

WAKS – Yiddish Voices Voices and songs from a lost world

New CD

The ensemble comprised of *Inge Mandos* (voice), *Klemens Kaatz* (piano, accordion and India harmonium) and *Hans-Christian Jaenicke* (violin), arranges and accompanies original East Yiddish singers who have been recorded by the Soviet Jewish ethnomusicologists Moische Beregowski and Sofia Magid on wax cylinders. The musicians conduct a dialog with those voices, thus bringing them back to life. So Manya, Fanya, Yeshaya and the other voices have become part of the ensemble.

“We were deeply touched by those original voices from people in Eastern Europe who sang the old familiar Yiddish songs. They were collected and recorded between 1928 and 1942, were stored for decades in archives and then laboriously retrieved. We want to make music and sing together with them. We want to once again have them heard, despite all the obstacles due to the fragile original material. Our musical dialog serves as a bridge between yesterday and today and revives those old voices.”

The result of our effort is a very unique program of songs with special sounds and arrangements which were informed and guided by the fragile, sometimes scratchy or crackling original material.

The CD “WAKS – YIDDISH VOICES” will be introduced to the public on October 15th 2015..