



Fall
Concert

A CONCERT DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY
OF CHAZAN JACK KESSLER

FEATURING GUEST ARTIST
JOSEF TAYOUN

The Department of Performing Arts Presents ...

MEDITERRANEAN ENSEMBLE



DREXEL UNIVERSITY

Music

Antoinette Westphal College of Media Arts & Design

Wednesday, December 4th | 7:30 PM

Mandell Theatre

3220 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA

Letter from the Department

Welcome to this concert presentation by the Music Program in the Department of Performing Arts. We are delighted to have the wonderful support of great families and friends. A very special welcome goes out to our visitors from the community who may not have any affiliation to our students, and simply come to hear spectacular musical performances by these talented student musicians. We hope everyone in our audience is pleased with the musical selections; and proud of the achievement of the students involved.

The students you will hear at this performance are not music majors. They do this for their love of music and dedicate their time and energy to cultivating their passion for this art form. They are as dedicated to their studies and career pursuits as they are to this intrinsic passion they have within them. The program is fortunate to have a bounty of students with this yearning. We would not exist without them!

The Music Program and Department of Performing Arts is dedicated to providing robust opportunities in the performing arts while students are at Drexel. Our goal is to provide a positive and supportive environment for our students. It is our hope that students and audiences alike feel they are represented in the selections being performed. The human connection is most important to us all.

Thank you for attending this performance. Being here is the greatest show of support for the students, the Music Program, and the Department of Performing Arts. Thanks to the dedicated leadership of the faculty ensemble directors and staff, we are pleased to present you with the following program.

Sincerely,

Luke Abruzzo, Music Program Director

Miriam Giguere, PhD, Department Head, Performing Arts

Acknowledgements

The Mediterranean Ensemble would like to thank:
Jason Schupbach, Dean of the Westphal College of
Media Arts and Design

Dr. Miriam Giguere, Department Head

Luke Abruzzo, Music Program Director

Hannah Burke, Department Administrator

Ellie Ebby, Department Assistant

Cece Hill, Graduate Assistant

Caroline Leipf, Mandell Theater Managing Director

Chris Totoro, Technical Director, Mandell Theater

Lauren Tracy, Performing Arts Ensemble Manager

Drexel Performing Arts would like to thank Senior Vice
President for Student Success, Dr. Subir Sahu, for his
continued support of Performing Arts at Drexel.



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About The Ensemble

The Drexel University Mediterranean Ensemble is open to any student with an interest in performing music from Southern Europe, the Middle East, and Northern Africa. No previous experience in this music is necessary. All are welcomed in the Ensemble.

The Drexel Mediterranean Ensemble has performed with many guest artists including Maurice Chedid (Lebanon), Adeeb Rafeela (Egypt), Baris Kaya (Turkey), and Udi bar David (Israel).



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About the Concert

Our concert is dedicated to the memory of Chazan Jack Kessler who was a guest performer with the Drexel Mediterranean Ensemble last year. He died of cancer on September 20th of this year. Jack believed in peace through music. He brought Arab and Jewish musicians together to play music as one. Tonight, we will continue that legacy performing music from Lebanon, Israel, along with Turkey and the Andalusian tradition of Medieval Southern Spain.



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Program

The Drexel University Mediterranean Ensemble

Mr. Bruce Kaminsky, Director

Blue Rondo à la Turk -----	D. Brubeck
Yüksek Yüksek Tepelere -----	Traditional Turkish
Intermezzo Cavalleria Rusticana -----	P. Mascagni
Hinach Yafah -----	I. Raichel: Hebrew
Lamma Bada -----	Traditional Al-Andalus
Pearl Fisher Duet -----	G. Bizet
Nessam Alayna -----	Rahbani: Lebanese
Those Sweet Words -----	L. Alexander
Alma de los Sefardim -----	T. Abrams: Sephardi/Ladino
Now We Are Free -----	H. Zimmer
From the movie <i>Gladiator</i>	

Guest Artist

Josef Tayoun (Percussion)



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Ensemble Members

Mr. Bruce Kaminsky
Ensemble Director

Dahlia Ufberg
Vocals

Daniel Attali
Vocals

Lucy Gamble
Violin

Dylan Ugel
Guitar and
Mandolin

Michael Steuber
Guitar

Jacob Gazes
Bass

Dane Gentles
Flute and
Keyboards

Alex Whelan
Clarinet and
Claves

Pascal Castillo
Alto Sax

Theo Abrams
Trumpet and
Composition

Adam Lazarczyk
Vibes

Colston Raroaha
Percussion

Cooper Gordon
Percussion

Guest Artist



Josef Tayoun, a second generation Lebanese American, is an accomplished Middle Eastern percussionist. He started playing at age eight at his family's renowned Middle East Restaurant in Philadelphia where live authentic Arabic, Turkish, Persian, Armenian, Greek, and Israeli music and dance were performed nightly for forty years. Joe can now be seen performing with the groups Jaffna, Barakka and the Roddenberries.



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Mr. Bruce Kaminsky

Mediterranean Ensemble Director



Bruce Kaminsky, M.M. is a bassist and an Adjunct Professor at Drexel University, teaching Music History, Bass and directing the Drexel Mediterranean Ensemble. He also teaches at Montgomery County Community College. He

has performed with jazz guitarist Tal Farlow and trombonist Jimmy Knepper, and co-produced performances for Dizzy Gillespie and Chick Corea. He performed for the signing of the Israeli/Jordanian Peace Accord at the United Nations with the group Atzilut. He created the Arab/Jewish music group The Spice Route Ensemble, which does Middle Eastern music education residencies. He designs and manufactures the KYDD electric upright bass sold worldwide, and he holds two US patents. Bruce is married to theatrical costumer Lorraine Anderson and has two children, Jacob and Aviva and a new granddaughter, Adira.



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Interested in a Music Minor?

Drexel offers four different music minors:

Music: requires 26 credits, including work in Music Theory, History, private lessons, ensemble performance, and 9 credits of music electives.

Music Theory and Composition: aimed at people who are writing their own music or who would like to begin doing so. You will take courses in Music Theory, Arranging, Composition, and Digital Composition, and end with a portfolio of several completed pieces.

Music Performance: requires two years of private lesson studies with our artist faculty culminating in a recital. The Music Program will provide support for the recital venue and accompanist.

Jazz & African-American Music: includes course work in Jazz History, African-American Music, Jazz Theory, private study in Jazz performance, and ensemble work in several ensembles devoted to jazz.

Support Great Performance

Dance, Music, and Theatre are a vital, central part of the Drexel academia and student life. Donations support performing arts ensembles and programs, as well as the operation of our performing arts venues, including the Mandell Theater and URBN Annex Black Box Theater.

Celebrate the arts with a gift to Drexel Performing Arts today!

[Giving.drexel.edu/PerformingArts](https://giving.drexel.edu/PerformingArts)



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Performing Arts

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Drexel University Department of Performing Arts Staff

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Dr. Miriam Giguere

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Music

Nick Anselmo

Theatre

Jennifer Morley

Dance

Administrative Staff

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Hannah Burke

Department Administrator

Caroline Leipf

Mandell Theater Managing Director

Cece Hill

Performing Arts Graduate Assistant

Liv Shoup

Audience Services Coordinator

Lauren Tracy

Ensemble Production Associate

Production Staff

Paul Jerue

Theatre Production Manager/Black Box Theater Technical Director

Asaki Kuruma

Costume Shop Manager

Chris Totoro

Mandell Theater Technical Director

Upcoming Performing Arts Events

JAZZ ORCHESTRA AND JAZZTET

December 5, 2024 | 7:30 PM | Mandell Theater

DREXEL UNIVERSITY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

December 6, 2024 | 7:30 PM | Main Auditorium

END-OF-TERM THEATRE SHOWCASE - WINTER

December 7, 2024 | 1:00 PM | URBN Annex Black Box Theater

DREXEL UNIVERSITY GOSPEL CHOIR

December 7, 2024 | 7:00 PM | Mandell Theater

ALL-COLLEGE CHOIR AND CHAMBER BRASS AND WINDS

December 7, 2024 | 7:30 PM | Main Auditorium

UNIVERSITY CHORUS AND CHAMBER SINGERS

December 8, 2024 | 3:00 PM | Great Court in Main Building

DREXEL UNIVERSITY CONCERT BAND

December 8, 2024 | 7:00 PM | Mandell Theater

Learn more about our upcoming events:

drexel.edu/performingarts



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