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Mama Doni's rock band performing in Closter and Washington Township

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Music
Published: 26 February 2010

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Mama Doni, a.k.a. Doni Zasloff Thomas of Montclair, and her Jewish indie-rock band for children, perform "funky music with a Jewish twist" at Temple Emanu-El in Closter on Saturday, during Purim festivities that begin at 6 p.m., and at the Bergen



County YJCC on Sunday, at 10:30 a.m. The YJCC event is a presentation of the David Rukin Young People's Concert. For information, call Temple Emanu-El, (201) 750-9997 or the YJCC, (201) 666-6610.

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MOST POPULAR

Come for 'Jewgrass,' stay for Selichot

Joseph Leichman • 28 August 2009
Music

In the early 1980s, clarinetist Margot Leverett wanted to infuse her classical and avant-garde career with something more danceable. Around the same time, Temple Israel Community Center in Cliffside Park wanted to infuse its midnight Selichot service with something more accessible.

They both found klezmer. And this year, they've found each other.

Leverett, who got her foot-shuffling fix by helping to found the Klezmatics in 1985, will perform with her "Jewgrass" band, Margot Leverett and the Klezmer Mountain Boys, at TICC on Sept. 12 at 9:30 p.m. The free concert and subsequent dessert social are part of the synagogue's annual William Golub Memorial Selichot Concert and Social, a program designed to draw people to late-night Selichot services.

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Singing stars of David

Warren Boroson • 4 September 2009
Music

With the opera season approaching, it's time for a test: Which of the following five singers was not Jewish?

1. Natalie Dessay, 2. Elisabeth Rethberg, 3. Alma Gluck, 4. Friedrich Shorr, 5. Jennie Tourel.

Answer: Elisabeth Rethberg. (Dessay converted and married Jewish bass-baritone Laurent Naouri.)

Here are a few even more challenging questions:

1. Why have there been so many Jewish opera singers?
2. Who was the greatest Jewish opera singer of all time?

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