



The Arab-Jewish Orchestra

Nizar El – Chatar, Conductor

What is the orchestra?

The orchestra was founded in 2002 by "Youth and Music Israel" and consists of around 20 musicians Muslims, Christians, Druze and Jews from all over Israel.

The orchestra encourages joint musical endeavors, creates musical meeting points between different cultures and brings the ideas of cooperation, openness and harmony to audiences in concerts throughout the country.

Innovative sound and repertory, combining Western and Eastern instruments, includes new composition and original arrangements leading composers in a style that combines Eastern and Western classical music.

The orchestra's activities are supported by the ministry of culture and sport and private and public donations.

The rationale

The orchestra was established following three years of working held by Youth and Music Israel for young Jews and Arabs. musical connections were formed constituting a background for personal, social and group relationships.

The openness, curiosity and especially the willingness that the participants have to recognize and experiment with different music, matured into original and unique musical work. Following that the orchestra was established by Dr. Meir Wiesel then director of Youth and Music Israel.

The orchestra members

The musicians, aged 17 and over, play instruments that combine East and West: string instruments, brass, ud, kannon, western and oriental violin, flute, recorder, drums and percussion.

The Orchestra's conductor is Nizar El – Chatar born in Lod- Israel and world class pianist.

Resume

In addition to concerts across Israel the orchestra appeared at the Museum of Islam, The Oud Festival, festival "sounds of the desert", the Israeli music holiday, Van Leer center in Jerusalem, YMCA, a meeting of the Anti-Defamation League in the U.S. ambassador, theatrical Autumn Festival in Tel Aviv, at a "three holidays" event in Jaffa and more... The orchestra emphasis on performances to audiences in Arab towns such as: Nazareth, Yafa, Kfar Qara, Umm al-Fahm, Haifa and Aco. The orchestra is also invited every year to concert tours abroad. In 2009 the Orchestra won the prestigious Wurth Prize in Germany. Other concert tours were held in the Netherlands, Croatia, Slovenia, Cyprus, and Spain. In May 2012 the orchestra celebrated its first decade, a concert was held at the Holon Theater, with soloist singer Noa (Achinoam Nini), and hosted by Dan Shilon. The concert was recorded and broadcast on the radio. In 2013 the orchestra preformed at the Prime Minister's Conference in Israel. In the last two years the orchestra performed in Spain, Argentina and this year will take part in Festival in Germany.

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