

לכבוד יום טוב
**SIDOR
BELARSKY**

Purim Festival
IN TOWN HALL



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PURIM FESTIVAL

in Town Hall

Purim, the Jewish festival observed annually on the 14th day of the Hebrew month of Adar. It commemorates the miracle of survival from Haman's plot to kill all the Jews of Persia. Purim is also called feast of lots, because of the lots which Haman cast to determine the proper day for the destruction of the Jews. Purim is observed by merry-making, Purim Shpiln, the reading of the Megillah (scroll of Esther) and the Seudah, the traditional Purim Meal.

It is hard to visualize any Purim, no matter how far back, without the singing of songs of the people. In Yiddish it is the folksong based on the greeting "Gut Purim" with which Jews greeted each other, and which the Purim Shpilers sang when they entered a home to perform.

The folk songs then tell of the joy of the day, the revenge on Haman and Zeresh, King Ahasuerus and the hero and heroine of the story, Mordecai, and Esther, the Queen.

On the day of Purim, gifts (Shalach Mones) and the special Purim delicacy the Hamantash were sent to relatives and friends. Little children masked, went from house to house, rapped at the door, and sang:

Today is Purim
Tomorrow is none
Give me a coin
And I'll be gone.

It is a rare thing, in our age of specialization, for a vocal artist to excel in many separate fields. It is rarer still when the virtuoso becomes a restorer of folk traditional material as well as its interpreter. The career of Sidor Belarsky displays a full range of musical experience united with the selfless urge to recreate songs of the people. To these melodies he brings an altogether great basso expression. Fresh, vibrant and meaningful tone, inspires the forthright diction of this every phrase with breathtaking mobility and ease. Mr. Belarsky's assured, smiling manner reveals at once a profound intimacy with the music and an open devoutness to its text. Such qualities, of course, are better reflected in the awe of his audiences than by mere words.

Sidor Belarsky has recorded a series of Holiday records including T'filos (Rosh Hashana), Chanukah, Passover and now he brings to his audience his successful "Purim Festival In Town Hall."

PARTICIPATING ARTISTS



CHARLOTTE GOLDSTEIN
Readings



VLADIMIR HEIFETZ
Music Director

FARBAND CULTURE CHORUS

RAVINA STRING QUARTET

OSCAR RAVINA — First Violin THEODORE ISRAEL — Viola
ROLAND VAMOS — Second Violin FRANK LEVY — Cello

ARTISTIC ENTERPRISES, INC.
132 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

SIDE ONE

- 1—CHAG PURIM (Kinis) Folk Song
 זמן פורים
 Purim is a Happy Holiday
 For young and old alike
 With everlasting thanks
 For the Purim Miracle
- 2—BIMEI MORDECAI I. Alter
 בימעי מרדכי
 In the days of Mordecai there aroused the wicked Haman who wanted the destruction of the Jews. God hearing the Jewish plea, to survive, destroyed Haman's evil plot and on the gallows he and his sons were hanged. Only then did the Jews rejoice and their future regained its brightness again.
- 3—EIGELECH BLITZ Folk Song
 אייגעלעך בליץ
 Moishel is hurrying home with Shalach Mones, a bird, a fish and a pony. Hyeml is anxiously waiting for him. Finally Moishel comes home. "Gut Purim Hyeml, I have brought you Shalach Mones, a bird and a fish . . . but the little pony shall be mine . . . Gut Purim!"
- 4—TZVEI SHOLOCHMONESN — Part 1 Sholom Aleichem
 צוויי שולחמנות
 Readings by Charlotte Goldstein
- 5—YOM PURIM (Kipnis) Folk Song
 יום פורים
 Purim, a Majestic Holiday, with delicacies unsurpassed, for family and friends.
- 6—MACHT OIF Folk Song
 מאכט אויף
 Open the door and let us in! Do you know who we are? Today is Purim and in costume we have come as Mordecai, Ahasuerus the King, Esther the Queen, bringing joy and fun. Open the door and let us in!

SIDE TWO

- 7—A GUT YOMTOV — Kaminski-Gelbart Folk Song
 א גוט יום טוב
 Purim is a joyous holiday with sweets for the children and the story of Purim for all . . .
 Haman was evil
 The Jews he choose to kill
 His punishment was justified
 To be hung against his will
 All were happy with Homestashen to eat
 Upon hearing Haman's name
 The "gragger" starts to beat . . .
- 8—IN DEM IS SHULDIG DI MEGILLAH Folk Song
 אין דעם איז שולדיג די מגילה
 Purim has come, cast aside your sadness. The wife is busily making Homestashen. In comes the husband having had one too many, celebrating Purim.
 The child awakens and cries, "I want to take my "gragger" to the synagogue" . . . It is too late, the child is told, the Megillah has been read
 The spirit of the holiday is gone . . .
 This is the fault of the Megillah . . .
- 9—MENUCHO V'SIMCHO' (adapted by M.J.Robbins) Folk Song
 מנוחה ושמחה
 Purim is symbolic of the reading of the Megillah, reminds us of the Haman of yesterday and the Hamans of today. The unending prayer of our people remains as always, "Oh Lord, when will we know of Peace and Joy?"
- 10—PURIM MEDLEY Israeli Folk Songs
 ישראל ניגונים
- 11—TZVEI SHOLOCHMONESN — Part 2 Sholom Aleichem
 צוויי שולחמנות
 Readings by Charlotte Goldstein
- 12—A GUTN PURIM (arr. by J. Engel) Folk Song
 א גוטן פורים
 Greetings! On this happy day let us read the Megillah about righteous Mordecai, and the downfall of Haman. Let the Melody of Shoshanos Yaakov resound and be heard by all.
- 13—SHOSHANAS YAAKOV Traditional
 שושנת יעקב