The Prospector, Article about Israeli Lecture Recital

Orit A Eylon, University of Texas at El Paso

Available at: https://works.bepress.com/orit_eylon/11/
Assistant professor of music Amy Eylon will present an Eastern Mediterranean music recital Sunday at the Fox Fine Arts Recital Hall.

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Due to Israel's central location in the Middle East, this interrelation of music gives a broad view of the cultural, political, religious and social life of the region. It has become a melting pot of cultures and music, bridging differences between them.

The performance stresses the common elements that unite the music of the Middle East and the Mediterranean.

"We want our students to have opportunities. This is not a typical recital," Eylon said. "It will be very interesting and the only time I will be presenting it in its original Hebrew language."

Eylon will be performing opera and art song cycles from composer Menachem Wiesenberg, who also composed the music for the Jerusalem Opera Festival. The performance will also include works by Israeli and Palestinian composers.

The performance will take place at 8 p.m. on Oct. 11 at the Fox Fine Arts Recital Hall. Tickets are $8. Tickets for senior citizens, military and non-UTEP students with valid IDs are $5, and tickets for UTEP students, faculty, staff and children are $3.

For more information, call 747-5606 or visit www.utep.edu/music.

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Recital showcases Mediterranean music

Sonai Perez
The Prospector

In celebration of Israel’s 60th anniversary as a nation, assistant professor of music Orit Amy Eylon and guest pianist Elvira Spector will be presenting an Eastern Mediterranean musical recital with a historical overview of Israel’s musical development. The performance will take place Sunday, Oct. 14 at the Fox Fine Arts Recital Hall at 2:30 p.m.

Eylon said the performance is similar to a recital she performed for her Israeli art song and opera dissertation at the University of Texas at Austin. She will also perform in China at Hong Kong University at the end of this month.

"As an opera singer, I was interested in opera from other countries and places around the world," Eylon said.

Originally from Russia, Spector immigrated to Israel, where she picked up the Hebrew language and music culture. She is a local freelance pianist.

The performance will include 12 songs, half of which are classical and the other half are folk music that illustrate the history of Israel from the 1920s to present. Eylon will explain the history of this cultural opera between sets.

"The recital seems very interesting and educational," Marissa Sandate, senior English and American literature major said. "I think it is neat that she will be explaining the history behind the songs she is singing."

Eastern Mediterranean music is a contemporary, hybrid music genre created by Mizrahi, African and Asian Israeli Jews with roots in Islamic countries. Israeli Mediterranean music integrates the disparate musical styles that flourished in the new state. It is a culmination of Eastern and Western European cultures, interpreted by immigrants to Israel.

Eylon said Mediterranean music has its roots in the ethnic music of immigrants who travel and pick up sounds from cultures they encountered in places they’ve lived.

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