Music Performances by

Vanessa Paloma
Is a singer, performer, scholar and writer specializing in Sephardic women's songs and their connection to women's spiritual expression. Internationally known for this repertoire, she has performed on five continents. She is Research Associate of the Hadassah Brandeis Institute and a former Senior Fulbright Research Scholar. Paloma is a doctoral candidate at the Sorbonne and is based in Casablanca, Morocco.

Consuelo Luz
Described as “a shining star in the firmament of Sephardic music”, she has performed Sephardic Judeo-Hispanic music and original songs internationally and her recordings are heard around the world. Poet, singer/songwriter, recording and performance artist, teacher and activist, she is finishing her first novel, which weaves Mayan and Hebrew indigenous and mystical traditions into the power of sound and story.

The New Mexico Jewish Historical Society is a secular organization that promotes greater understanding and knowledge of New Mexico’s Jewish history within a broad cultural context. NMJHS historians study crypto-Jewish history, the stories of the pioneer European Jews who migrated west in the 1800s, and the role of the business and professional families who to this day strengthen the multicultural fabric of the state. NMJHS maintains a substantial archive of historical documents at the State Records Center and Archives in Santa Fe. The Society offers stimulating programs and an annual conference and publishes Legacy, an award-winning quarterly newsletter.

www.nmjhs.com
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A TRIBUTE TO THE WORK OF

Stanley M. Hordes

Judaism: Identity and Boundaries

New Mexico Jewish Historical Society

Ronald Gardenswartz Jewish Community Center
5520 Wyoming Blvd NE
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Sunday, April 29, 2012
2:30 p.m.
Program

Identity and the definition of boundaries are among the most important issues in Jewish communities in the Diaspora. The work of Stan Hordes has led traditional Jews and crypto-Jews to question who is Jewish and what Judaism means in their lives.

Introduction

Ron Duncan Hart
NMJHS Program Chair

Comments from NMJHS Presidents

Dorothy Amsden
President 2008-2010

Noel Pugach
President 2004-2006

Lance Bell
President 1985-1990

Jim Mafchir

Voices of Descendants of Crypto-Jews

Dennis Durán
Santa Fe, NM

Michael Acuña
Pueblo, Colorado

Glorya Tschabold
Albuquerque, NM

Isabelle Medina Sandoval
Santa Fe, NM

Judaism and Crypto-Judaism in Scholarship

Seth Kunin, Pro-Vice-Chancellor of Arts and Humanities
Durham University, U.K.

Seth Ward, Professor, Program in Religious Studies
University of Wyoming

Roger L. Martinez, Assistant Professor
University of Colorado, Colorado Springs

Comments by Stan Hordes

Introduction by Rabbi Stephen Leon
Congregation B'nai Zion, El Paso, Texas

Stan Hordes

Ladino Music and my Experience

Consuelo Luz

Stanley M. Hordes

Descendants of Crypto-Jews

"Crypto-Jews in New Mexico were cautious about sharing their beliefs outside of the family. A relative, usually a father or mother, would disclose the Jewish heritage to trusted family members." -- Hidden Shabbat, Isabelie Medina Sandoval

The journey of discovery and adaptation to the knowledge of crypto-Jewish heritage takes many paths, as represented in the comments of Dennis Durán, Michael Acuña, Glorya Tschabold and Isabelie Medina Sandoval.

Visiting Scholars

Seth Kunin
Professor of the Anthropology of Religion and Pro-Vice-Chancellor at Durham University in the UK. Educated at Columbia University and Cambridge University, he has written on Jewish topics from an anthropological perspective, focusing on Crypto-Judaism, working in collaboration with Stanley Hordes in New Mexico. This research culminated in the book, Juggling Identities: Identity and Authenticity among the Crypto-Jews of the American Southwest (Columbian University Press).

Seth Ward
Teaches Islam, Judaism and Middle East at the University of Wyoming. Previously, he taught at the University of Denver and the University of Haifa. His academic degrees are from Yale University, with additional studies at Hebrew University and the Jewish Theological Seminary. Ward’s academic interests include the Jews of Muslim Lands, Jewish-Muslim relations, Crypto-Jews, and Islamic sacred and legal texts about Jews and Israel. He is a board member and Program Chair for the Society for Crypto-Judaic Studies.

Roger L. Martinez
Assistant Professor of History at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs. Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin. He specializes in the history of religious minorities in Spain (especially Jews and conversos) and trans-Atlantic migration to Mexico and Bolivia. His book, Blood, Faith, and Fate: Jews, Conversos, and Old Christians in Early Modern Spain and Colonial Spanish America will be published by the University of Notre Dame Press. He is Vice-President of the Society for Crypto-Judaic Studies.