

# EARLY HEBREW ART MUSIC

FRÜHE KOMPOSITIONEN FÜR DIE SYNAGOGUE

Kol HaNeshamah

Anon.

(Ed. Israel Adler)

From the Repertoire of the Portuguese Jewish Community  
of Amsterdam



הוצאת המוסיקה הישראלית בערבון מוגבל תל-אביב  
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מאוצר המוסיקה האירופאית לבית הכנסת

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OEUVRES DU RÉPERTOIRE  
DE LA COMMUNAUTÉ PORTUGAISE D'AMSTERDAM

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voce e continuo

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OEUVRES DU RÉPERTOIRE DE LA COMMUNAUTÉ JUIVE  
PORTUGAISE D'AMSTERDAM AU XVIII<sup>E</sup> SIÈCLE

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Les descendants des marranes, originaires de la péninsule ibérique, qui s'établirent à Amsterdam à partir de la fin du XVI<sup>e</sup> siècle, y formèrent au cours des XVII<sup>e</sup>-XVIII<sup>e</sup> siècles l'un des centres juifs les plus florissants d'Europe. La vie culturelle s'y distingua par la variété des domaines formant le champ d'intérêt des membres de cette communauté. Ses savants, écrivains et poètes, sans négliger les études rabbiniques et cabalistiques, produisirent également des ouvrages de morale juive, de linguistique hébraïque, d'histoire et de poésie. Profondément marqués par plusieurs générations d'assimilation totale à la civilisation de leur pays d'origine, ces marranes devenus juifs pratiquants, gardèrent les formes d'expression culturelle et artistique de leur ancien mode de vie. Ainsi, une activité musicale intense trouvait naturellement sa place dans la vie sociale et religieuse de cette communauté.

Nulle part ailleurs l'historien ne trouvera réunies des conditions aussi favorables pour l'étude de la vie musicale d'une communauté juive: documents d'archives et témoignages littéraires d'une richesse exceptionnelle viennent éclairer l'important répertoire de documents notés de cette communauté dont l'héritage musical a été maintenu vivant jusqu'à nos jours dans la tradition orale, permettant de confirmer et d'interpréter les sources écrites anciennes.\*

Parmi les manifestations musicales de cette communauté, il faut surtout mentionner celles destinées au "Sabbat nahamû" et à la fête de "Simhat tôrah" et du "Sabbat berešit". Depuis l'inauguration fastueuse de la "grande synagogue", qui a eu lieu le "Sabbat nahamû" de l'an 1675 aux sons d'un orchestre et d'une chorale, ce jour devint la principale fête locale, commémorée aujourd'hui encore. Cette fête, ainsi que les réjouissances en l'honneur du "fiancé de la Torah" et du "fiancé de la Genèse", lors de la fête de "Simhat tôrah" et du "Sabbat berešit", ont donné lieu à de nombreuses compositions de circonstance. Les deux duos Ham-mešfah illemîm, de Caceres et de Lidarti, ainsi que les deux cantates à voix seule, Bô'î be-šalôm et Kol han-nešamah, de Lidarti, furent destinées à ces occasions. Le chœur à trois voix, Nôrâ elohîm (Psaume 68, 36), pour la Pentecôte, ainsi que le chœur à quatre voix, Be-fî yešarîm de la prière du matin pour Sabbats et fêtes, sont également de Lidarti. Il y a lieu de noter que tandis que les oeuvres de compositeurs juifs comme Caceres et Rathom semblent ne pas avoir survécu au-delà du XVIII<sup>e</sup> siècle, celles du compositeur chrétien Lidarti se sont enracinées dans cette communauté et survivent, en partie, dans sa tradition orale jusqu'à nos jours.

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\* Voir l'étude de la vie musicale et des oeuvres de musique savante du répertoire de cette communauté dans I. Adler, La pratique musicale savante dans quelques communautés juives en Europe aux XVII<sup>e</sup> et XVIII<sup>e</sup> siècles, Paris - La Haye, Mouton, 1966, tome I ch. XII - XIII (pp. 191-236).

WORKS FROM THE REPERTOIRE OF THE JEWISH PORTUGUESE  
COMMUNITY OF AMSTERDAM IN THE XVIII CENTURY

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The descendants of marranos from the Iberian Peninsula, who settled in Amsterdam from the end of the 16th century onwards, became, during the 17th and 18th centuries, one of the most flourishing Jewish communities in Europe. The cultural life there distinguished itself by the variety of interests shown by the members of the community. Its scholars, writers and poets, who were also rabbinical and cabbalist authorities, produced works on Jewish ethics, on the Hebrew language and on history as well as fine poetry. In spite of the passing of several generations totally assimilated to the civilisation of their original country, these marranos had become practising Jews preserving their ancient ways of cultural and artistic expression. At the same time an intensive musical activity developed within the framework of the social and religious life of this community.

In hardly any other place does the historian encounter so many favourable conditions for the study of the musical life in a Jewish community: Documents in archives and literary evidences of an exceptional richness throw light on the important repertoire of this community, the musical heritage of which has been preserved alive to our very day in the oral tradition which permits us to confirm and to interpret the ancient written sources.\*

Among the musical manifestations of this community we have to mention first and foremost the celebrations of "Sabbat Nahamu", Simhat Torah and Sabbat Berashit. Since the "Grand Synagogue" had been festively opened on "Sabbat Nahamu" in the year 1675 to the sounds of an orchestra and chorus, this day had become the principal local festival and it is commemorated to this very day. This festival and also the festivities in honour of the "Bridegroom of the Law" and of the "Bridegroom of Genesis" have brought about numerous musical occasional compositions for the Holy Days of Simhat Torah and Sabbat Bereshit. The two duos Hamesiah Illamim of Caceres and of Lidarti, as well as the two cantatas for one solo voice, Bo'i be'shalom and Kol Hannesamah of Lidarti, were written for such occasions. The three part chorus, Nora Elohim (Psalm 68, 36), for Pentecost, and the four part chprus "Be'fi Yesharim" from the morning prayer for Sabbat and Holy Days, were also written by Lidarti. It is interesting to note that while the works of Jewish composers like Caceres and Rathom have apparently not survived beyond the XVIII century, those of the Christian composer Lidarti have been fully accepted by this community and have been handed down to our own days by oral tradition.

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\* Cf. The historical and musical analysis of these works in I. Adler, *La Pratique Musicale Savante dans quelques Communautés Juives en Europe aux XVIIe et XVIIIe siècles.*, Paris-La Haye, Mouton, 1966, Vol. 1, ch.XII-XIII (pp. 191-236).

NOTE:

The name of the editor-arranger must appear, together with the name of the composer, on all programmes.

ZUR BEACHTUNG:

Der Name des Herausgebers und Bearbeiters muss, zusammen mit dem des Komponisten, auf allen Programmen genannt werden.

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יצירות מתוך הרפרטואר המוסיקלי של הקהלה הפורטוגזית  
באמסטרדם במאה הי"ח

צאצאי האנוסים שהתיישבו באמסטרדם בסוף המאה הט"ז הקימו בה קהילה משגשגת, שהצטיינה בחיי תרבות רבגוניים. בלי להזניח את לימודי התורה, הספרות הרבנית וחכמת הקבלה, כללה יצירתם של חכמה ומשורריה חיבורים בתחום המוסר, הבלשנות העברית, ההיסטוריה והשירה. בני אנוסים אלה, שחיו במשך דורות מתוך התבוללות בתרבותה של ארץ מוצאם היוו בה חלק של השכבות הסוציאליות הגבוהות, שמרו גם לאחר שהפכו לשומרי-מצוות אדוקים על צורות ההבעה התרבותית והאמנותית של אורח-חיהם הקודם. אין איפוא להתפלא שאף פעילות מוסיקלית אינטנסיבית שובצה באופן טבעי בחייהם הדתיים והחברתיים.

בין הארועים המוסיקליים יש לציין במיוחד אלה שנועדו לשבת נחמו, לשמחת תורה ולשבת בראשית. בית הכנסת הגדול באמסטרדם נחנך בפאר רב בשבת נחמו, בשנת 1675, לשמע צלילי תזמורת ומקהלה. מאורע זה הטביע את רשומו על חיי הקהלה ושבת נחמו הפכה לחג שנתי אשר שירים רבים של קהלה זו בתורת הזמנות ליצירה אמנותית. בטקס רב-פאר כיבדו את "חתן התורה" וחתן בראשית". טקסטים ספרותיים רבים של קנטטות שחוברו לארועים אלה הגיעו אלינו ולאחדים אף נשתמרו התווים, כגון שני יצירות ה-דואו, "המשיח אלמים", מאת קסרס ולידרטי וכמו כן שתי הקנטטות לקול יחיד, "בואי בשלום" ו"כל הנשמה" מאת לידרטי. הקטע התלת-קולי למקהלה, "נורא אלהים" (לחג השבועות וכמו כן קטע המקהלה לארבעה קולות. "בפי ישרים" (מתפלת שחרית של ימי שבת ומועד), אף הם מאת לידרטי. מעניין לציין שבעוד שיצירותיהם של המלחינים היהודים אברהם קסרס ואברהם רתום נשתכחו במשך הזמן ולא השאירו עקבות לאחר המאה הי"ח. הרי יצירותיו של לידרטי, המלחין הלא יהודי, נשתרשו בקהלה ונשתמרו במסורת שבעל פה עד היום.\*

\* ראה על חיי המוסיקה ויצירות הרפרטואר המוסיקלי של קהילה זו:

I. Adler, La pratique musicale savante dans quelques communautés juives en Europe aux XIIe et XVIIIe siècles, Paris-La Haye, Mouton, 1966, tome I, ch. VII (pp. 89-105).

( Ps. CXXX, v. 6. )

Adagio from an anonymous Cantata  
for solo voice (an 18th century work)

Edited , with accompaniment  
by

Adler

This Adagio is preserved in the manuscript 49 B 22 of the Ets-Haim Library of Amsterdam. This piece was part of the repertory of the community, used on Sabbath nahamu on Simhat Torah, and on Sabbath Bere-shit.



# כל הנשמה

7

Kol HaNeshamah

Anon.

(Ed. Israel Adler)

PS. CXXX,6

כל הנשמה תהלל יה הללויה, (תהלים, קנ, 6). הללויה, גדלו יה, ברכו יה, שבחו יה, זמרו יה...  
הללויה

Adagio

VOCE



CONTINUO



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⑤



ha-le-lu- yah ha-le- lu-

⑩



yah ha

le- lu- yah

The first system of the musical score consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line is written in a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It begins with a series of eighth notes, followed by a trill (tr) on the word 'yah'. The piano accompaniment is written in two staves (treble and bass clefs) and features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the right hand and a more active bass line in the left hand.

15

The second system of the musical score continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line starts with a circled measure number '15' and features a series of eighth notes. The piano accompaniment continues with a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the right hand and a more active bass line in the left hand.

The third system of the musical score continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line features a series of eighth notes. The piano accompaniment continues with a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the right hand and a more active bass line in the left hand.

Ha-le-lu-yah . Kol ha-ne-sha-

This system contains measures 18, 19, and 20. Measure 18 features a vocal melody with a sixteenth-note run. Measure 19 continues the vocal line with a dotted quarter note. Measure 20 begins with a circled measure number '20' and contains a vocal melody with a dotted quarter note. The piano accompaniment consists of chords in the right hand and single notes in the left hand.

mah te-ha-lel yah kol ha-ne-sha-mah te-ha-lel

This system contains measures 21, 22, 23, and 24. Measure 21 starts with a vocal melody. Measure 22 continues the vocal line. Measure 23 features a vocal melody with a dotted quarter note. Measure 24 continues the vocal line. The piano accompaniment features a more active melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

yah ha-le-lu-yah

This system contains measures 25, 26, 27, and 28. Measure 25 begins with a circled measure number '25' and contains a vocal melody. Measure 26 continues the vocal line. Measure 27 features a vocal melody with a dotted quarter note. Measure 28 continues the vocal line. The piano accompaniment continues with a melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

The first system of the musical score consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line begins with a whole rest, followed by a half note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, and a quarter note A4. The piano accompaniment features a continuous eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a steady bass line in the left hand.

The second system continues the musical score. The vocal line includes the lyrics "ha-le-lu-yah . Kol ha-ne-sha-mah" under a series of notes. A circled measure number "30" is placed above the final measure of the vocal line. The piano accompaniment continues with its characteristic rhythmic pattern.

The third system of the musical score features the vocal line with the lyrics "kol ha-ne-sha-mah te— ha—" under a triplet of eighth notes. The piano accompaniment continues with its characteristic rhythmic pattern.

First system of musical notation, measures 1-4. The melody is in the treble clef, featuring triplets and trills. The piano accompaniment is in the grand staff (treble and bass clefs), with chords and moving lines in both hands.

Second system of musical notation, measures 5-8. Measure 5 is marked with a circled number 35. The melody continues in the treble clef, and the piano accompaniment continues in the grand staff.

Third system of musical notation, measures 9-12. The melody includes lyrics: "le- lu- yah Ha-le- lu- yah .". The piano accompaniment continues in the grand staff.

## EARLY HEBREW ART MUSIC

FRÜHE KOMPOSITIONEN FÜR DIE SYNAGOGGE

מאוצר המוסיקה האירופאית לבית הכנסת

- I.M.P. 701 CARLO GROSSI : Cantata Ebraica in Dialogo (ca 1682)  
Barit.solo, Coro S.A.T.B. - Continuo
- I.M.P. 702 LOUIS SALADIN : Canticum Hebraicum (ca 1680-1700)  
Counter-Tenor (or Alto), Ten.solo, Basso solo,  
Coro S.A.T.B., 3 Flauti, 4 Oboi, 3 Fagotti,  
Archî, - Continuo
- I.M.P. 703 VOLUNIO GALLICHI, FRANCESCO DREI :  
Musica eseguita in Cérémonie musicale pour  
occasione dell'aper- l'inauguration de la syna-  
tura della nuova scu- gogue à Sienne en  
ola, Siena 1786 1786  
Inauguration of the Siena synagogue, 1786  
Ten.solo, Counter-Tenor (or Ten. II), 2 Barit.solo,  
Coro S.A.T.B., 3 Flauti ad lib., 4 Oboi ad lib.,  
3 Fagotti ad lib., Archî, - Continuo
- I.M.P. 703-E Musique pour l'Inauguration d'une Syna-  
gogue \* Music for the Dedication of a  
Synagogue \*\*\* Edition pratique /Ed. for performance
- I.M.P. 704-709 ŒUVRES DU RÉPERTOIRE DE LA COMMUNAUTÉ  
PORTUGAISE D'AMSTERDAM \*\*\* FROM THE RE-  
TOIRE OF THE PORTUGUESE JEWISH COMMUNITY  
OF AMSTERDAM :
- I.M.P. 704 LIDARTI, C.G. Nora Elohim \* Hamēšach Ilēmim  
CASSERES, A. Hamesiach Ilēmim  
T.T.B., 2 viol., viola, bs., cont.
- I.M.P. 705 LIDARTI, C.G. Befi Yesharim  
RATHOM, A. Adon Olam  
S.A.T.B., 2 viol., viola, bs., cont.
- I.M.P. 706 LIDARTI, C.G. Due Arie : Bo'i beShalom \* Kol  
HaNeshamah - Sopr.solo, strings, cont.
- I.M.P. 707 CASSERES, A. Hishki hizki - S.T.B., cont., instr.  
ad lib.
- I.M.P. 708 A n o n. Kol HaNeshamah - Sopr.solo, cont.
- I.M.P. 709 A n o n. "Kinah" : Lamentation (9. Av)
- I.M.P. 710 Mi al Har Horev (Eulogy on the Death of Moses)  
Va'eda ma \* Baruch haGever  
(Melodies notated in the 12th century by  
OBADIAH THE PROSELYTE)  
-Originals and transcription for performance -

MUSIQUE SYNAGOGALE ANCIENNE