



The Irish Jewish Museum invites you to a Concert

Tuesday 21st November 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

An Evening of Yiddish Song featuring the St. Petersburg Society for Jewish Folk Music

Carl Nelkin - Tenor Maja Elliott – Piano

The St. Petersburg Society for Jewish Folk Music was founded in Russia in the early 20th century by a group of Russian Jewish classical composers dedicated to preserving Jewish Folk music and creating a new, characteristically Jewish genre of classical music. The music it produced used Western classical elements, featuring the rich chromatic harmonies of Russian late Romantic music, but with melodic, rhythmic and textual content taken from traditional Jewish folk or liturgical music. The movement, which started in St Petersburg, later spread to Moscow, Poland, Austria and later Israel and the United States. Although the original society existed formally for only 10 years (from 1908-1918), its impact on the course of Jewish music was profound. The society, and the art music movement it fostered, inspired a new interest in the music of Eastern European Jewry throughout Europe and America. It laid the foundations for the Jewish music and Klezmer revival in the United States and was a key influence in the development of Israeli folk and classical music.



Carl Nelkin is a Dublin based aviation lawyer and, in his spare time, a singer of Jewish, Irish and classical music. Carl is particularly interested in both old and modern synagogue melodies as well as researching and performing other genres from the extensive collections of Jewish music which include traditional Yiddish songs from Eastern Europe, Jewish operetta and modern Jewish songs.

Maja Elliott trained as a concert pianist in the Guildhall School of Music, London. She has performed worldwide and her compositions are regularly played on Lyric FM. In 2021 she was musician in residence for Music Network's Dun Laoghaire Artist's Residency.

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