

November 5, 2014

Now Streaming: Cantors Part 1

The word “cantor” may come from the root word meaning “to sing,” but Pierre Pinchik—a cantorial giant of the American Golden Age of *Hazzanut*—once said that a cantor must first be a master of the liturgy and a mensch. The ability to sing is just a bonus.

Since Jewish tradition holds that most prayers be sung, the cantor has an especially important job as prayer leader, or *Hazzan*. Throughout the history of worship, cantors have played highly significant roles outside the synagogue as well, acting as cultural ambassadors and often achieving celebrity status.



This month, we return to our series, *American Jewish Music from the Milken Archive with Leonard Nimoy*, with [Episode 8: Cantors, Part 1](#). Join us as we explore cantorial music in America with “golden age” repertoire and contemporary compositions through recordings by Ben Zion Miller, Alberto Mizrahi and Simon Spiro, among others.

[More on Mizrahi](#)



Get to know **Alberto Mizrahi** and why he's so passionate about his recordings for the Archive in [this video profile](#).

[Learn About Lind](#)



Learn all about **Joshua Lind**, the resourceful, prolific cantor, composer and teacher featured in [this episode](#).

[Bring On Bernstein](#)



Recently performed at Queens College, **Bernstein's MASS** is explored with a [video trailer](#) in this article..

As always, this episode features commentary by Artistic Director Neil W. Levin and renowned conductor Gerard Schwarz. Listen in as these two gurus of Jewish music bring the history to light and set a context that enriches the beautiful recordings, streaming for a limited time from the Milken Archive.

This month only, listen to:

[American Jewish Music from the Milken Archive with Leonard Nimoy](#)

[Episode 8: Cantors Part 1](#)

