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Psalms of Abraham, Cultural Emissary

The history of Jewish culture in Vienna is, for lack of a better word, complex. Jews have likely lived in the Austrian capital since the 12th century, creating and contributing to arts and culture in myriad ways. Yet it took 502 years and the initiative of the Milken Archive for the legendary Vienna Boys Choir to sing in Hebrew for the first time.

Recorded in Vienna in 2000 and released as part of [Volume 20: L'DOR VADOR — A Celebration of Youth](#) this month, Abraham Kaplan's *Psalms of Abraham* comprises twelve original settings of eleven psalms from the Book of Psalms. Stirring and emotionally complex, the cantata premiered in 1980.



In recent years, due in part to their introduction to these works via recordings such as this one, the Vienna Boys Choir and others around the world have begun incorporating Hebrew-language work in their repertoire, welcoming Jewish culture in a new way.

Today, we are excited to publically release a 15-minute video of that historic recording led by conductor Gerald Wirth, featuring excerpts from the twelve-movement work. Whether you're a fan of choral music, Abraham Kaplan's work or Jewish history, this video does not disappoint.

Enjoy history in the making as the Vienna Boys Choir sings

Psalms of Abraham

by Abraham Kaplan
