

Ramón Tasat



Zemirot and Piyyutim

A Celebration of Jewish Music

Dr. Ramón Tasat *director, voice, guitar and arrangements*

Natasha Jitomirskaia *keyboard and voice*

Susan Jones *violin*

Eugenia Shiuk *flute*

Producer Ramón Tasat

Recorded at Ambient Recording, Beltsville, Maryland

Sound engineer Ray Tilkens

Mixing Ramón Tasat, Ray Tilkens

Cover design Marcia Brown

Typography / Duplication Sound Recorders, Inc., Austin, Texas

Ramón Tasat is the hazzan of the Agudas Achim congregation, Alexandria, Virginia. Born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, he received a doctoral degree in Musical Arts from the University of Texas at Austin.

Dr. Tasat is the winner of the Montpelier Art Song 1994–95 competition and the recipient of a 1995–96 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to lecture on Judeo-Spanish music.

For further information on tapes or concert bookings:

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Zemirot and Piyutin

1. Hag Li *L. Naor-M. Vilenski (1:44)*
What a festival, a special holiday. The house is full of joy.
2. beRosh haShana Matkhila *Traditional (2:38)*
With the New Year begins a new time...
3. Shehecheyanu *From the liturgy-T. Pih (3:34)*
Blessed are You, Lord, our God, Ruler of the universe for granting us life and sustenance, and helping us reach this special moment.
4. Hi Torah Lanu Nitana *Piyut—Morocco (3:12)*
We received the Law with drums and dances.
Sing praises to the God of miracles, Who approaches from Mount Sinai to bring us the Torah.
5. beRosh haShana Parkha Shoshana *N. Shemer (2:21)*
In the New Year a rose bloomed in my garden.
6. Barkhi Nafshi *Tehillim 104—M. Laufer (4:43)*
Bless the Lord, oh my soul.
You are robed with glory and majesty.
7. BaShana haBa'a *E. Manor-N. Hirsch (2:39)*
Next year we will sit on the balcony
and count the wandering birds.
8. Psalms for Rosh Hodesh (4:14)
 - a) Halelu et A' *Tehillim 117—Spanish—Portuguese*
Praise the Lord, all Nations, for God's mercy is great...
 - b) Pitkhu Li Sha'arei Tzedek *Tehillim 118—Italy*
Open to me the gates of righteousness,
I will enter them to praise God.
 - c) Odekha ki Anitani *Tehillim 118—Constantinople*
I will thank You for You have answered me...
9. Ptakh Lanu Sha'ar *From Ne'ila—R. Taub—C. Lerner (2:03)*
Open for us the gates of heaven
even as they are finally closing.
10. Shlomit Bona Sukkah *N. Shemer (4:21)*
Shlomit builds a luminous tabernacle
full of green, a sukka for peace.
11. Mi Pi El *Piyut for Shavu'ot (2:02)*
From God's mouth all Israel is blessed.
12. Mi haSh-Al Taster Panekha *From the liturgy (4:14)*
Who is the man who desires life? Keep your tongue from evil, seek peace and pursue it.
Do not hide Your face from me when I suffer.
Answer my supplications!
13. 'Ose Shalom *From the liturgy—N. Jitomirskaja (2:00)*
Creator of peace in the heavens, may He, bring peace to us and to all the people of Israel. Amen.
14. 'Al Col Ele *N. Shemer (3:01)*
Protect, Good God, the ones that I love and those precious things that make our life worth living.
15. Shuvu la Torah *Piyut—Morocco (3:38)*
Return to the Torah, the pure, clear light.
16. Tefillah *M. Aloni—H. Bratter (4:23)*
You, that gives joy to the children,
healer of the sick, protect us!

