and dance researcher Ayala Goren-Kadman, to singer Gilah Yaron, to Professor Yossi Yerushalmi and to conductor and composer Aharon Harlap. **Ayala Goren-Kadman** began teaching at the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance in 1987 and continues enriching the knowledge of dance students, exposing them to Israeli dance and to

the dances of different ethnic groups, thus strengthening in them their cultural heritage. In her activity spanning many years, she has contributed much to the Department of Dance, to its students and teachers, and she has worked to preserve the dance heritage of Israel's ethnic groups.

Singer **Gilah Yaron** joined the teaching faculty of the Academy Vocal Department in 1982. For ten years she served as Head of the Department. In addition to teaching individual lessons, she has tutored workshops in Lied and oratorio singing and has given

German language courses to vocal students, based on a book written by her, based on sung texts, with emphasis on pronunciation of the language in singing. Gilah Yaron has produced generations of singers. Her constant dedication to the Academy has meant an important contribution to her students, to the teaching faculty and to the development and advancement of the Vocal Department.

In 1968, Professor **Yossi Yerushalmi** established the Department of Guitar-playing, shaping generations of guitar players and teachers. In 1999, the Academy instituted a countrywide classical guitar competition in memory of his daughter Ariane Yerushalmi-Eldor, a competition which, over the years, has grown and developed into four competitions for different age groups. In his work, Yossi Yerushalmi has established the Academy as the country's centre of guitar studies, and has contributed to the Academy and to the realization of its mission.

Aharon Harlap has been a senior teacher of conducting at the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance. He has served as the head of the Opera Department and musical director and conductor of the Academy Chamber Choir. His achievements and extensive work in the fields of composition, performance, conducting and music education in Israel and further afield are numerous. His diverse activity over many years has left its mark on the Academy's musical accomplishments.

The Israel Prize Awarded to Professor Dalia Cohen



Photo: Muki Schwarz

Musicologist and educator Professor Dalia Cohen, one of the pillars of learning of the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance, was awarded the 2012 Israel Prize for her achievement

in the field of Music Research. Professor Cohen has been teaching a wide variety of subjects at the Academy since 1956, has published more than 80 articles on different topics and has published many factual and educational books. Professor Ilan Schul, president of the Academy, and Mr. Micha Tal, vice-president and CEO, sent Dalia Cohen the Academy's congratulations: "It is a great privilege for us to congratulate you at this time, when your admirers, friends and your many colleagues in the world of music, and those in academic and music education fields in particular, are celebrating your receiving the 2012 Israel Prize together with you. On behalf of the Board of Directors, administrative and faculty colleagues, on behalf of

the entire Academy family and of us personally, we wish to express our profound respect and great joy on this significant mark of recognition. You have been entitled to this recognition for decades - for your enormous life work that has influenced generations of artists, researchers and educators. We take this wonderful opportunity to thank you once again both for your outstanding, longstanding contribution to the Academy and its many generations - generations of students, graduates and professionals - and for your significant initiative in the fields of Music Education, Non-European music, the History of Musical Instruments and, of course, in the establishing of the Department of Oriental Music. In gratitude, we wish you good health and pleasure".

Special Events



Photo: Academy students in the musical "Into the Woods"

Academy Day in the Israel Festival

This is the second successive year that the Israel Festival administration has selected the Academy to present performances of students and faculty in the framework of "Academy Day" at the Israel Festival. On the stages of the Jerusalem Theatre the following performances took place:

- Negev-Galilee-Jerusalem** - a concert featuring three orchestras: the Chamber Orchestra of the Academy Conservatory, the Western Galilee Symphony Orchestra and the Orchestra of the South, all working under the auspices of the JAMD and with the help of the Department for Communities and Youth. The conductor was Dr. Michael Klinghoffer, Dean of the Faculty of Performing Arts of the Academy.

- The musical "Into the Woods"** by Stephen Sondheim. This musical was staged thanks to the initiative and enormous energy of singer Robin Weisel Capsouto, who headed the project. Ms. Weisel Capsouto is a teacher in the Vocal Department of the Academy. Yulia Pevsner was stage director; Nir Cohen was musical director and conductor. The musical presents a number of characters from the world of fairy tales, among them Rapunzel, Little Red Riding Hood, Cinderella and others, all of whom are sent into the woods. The characters' adventures become intertwined as they each endeavor to discover what has been requested of them and to return home.

- WINDSTRAVAGANZA** - Ensembles from the Wind and Percussion Workshop under the supervision of Maurizio Paez and Alon Bor.

- The Academy Symphony Orchestra** works under the musical direction of Professor Eitan Globerson. A highlight of the concert was the premiering of Paul Ben-Haim's "Liturgical Cantata", performed by over 200 participants and conducted by Maestro Stanley Sperber. In addition to this piece, works by Liszt, Debussy and Borodin were performed and conducted by Professor Eitan Globerson.

- The evening concluded with some cross-disciplinary music, in which outstanding ensembles from the Department of Cross-Disciplinary Music and the Department of Oriental Music performed.

The Academy Chamber Choir at the Shavuot Abu Gosh Festival

The Academy Chamber Choir first performed at the Abu Gosh Festival in 2004, and, since 2007, has been performing in the festival every year. Conducted by Maestro Stanley Sperber, this year the choir performed J.S.Bach's monumental "Magnificat", joined by the Ra'anana Symphony Orchestra; works by Brahms, Paul Ben-Haim, Yehezkel Braun, Tzvi Avni were also performed, as well as three spirituals.



Concert of Prize Winners of the Sharon Tabor-Pintz Memorial 2011 Competition for Solo Players and Solo Singing with Orchestra

In January 2012, winners of the 2011 Sharon Tabor-Pintz Competition for solo players and solo singing with orchestra - soprano Atalya Tirosh and pianist Michael Zertzel - performed at a festive concert with the New Academy Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Maestro Eitan Globerson. The orchestra performed Gustav Mahler's "Des Knaben Wunderhorn" (The Youth's Magic Horn) with singer Atalya Tirosh (student of Ms. Agnes Messini) and George Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue" with Michael Zertzel (student of Yaron Rosenthal) at the piano. Present at the concert were family members of the late Sharon Tabor-Pintz and others who cherish her memory.



Special Events

The Academy's "Ankor" Choir Wins a Gold Medal at the International Choral Competition in Cincinnati, Ohio USA



The Ankor Choir won a gold medal in the Youth Choir category and a silver medal in the Sacred Music category of the International Choral Competition that took place in Cincinnati, USA. Some 350 choirs from 70 countries (approximately 70,000 participants) took part in the competition.

The Ankor Choir, conducted by its artistic director Dafna Ben-Yohanan, consists of 40 girls aged 13 to 25, 18 of whom took part in the competition. The Ankor Choir was the only Israeli choir competing.

This Israeli choir, renowned for its especially high quality of singing, received much attention in the US media. Its conductor, Dafna Ben-Yohanan was interviewed several times for local press and television. Gad Levin, the Academy's budget director, accompanied the delegation, assisting the choir. Following the conclusion of the competition, the choir gave a series of concerts organized by the Cincinnati Jewish Federation, headed by its CEO Shep Englander together with the community shaliach Yair Cohen. The concert tour was financed by the Jewish Foundation of Cincinnati, with additional funding from Susan and Stephen Brenner, Steven Mombach, April and Harry Davidow. Following Ankor's success, Maestro Zubin Mehta sent the choir a touching letter in which he wrote: "I am thrilled to hear of the wonderful achievement of the Ankor Children's Choir at the World Choir Games in Cincinnati. Competing with immense worldwide competition and winning a gold medal quite remarkable, and reflects considerable hard work as well as talent. The Ankor children's Choir is a marvelous representative of Israel and I am sure you will go on to even greater achievements".



Maestro Zubin Mehta's letter

A Concert Commemorating Ten Years since the Terror Attack on Mt. Scopus

The Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance, in cooperation with the Hebrew University, held a special concert commemorating ten years since the terror attack in the cafeteria of the Mt. Scopus campus of the Hebrew University in July 2002. The memorial event was initiated by Mrs. Nevenka Gritz from France, whose son David was killed in the attack. Adv. Yair Green, chairman of the Academy's Board of Directors, and Professor Ilan Schul, President of the JAMD, both spoke at the event; representing the Hebrew University were Professor Mimi Eisenstadt, Dean of the School of Overseas Students and Mr. Bentzi Peretzman, Head of Student Administration.

At the concert that took place March 28th 2012, dedicated, as requested by Mrs. Gritz, to all those who have suffered in terror attacks, works by Beethoven, Borodin and Liszt were performed by outstanding Academy students and pianist Juliana Steinbach who especially came from France to the event at the request of Mrs. Gritz.



Violinist Florence von Burg with Mrs. Gritz

The "Ankor" Choir in "Carmen" at Masada

The Ankor Choir took part in six performances of the Bizet's opera "Carmen". The opera, a production of the Israeli Opera and conducted by Daniel Oren, took place at the foot of Masada. The chorus included some 40 girls, some as young as 12 years of age, members of the Young Ankor Choir. The result of this cooperation was another invitation for next year for the Ankor Choir to appear in Israeli Opera productions of "Turandot" and "Carmina Burana".



Photo: Yossi Zvecker

Winners in Academy Competitions

The Gertrud Kraus Choreography Competition

For many years, the Gertrud Kraus Choreography Competition has become a focus of attention for young Israeli creativity, strengthening choreography- and composition studies at the Academy's Faculty of Dance. In recent years, composers writing and performing their own works have been accompanying the works by choreography students in the competition, thus fulfilling the Academy's mission for cooperation between faculties. Winners of the 33rd Gertrud Kraus Choreography Competition were:

First prize: Lotem Sayag for "Third Person".

Second prize: Smadar Goshen for "A Short Story by Us",

Third prize: Inbar Walter for "Rabina Ganosis".

Winners in the competition for composition of music for dance were:

First prize: Orr Sinay

Second prize: Faye Shapiro.



Gertrud Kraus (1977-1901) was the first lady of modern dance in Israel. After immigrating to Israel from Vienna, she established her own dance group,

performing frequently in cooperation with the Palestine Orchestra (now the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra and the Folk Opera). She was choreographer for most of the Habima Theatre's performances, served as artistic consultant to the Batsheva Dance Company, The Israel Ballet, and to the Kibbutz Contemporary Dance Company. Right up to her last days, she taught at the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance and was the Academy's first choreographer to become a professor of dance. In 1968 she received the Israel Prize for her work in the field of dance. Professor Kraus bequeathed all her assets to the Academy in order to further the School of Dance. The choreography competition in her name was initiated and established by the late Professor Hassia Levy-Agron, founder of the Dance Faculty of the Academy

The Haim Kalmi Piano Competition

The Haim Kalmi Piano Competition was established in 2005 by his daughter, the late Esther Kalmi, in order to further and bring outstanding pianists to the public eye. As of 2005, the competition has been taking place at the Academy annually. Competition prize-winners performed at a festive concert at the Eden-Tamir Music Center (Ein Kerem) and the concert was broadcast on the Voice of Music IBA.

Winners of the piano competition were:

First prize: (NIS 12,000) Yael Enosh, an M.Mus. student, pupil of Dr. Irina Berkovich.

Second prize: (NIS 8000) Netanel Bass, then completing his B.Mus., student of Professor Vadim Monastirsky.

Third prize: (NIS 5000) Oxana Kasyanova, also a student of Professor Monastirsky.

The Ariane Yerushalmi-Eldor National Classical Guitar Competitions

In March and April of 2012, the four Ariane Yerushalmi-Eldor Classical Guitar Competitions took place for the 13th year in succession.

In the senior category:

First prize: Daniel Reich, student of Irit Even-Tov

Second prize: Ilia Wolfbein, student of Professor Yossi Yerushalmi, artistic director of the competition

Third prize: Gal Levy, student of Yoram Zarbiv

Fourth prize: Or Ben-Amos, student of Yoram Zarbiv.

The compulsory work for the final round was Spanish composer Joaquin Rodrigo's "Fantasia for a Gentleman", the demands of this work testifying to the high standard of the competition. Contestants played the work with the "Ma'abada" Orchestra, conducted by Doron Salomon.

The UNO Competition

The UNO Competition for Young Violinists (to age 24) was established by violinist and teacher Avi Abromovich, head of the Chamber Music Program of the Academy.

Winner: Tomer Marcus

Honorary mentions: Daniel Mendelson, Tamar Koren and Ariav Buchris.

The Chamber Music Competition

First prize: Florence von Burg violin, Anna Kume violin. Dor Sperber viola, Nathalie Verdon viola, Elizabeth Cook cello.

Second prize: was shared by two ensembles:

I - Tomer Marcus violin, Dor Sperber viola, Freddie Julius cello, Roni Shavit piano.

II - Daniel Zinn violin, Barak Shossberger violin, Shir-Ran Yinon viola, Tehila Machado cello.

Stringed Instrument Competition in Memory of David Gritz

First prize: Florence von Burg violin

Second prize: shared between Leah Korchemny viola and Micha Finkelstein cello.

Third prize: Tomer Marcus violin.

The Competition for Solo Singing/Playing with Orchestra

Winners:

Rotem Bartan flute

Hila Ofek harp

The Classical Concerto Competition

Winner:

Yael Enosh piano

Competition of Interpretation for Students of the Department of Vocal Cross-Disciplinary Music

First prize: Gabi Potaznik

Second prize: Sivan Bar-Lev

*Heartiest congratulations
to all the winners.*

Spotlight on the Conservatory's Activities 2011-2012

- In the framework of the Conservatory's "Department Days", master classes in piano, violin, cello, guitar, flute, oboe, bassoon, trumpet, clarinet, saxophone and voice were held by leading musicians.

- Many of the Conservatory's students won prizes in countrywide and international competitions, received America-Israel Cultural Foundation Scholarships and some also became IDF "Outstanding Musicians", giving them special conditions for their army service.

- Conservatory students performed all over Israel as well as overseas, in "Voice of Music" live broadcast concerts at the Eden-Tamir Music Centre, Ein Kerem, at the Felicja Blumental Music Centre (Tel Aviv), the Begin Centre, the Tel Aviv Museum of Art, the Henry Crown Auditorium, and other venues. A number of Conservatory students were invited to give performances in London, Dublin, Hamburg, Bucharest, Tbilisi, Provence and other places.

- This year, the Academy Conservatory took part in some eight meetings run by the Department of Education, hosting three concerts.

- On February 22nd 2012, the Conservatory presented a gala concert in the Henry Crown Auditorium of the Jerusalem Theatre, with the participation of 220 of its students. All proceeds from the concert went towards student scholarships.

- On Jerusalem Day, May 20, a marathon concert taking place, involving



Mrs. Rosie Varon, Jerusalem Mayor Nir Barkat and Conservatory pupils at the Varon Scholarship awarding ceremony.

Conservatory students, was broadcast live on "The Voice of Music", the IBA classical music station.

- On June 8th, as an event of the Israel Festival, a concert involving students of the "Young Piano Artists Project" of the Edward Aldwell International Center for Piano Performance and Musicianship took place at the Eden-Tamir Music Center in Ein Kerem. A number of Conservatory pupils were among the players. The concert was broadcast live on "The Voice of Music" IBA.

- On June 10th, as part of the Israel Festival, a concert involving the Young Chamber Orchestra was performed in the Henry Crown Auditorium of the Jerusalem Theatre.

- During the year, a number of students of the Conservatory's Piano Department excelled and collected first prizes in the "Piano For Ever" Competitions in Ashdod (Daniel Golod, Adi Neuhaus, Etti Navon and Tom Zalmanov) and, in the "Voice of Music Young Artists Competition", two students - Daniel Golod (3rd prize) and Adi Neuhaus (1st prize) - performed with the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Yaniv Dinur.

The Academy at the Chamber Music Festival in Kfar Blum

"Music in the Valley" International Summer institute for Strings and Voice, under the auspices of the Voice of Music Upper Galilee Festival.

This is the third year the JAMD's "Music in the Valley" Seminar has taken place within the framework of the Voice of Music Upper Galilee Festival at Kfar Blum. In recent years, students have come from the USA, England, Russia, France, Germany, Latvia, Spain, Malta, Japan, South Korea, Canada, Hungary and Israel. The approximately 50 students, aged 16 to 28, are offered a rigorous instrumental study program with intensive individual tuition and open master classes. In addition to these, the students receive lessons in technique, attend workshops and play in chamber ensembles; the high point of the course is performance

in public concerts. First violinist of the Jerusalem Quartet, Alexander Pavlovsky, is the seminar's artistic director. The seminar is suited to outstanding students, young musicians from Israel and further afield, who are embarking on a professional career. The tutors, internationally renowned musicians from Israel or abroad, come together for ten days to offer course members individual guidance and master classes. The teachers are all active artists, performing worldwide and teaching in prestigious institutions overseas or at the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance.

Cooperation between the Academy and Israeli Radio IBA



From the Yona Wallach Ensemble, live broadcast on the third radio station and on the Voice of Music.

- Senior faculty members of the Academy will present programs on the "Reshet Gimel" from 13:00 to 14:00 and will report on Academy news.

- Spotlight on young people - the art song (Lied). Three students will be employed as young program producers.

- Once a week there will be a broadcast from the Haifa studios of chamber ensembles of Academy students.

- Work on the Academy studio should be completed in three months and the possibility of "The Voice of Music" broadcasting from it is under examination.

- Eight programs are planned to be recorded and shown on Israeli television on Saturday mornings.

- As to supervision, a joint course for program editors is being planned, some of which will be taught by Academy lecturers. Programming expertise will be given by Israeli Radio employees.

A Meeting of Graduates Marks the Jubilee of the Academy High School

Hundreds of graduates and teachers assembled on June 26th 2012 to celebrate the Academy High School's jubilee. The program included greetings and musical items. Closing the evening, there were class reunions in which emotion and joy ran high. The Academy wishes to thank Dalia Reichman who was on the administrative staff of the High School and a true friend of the Academy, who ran the evening and contributed much to organizing the event.

Academy High School graduates who were not able to attend the meeting, and would like to stay in contact, are requested to register with the school: tel.: 02-6594444

The Academy Bows its Head



Professor Mark Kopytman (1929–2012)

was among Israel's most important composers and a recipient of the Prime Minister's Prize for Composition. Born in the former Soviet Union, he was a graduate of the Czernowitz Medical School, received his M.Mus. from the Lvov Music Academy and a doctorate from the Moscow Tchaikovsky Conservatory. After immigrating to Israel in 1972, he taught Composition at the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance and for many years Professor Kopytman headed the Faculty of Music Theory, Conducting and Composition and was the Dean of the Faculty. He taught generations of students who today are important composers in Israel and outside the country. His works are performed in concerts and festivals in Israel and further afield. Professor Mark Kopytman received the Koussevitzky Prize and the ACUM Prize for his creative life work.



Professor Haim Alexander (1915–2012)

was one of the most important composers of our generation. He was born in Berlin and immigrated to Israel in 1936. He was a student of the Jerusalem Academy and, on graduating in 1945, began teaching piano, theory, harpsichord and, later, composition at the Academy. Professor Haim Alexander has composed many works for almost every musical medium and has been the recipient of many prizes. He served as Deputy Head of the Academy.



Ruth Lesser nee Kiwi (1915–2012)

was born in a small town in the Posen province and grew up in Breslau. When Hitler came to power, she immigrated to Holland. In 1935 she married Wolf Lesser. Their daughter Loni was born in 1938. With the assistance of the Dutch Underground,

she managed to send her small daughter to a Christian family who raised her throughout the war. Wolf and Ruth were arrested in Amsterdam in May 1943 and, after moving from camp to camp, were deported to Bergen Belsen where the whole family "met together" - and managed to get out of Bergen Belsen before the war ended. After a short sojourn overseas, the family returned to Holland. In the meantime, Naomi was born and Loni had returned to the family home. Wolf's business did well in Holland. After the Six Day War, they began to commute between Jerusalem and Amsterdam. Wolf was a keen music-lover and, following a request from the Academy, became a constant donor, furthering the Friends of the Academy, which he founded in Holland. He passed away in 1995. Ruth survived him, maintaining her support of the Academy, also remembering the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance in her will. She passed away at a ripe age, surrounded by her large, warm family. (by Michal Smoira Cohn)

New Publications

Music and Dance in Time

Editor: Michal Smoira Cohn; published by the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance, 2012

"Music and Dance in Time" is a magazine in the English language, editions of which have been published for the last 30 years or so. It consists of articles written by senior members of faculty. The subject of the present edition is "Time in Music and Dance" and writers have approached the subject from a number of angles.

Michal Smoira Cohn has held the positions of Head of the Academy and lecturer, served as Chairman of the Board of Governors and today is a member of the Board of Directors This edition of "Music and Dance in Time" can be read on the JAMD website.

Gary Bertini

Michal Smoira Cohn.

Carmel Publishing House, 2012

This is a musical biography summarizing the work of conductor Gary Bertini on the background of the development of

musical life in Israel. The book is based on recordings of the music critic Hagai Hitron and writings by personages from the world of music and dance.

At a Personal Tempo: Episodes in Life and Music

Tzvi Avni, Maba Publishing, 2012

A part of this book includes an autobiographical résumé in which the writer describes some remarkable people in Israel's musical life over the course of more than six decades, musicians such as Joachim Stutchevsky, Bracha Zefira and many others.

In addition, the book comprises a collection of Professor Avni's articles on actual musical subjects - electronic music, the oriental song, and more.

Professor Tzvi Avni is a composer and senior member of the teaching faculty of the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance. He has served as Deputy Head of the JAMD and was an Israel Prize recipient in 2000.

Israeli Folk Dances, Dr. Dan Ronen Carmel Publishing House, 2012

"Israeli Folk Dances" is an intensive and comprehensive analysis of the roots of the unique phenomenon of the Israeli folk dance, the elements of the phenomenon and its cultural function. The book addresses its cultural and idealistic connections, in festival celebrations in the kibbutz, the background to its development and the sources of inspiration of its creators then and now.

The book deals with many subjects: what the Israeli folk dance is, whether "Israel-ism" can be defined in dance, why tens of thousands of people do folk dancing, and the influence of the folk dances, the dancers and of folk dance troupes on the development of the dance scene in Israel, etc.

Dr. Dan Ronen has been a member of the Academy's Board of Directors for many years, an honorary Academy Trustee (2007), has taken on (and continues to take on) senior positions in the fields of education and culture in Israel.