

INTERCULTURAL JOURNEYS PRESENTS



Close Ups

LIVE STREAMED EVENT AND CONVERSATION



Susan Hoffman Watts

DECEMBER 8 • 7:30 PM



ABOUT US

Intercultural Journeys boldly leverages the power of the performing arts to catalyze social change, challenge bias, and create spaces for dialogue and understanding by presenting culturally diverse voices that celebrate and affirm our shared humanity.

STAFF

Carly Rapaport-Stein, Executive Director

Marla Burkholder, Artistic Director

Nia Benjamin, Program and Communications Manager

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Add your voice, and together, let's foster peace, understanding, and awareness through performance.

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From the Artistic Director

Watching the footage as the program took shape for this *Close Ups* episode with klezmer artist Susan Hoffman-Watts, I was struck by her immense range as a musician -- she shines as a trumpet player, but then effortlessly sings as though she were first and foremost a vocalist. She moves fluidly between a celebratory dance number and the soul-cry of a lament. It feels somehow like the perfect gift for the chaos we find ourselves in right now -- a reminder to stay nimble in the moment, to embrace both the grief and joy of this time.

Perhaps this is also the story of klezmer itself. Generations of artists passed this musical language along to tell the story of a displaced but resilient people. I imagine this artistic wisdom passed through Susan's family as their music accompanied all the "affairs" for the Jewish community in Philadelphia -- making music in spite of struggle, as respite from struggle, to make sense of struggle. And being invited into that place of light and warmth on a dark evening in December feels like an immense privilege.

Thank you so much for joining us for this affair -- a sparkling evening of music and light.

Mazla

With Thanks

We extend our deepest thanks to the Intercultural Journeys Board of Directors. In addition, we're grateful to the Philadelphia Folklore Project, and archival footage shown this evening is courtesy of the Philadelphia Folklore Project Archives: www.folkloreproject.org.
Videography: Barry Dornfeld, Waldo Aguirre, Joey Raicovich & Toni Shapiro-Phim

Susan wishes to acknowledge Toni Shapiro-Phim, Debora Kodish, and Selina Morales from the Philadelphia Folklore Project; and her family, particularly her husband Alan Lankin.

Production Staff

Cinematography

Stephanie Malson.

Audio

Danielle Lewis

Film Editing

Nia Benjamin

Set List

Ershte Eynikel

Susan Hoffman-Watts

Eateleh

Jacob Hoffman

Frayheytt

Susan Hoffman-Watts

**My Mother's
Delicious Rumba**

Susan Hoffman-Watts

Waltz With Me

Susan Hoffman-Watts

Solo from Bagopolier

Joseph Hoffman

**Shlof
Mayn Kind**

Music: David Kovanovsky
Lyrics: Sholem Aleichem

Doina Meditation

Susan Hoffman-Watts

**Taybele's
Wedding Tanz**

Susan Hoffman-Watts



susanwattsmusic.com

Yiddish: a Germanic language of Ashkenazi Jews, based on Middle High German dialects with an admixture of vocabulary from Hebrew, Aramaic, the Slavic languages, and Old French and Old Italian; written in Hebrew letters, and spoken mainly in eastern and central Europe and by Jewish emigrants from these regions and their descendants.



Lyrics: Shlof Mayn Kind

Yiddish:

Shlof mayn kind, mayn treyst mayn sheyner
Shlof zhe, lyu-lyu-lyu!
Shlof mayn lebn, mayn kadish eyner,
Shlof zhe, zunenyu.
Bay dayn vigl zitst dayn mame,
Zingt a lid un veynt.
Vest a mol farshteyn mistome
Vos zi hot gemeynt
In Amerike iz der tate
Dayner zunenyu,
Du bist nokh a kind lesate,
Shlof zhe, shlof, lyu-lyu.
Dos Amerike is far yedn,
zogt men gor a glik,
Un far Yidn a gan-eydn,
Epes an antik.
Dortn est men in der vokhn
Khale, zunenyu.
Yaykhelekh vel ikh dir kokhn,
Shlof zhe, shlof, lyu-lyu.
Er vet shikn tsvantsik dolar,
zayn portret dertsu,
Un vet nemen, lebn zol er,
Undz ahintsutsu.
Biz es kumt dos gute kvitl,
Shlof zhe zunenyu,
Slofn iz a tayer mitl,
Shlof zhe, shlof lyu-lyu.

English translation:

Sleep my lovely child, my comfort,
Sleep, lyu-lyu-lyu!
Sleep, my life, my kadish
Sleep little son.
Your mother sits at your cradle,
Sings a song and weeps.
One day you will understand her weeping
And what she thought.
Your father Is in America
little son
Meanwhile you are still a child
Sleep, sleep, lyu-lyu.
They say that America is
a joy for everyone.
And for Jews it's a paradise
Something of a rarity.
There, during the week
They eat khale-bread little son.
I will cook you broths there,
Sleep, sleep, lyu-lyu.
Your father will send twenty dollars
and his photo as well,
And he will bring us there,
Long may he live.
Until the good things come,
Sleep little son,
Sleep is a god remedy,
Sleep, sleep lyu-lyu-lyu!



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