

MOSTLY KOSHER

The Los Angeles Klezmer-Rock Band



AVAILABLE FOR LIVE PERFORMANCE AND VIRTUAL CONTENT!

The Mainstage Show • Family Show • Workshops • Virtual Engagements

MOSTLY KOSHER, the acclaimed Klezmer-rock band radically reconstructs Judaic and American cultural music through ravenous klezmer beats and arresting Yiddish refrains. Mostly Kosher is a musical feast that explodes into a global food-fight of Jazz, Latin, Rock, and Folk. In response to the poetry and folk music of Judaic roots, their reimagined voice resounds with messages of social justice, human dignity and mutual understanding. The band is a fixture at renowned Southern California stages such as the John Anson Ford Amphitheatre, Skirball Cultural Center, Livermore Valley Performing

Arts Center and The Torrance Center for Performing Arts (TOCA). They have also graced the stage of the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion for a live television broadcast to over half a million viewers in 2015 and once again in 2017. Mostly Kosher had the honor of being the first Jewish music ensemble at the Disney parks and performs an annual two month residency at Disney California Adventure Park, completing season four in January, 2020. MK was proud to perform for the grand opening of the Music Center Plaza, and is looking forward to participating in the upcoming virtual Hanukkah festivities at the Skirball Cultural Center.

MOSTLY KOSHER MENU

what would you like to order?

The Mainstage Show

Mostly Kosher's Mainstage show is an immersive cultural experience that lays the drawbridge down, invites the listener in to share a few l'chaims and then sends them home with a goodie bag of melodies, memories and the desire to hora through the night. The set includes reconstructed Klezmer and Yiddish music, the cultural expressions of Jewish people crossed with Rock, Latin, Jazz and Folk. In response to the poetry and folk music of Judaic roots, the show includes original repertoire resounding with themes of social justice, human dignity and mutual understanding.

[75-90 minute show with no intermission •

Option for alternative formats, including time for a talk back/Q&A.]

Full COVID Show Options:

Can be pre-recorded or broadcast LIVE from the Mostly Kosher Outdoor Stage or any Southern California local, outdoor location.

"Mostly Kosher blends music that breaks barriers and brings the audience to their feet in utter joy. This band is completely a winner!"

**- Christian Wolf, Executive Director,
Torrance Performing Arts Center**

***During COVID, workshops can be delivered virtually on Zoom.**

The ensemble members are available for Q&A sessions and workshops for students of all ages, backgrounds and abilities. Available to collaborate with local community ensembles and musicians. **Ask us how!**

MOSTLY KOSHER'S Roots & Wings Project

Full Family Show

ROOTS AND WINGS utilizes global Jewish cultural music, both traditional and contemporary, to tell the story of a modern day Klezmer musician coming into his own as a performer, and the iconic Bubbe, striving to stay relevant in an ever changing world. This heartfelt and often hilarious show was developed with the collaboration of acclaimed director/playwright duo of the Colburn School, 24th St. Theatre and Los Angeles Philharmonic.

**[Geared for all ages and backgrounds •
50 minutes • Live only]**

Family Virtual Engagement

This virtual engagement includes a short (6-10 min) pre-recorded video of Roots & Wings characters presenting educational components, storytelling and references from the full-length show. Bookending the video includes members of Mostly Kosher engaging in conversation, Q&A and ending with a "Write Your Own Klezmer Song" Sing-a-long! **[20-30 minutes] Post COVID, live engagement can be delivered in person.**

Workshops: The Roots & Wings of Klezmer Music*

This interactive workshop features a mix of music, lecture, storytelling, and Q&A with a sprinkle of shtick. We will explore traditional klezmer/Yiddish music forms and its roots. We will tap into its evolution over the 20th century as well as tie the past to the future in contemporary Jewish cultural music. Workshops can be geared towards students of any age or adults and can be customized specifically for musicians. **[20-90 minutes]**

GET THE SCOOP!



ALL ABOUT MOSTLY KOSHER

MOSTLY KOSHER is a musical feast that explodes into a global food-fight of Jazz, Latin, Rock, and Folk. In response to the poetry and folk music of Judaic roots, their original voice resounds with themes of social justice, human dignity and mutual understanding. Led by frontman Leeav Sofer, one of Jewish Journal's "30 under 30" most accomplished professionals in the Los Angeles Jewish diaspora, Mostly Kosher is comprised of some of the highest regarded Los Angeles musicians: violinist Janice Mautner Markham, drummer Eric Hagstrom, bassist Adam Levy, accordionist Gee Rabe, trombonist Taylor Covey and Anibal Seminario on clarinet and sax.

Mostly Kosher is a fixture at renowned Southern California stages such as the John Anson Ford Amphitheatre, Skirball Cultural Center, Torrance Center for the Arts and Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center. They have also graced the stage of the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion for a live television broadcast to over half a million viewers in 2015, 2017 and 2019. The ensemble has headlined multiple summer festivals including the Silicon Valley Jewish Music Festival, Claremont Folk Festival. Mostly Kosher had the honor of being the first Jewish music ensemble at the Disney parks with 2020 marking their fourth season performing during the 2-month long Festival of Holidays. Mostly Kosher was credited for "stealing the Festival of Holidays Show" by the acclaimed Fresh Baked Disney podcast. For the 2017 holiday season,

Mostly Kosher added Epcot Center in Florida to their list of holiday performance venues, becoming Disney's first Jewish cultural music performed on both coasts. Staying true to giving back to the community, Mostly Kosher is proud to be teaching artists for Urban Voices Project, performing and educating in underserved areas in and around Southern California including prisons, community clinics and shelters serving men and women suffering from homelessness. Mostly Kosher is also mentor ensemble to the Jewish Youth Orchestra, a project of the Jewish Federation of San Gabriel Valley, offering performance opportunities and ongoing workshops for middle school and high school musicians.

The band's self-titled debut album has won international acclaim by World Music Network, Songlines Magazine, and BBC radio. The first track, Ikh Hob Dikh Tsufil Lib (I Love You Much Too Much), was recognized as one of World Music Network's Top 6 Songs of 2014. Mostly Kosher's music videos have been garnering accolades on the film festival circuit, receiving two nominations at the Idyllwild International Festival of Cinema and Best Music Video at the Glendale International Film Festival. 2019 marked the indie film debut of Mostly Kosher, as they were featured in the wedding scene of the upcoming release, "Severed Silence", starring Izabela Vidovic and Melora Walters. Stay tuned for upcoming song and video releases!



MOSTLY KOSHER IN THE PRESS

THE JEWISH JOURNAL

The two bands [Mostly Kosher and the Klezmatics] share a love for preserving traditional Yiddish music and cultural tradition – sometimes with the addition of a contemporary spin – and both have enjoyed plenty of critical and audience acclaim. Still, Mostly Kosher and the Klezmatics can, to some extent, be viewed as the new klezmer kid on the block and the genre's lion, respectively.

- Evan Henerson, Los Angeles Jewish Journal



Whilst I suspect that it will be that spirit of cabaret running through the collective veins of Mostly Kosher that will make them the most friends, it is equally true that the cognoscenti amongst us will be similarly impressed by standard of musicianship on show here.

- Blues Bunny Music Review



Mostly Kosher CD review: The richness of Jewish music is seamlessly fused with Latin tango, samba and cool jazz producing a world beat cabaret which swings high and low from ecstasy to longing.

- Mark T, fRoots Magazine



Mostly Kosher's enthusiasm, wit, talent and high energy created a one-of-a-kind experience for our visitors.

- Michael Fritzen, former Head of Family Programs
Skirball Cultural Center



Mostly Kosher is a musical group full of talented musicians who seem to love crowd interaction... as a whole they gave a stellar performance... it is guaranteed that audiences young and old alike will leave feeling uplifted.

- Brittany Ulrey, Valley Scene



Mostly Kosher's CD features not only well-known Yiddish theater and klezmer tunes, including upbeat freilachs, but also Hebrew and Sephardic songs played in a range of styles—propulsive Latin rhythms, swinging West Coast jazz and sensitive balladry—with expressive singing featured in half the songs.

- Andy Muchin, JWeekly.com



PRAISE FOR MOSTLY KOSHER



I had very little involvement in last night's sold out Invisible Hour at the Pico Union, but it was a highlight event of the year for me. I loved the music, the crowd and the energy - but most of all I loved watching really great people do their thing really well and I love what they were doing. All honor to Mostly Kosher for a superb evening!

- Craig Taubman, Pico Union Project



It was a pleasure having Mostly Kosher grace our stage!

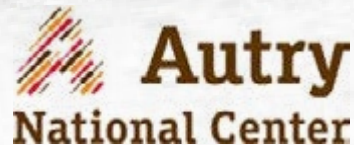
- Jennifer Fukutomi, Production Coordinator
Ford Theatres, Los Angeles County
Arts Commission



BETH CHAYIM CHADASHIM
House Of New Life בית חיים חדשים

Mostly Kosher! Great energy! My feet were dancing under my chair. Klezmer goes right to the kishkes.

- Rabbi Lisa Edwards, Temple Beth Chayim
Chadashim



Mostly Kosher perfectly complimented our Jews in LA exhibit. The traditional music and songs were beautifully executed and performed. The comedy sketches disbursed among the musical performances were hilarious. Through comedy very real and moving moments representing Jewish culture were respectively brought to life.

- Robyn Hetrick, Director of Programs and Public
Events, Autry Museum



BETH CHAYIM CHADASHIM
House Of New Life בית חיים חדשים

Mostly Kosher shined throughout their concert at BCC, making use of their exquisite musicianship, contagious energy and poignant light-hearted humour - all of which were great ways to introduce the attendees to the sonic and spiritual experience that Klezmer music is about!

- Cantor Juval Porat, Temple Beth Chayim
Chadashim

MOSTLY KOSHER AT THE



MOSTLY KOSHER... My favorite group, FANTASTIC, definitely see them!

- DIS Unplugged Podcast



This new group starts out with an amazing fiddler and a terrific clarinetist riffing together and playing traditional Jewish hymns. Right when the crowd is curious and warmed up the lead singer Leeav Sofer starts working the crowd with his Star of David-shaped tambourine. This man is a performer who knows how to get a party started. He shares the tambourine, he waltzes with the crowd, he is on stage and off stage and even ends the whole set dancing the Hora. It is hands down the most festive holiday performance I have ever seen.

- Todd Pickering, mouseplanet.com



Did Mostly Kosher just steal the Festival of Holidays show? I had been looking forward to Mostly Kosher since I saw the entertainment listings. Not because I knew of them, but just because I was so darn curious what this band would look and sound like. To say that I was impressed was an understatement.

It's like a Yiddish Reel Big Fish. Amazing. I personally did not know that Jewish klezmer rocked as hard as it does. Not in the traditional sense of course, but in the sense that they're passionate about their music, and their culture, and it shows in this spirited piece of entertainment. [Contemporary klezmer] takes some of its inspiration from American Jazz, rock, rhythm and blues and hip hop. It's pretty amazing, but made even more so by their energetic front men...it's all fantastic. And so are all the other band members. You can really feel the passion in their performances. The show starts off very creatively, with band members each taking turns roaming through the crowd, mingling. It's like you're being stalked...by Jewish magic.

- David Erickson, freshbakeddisney.com

MOSTLY KOSHER AT THE



As part of the Disneyland Festival of Holidays at the Disney California Adventure Park in Anaheim, California, park goers can eat Jewish-inspired cuisine, and listen to live Klezmer-style music. For your listening pleasure, performing on a mouse ear decorated stage is Mostly Kosher, a Southern California based klezmer group which plays lively and soulful Eastern European-inspired Jewish music.

We see frontman Leeav Sofer singing in Yiddish, Hebrew, and English, banging a Star of David shaped tambourine. He introduces Hanukkah by singing the holiday's anthem "Ma'oz Tzur," and in a circle, dances the hora with the kids. Getting into the spirit of the venue, Janice Mautner Markham, the group's violinist, a delightful musician, who I interviewed for a story that ran in the Los Angeles Jewish Journal, is seen playing "When You Wish Upon a Star."

Having grown up in Anaheim with the Disneyland of the 1960's where the only thing Jewish was a tableau representing Israel in "It's A Small World," including noshes and freilach (merry) music marks an adventurous direction for the Disney theme parks in Anaheim.

- Edmon Rodman, virtualjerusalem.com



Mostly Kosher showcases an entertaining and eclectic musical tapestry that weaves together jazz, Latin, rock and hip-hop. This is a must see during the Festival of Holidays.

- A Slice of Disney



This modern Jewish revival band mixes traditional Yiddish and klezmer tunes with an infusion of melodic jazz, Latin rhythms, and hip hop beats to create a lively and eclectic but engaging sound. Playing on both a small stage at Sonoma Terrace and the larger Paradise Park stage—depending on the time of day or evening, this sextet follows the charismatic and sometimes goofy lead of frontman Leeav Sofer. The multi-instrumentalist band uses the violin, clarinet, drums, upright bass, trombone, trumpet, accordion, and even a Star of David tambourine, and they make a very fun and entertaining show that includes a bit of celebration for Hanukkah and spread of general holiday cheer.

- Albert Lam, westcoaster.com



MOSTLY KOSHER

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