

Mitzi Schwarz

5337 S. Holt Avenue

Los Angeles, CA 90056

Voice Mail: 310-614-0430

Email: mitzismusic@gmail.com

Mission Statement: To uplift, inspire, energize, encourage, and spread joy to people through the power of sacred music, teaching, performance and song.

Spiritual Leader/Service Leader/Cantorial Soloist/Chaplain:

Cantorial/Musical:

- *2020-Present: **Shelichat Tzibburah/Cantorial Soloist** for Jewish Federation of the Desert. Officiates Shabbat and Chaggim services with Rabbi Faith Tessler via Zoom to the community. Also prepares and officiates services, including preparing and giving drashot, if Rabbi Tessler is unavailable.
- *2016-Present: **Officiant for Major Life Cycle Events, including Funerals, Weddings and B'nei Mitzvot.** Works as part of Clergy team, and as sole officiant.
- *2015-Present: **Cantorial Soloist for Congregation Am HaYam, Ventura, CA,** Rabbi J.B. Sacks-Rosen, Senior Rabbi. Serves along Rabbi Sacks-Rosen as Sh'lichah Tziburah/Cantorial Soloist, for all Yamim Nora'im services, including Selichot services.
- *2010 – 2015: **Cantorial Soloist for Congregation Makom Ohr Shalom,** Encino, CA. Served alongside Rabbis Zalman Schacter-Shalomi, z"l; J.B. Sacks-Rosen; Toba August; Anne Brener; Yael Saidoff. Lead Sabbath services, High Holy Days, Shalosh Regalim. Worked with the MOS Board to create fund raisers, community outreach programs, as well as social programs for the community.
- *2005 – Present: **Bar/Bat Mitzvah Tutor.** Supports students in their preparation for their Bar/Bat Mitzvah ceremony. Works with students to craft drashot related to their parasha. Helps students identify B'nai Mitzvah project(s). Officiates Bar/Bat Mitzvah ceremonies for synagogue-unaffiliated families.
- *2005-2006: **Guest Cantorial Soloist for Valley Outreach Synagogue,** Las Vegas, NV, Rabbi Yocheved Mintz, senior Rabbi.
- *2005-2007: **Hazzanit for Congregation Beth Israel in Chico, CA,** a Conservative/Jewish Renewal Community, Rabbi Julie Hilton Danan. Shaliach Tz'burah/Cantorial Soloist for Rosh Hashana, Shabbat T'Shuvah, Kol Nidre and Yom Kippur.
- *2003-2005: **Junior Congregation Leader, Adat Ari El, North Hollywood,** CA. Prepared discussion/experiential activities for children ages 7-12, revolving around weekly Torah par'shiot, leading children and families through Shacharit, Torah and Musaf service.

*2000-2003: **Cantorial Substitute for Cantor Evan Kent** of Temple Isaiah, Los Angeles, CA.

*1995 – Present: Guest soloist at various Unity, Universalist-Unitarian, and Center for Spiritual Living congregations throughout California. Also hired as a guest speaker, preparing sermons and teachings appropriate to interfaith communities.

Discography: “Remember Who You Are: Songs of the Spirit” www.cdbaby.com/cd/mitzischwarz

Chaplaincy:

*2016 – June, 2020: Employed by Skirball Hospice and Palliative Care, Los Angeles Jewish Home. Served families of all faiths and traditions as end of life Hospice Chaplain, worked with all interdisciplinary team members, including RN’s, LVN’s, Social Workers and other Chaplains and Rabbis. Provided prayer and ritual, active listening and reflection to all patients and families. Officiates at funeral services, both as sole officiant and as a member of clergy team.

*2014 – 2016: Cedars-Sinai Hospital. Served as Chaplain Intern in Spiritual Care Dept. throughout hospital, Rabbi Jason Weiner, Director, Rabbi Rochelle Robins, Supervisor to Mitzi Schwarz. Facilitated rehabilitation groups for patients under supervision; provided song leadership for weekly “Shabbat On the Go” services to patients, family and staff at hospital; created and delivered sermons/Divrei Torah.

Stage:

Brownstone	Joan (Lead)	Conejo Player’s Theater
Murder By Night	Victoria (Supporting)	Starmax Productions
The Three Sisters	Irina (Supporting)	Barnum Hall Productions
Gypsy	Baby June (Supporting)	Kentwood Playhouse
Mezzanine	Alex Walker (lead)	Santa Monica Playhouse
Peter Pan	Peter (Lead)	Santa Monica Playhouse
Dorothy In The Land Of Oz	Dorothy (Lead)	Santa Monica Playhouse

Concerts:

2000:	Temple Akiba	“A Jewish Broadway Musical Review”
1999:	Adat Shalom	“Songs From My Soul”
1998-1999:	City Of Hope	Featured Performer
1994-1998:	Holy Spirit Retreat Center	Summer Concert Series, Featured Performer
1996:	Wilshire Theater	Pediatric AIDS Foundation
1995-1996:	Valley Cultural Center	Featured Performer
1995-Present:	Moondance Music Enterprises	Lead Vocalist
1993:	San Fernando Democratic Inaugural Convention:	Featured Performer

Massage Therapy:

May 1986 – November 1999: Certified and Licensed Massage Therapist. Worked in Chiropractic Settings, and in patients' homes. Massage Instructor, Healing Arts Center, Van Nuys, CA. Developed and taught Massage Therapy Curriculum.

Volunteer Experience:

*Big Sunday. Annual participation since 2009.

*AIDS Walk-A-Thon, Los Angeles.

*United Jewish Fund Coordinator for CSU Northridge, Hillel Jewish Student Union. Coordinated campus-wide Jewish student body fund drive which culminated in annual Super Sunday phone-a-thon. Supervised formation of committees; trained committee members and student volunteers; organized study groups.

*Hospitality Chairperson, MOMS Club of Culver City, CA.

*Accounts Receivable Treasurer, La Playa Cooperative Preschool. Handled all incoming monies for a non-profit preschool.

Education:

* Disaster Spiritual Care, 2020. 30-hour online continuing education course. Created and taught by Rabbi Stephen Roberts, BCC. Targeted training to prepare clergy and chaplains of all denominations to respond with competency, professionalism, and compassion to people of all faiths, including atheist and agnostic, who are impacted by disaster. Emphasis given to learning to work within team settings and environments.

*Academy of Jewish Religion, CA. May 2017, Masters in Jewish Studies; Certificate in Chaplaincy.

*California State University, Northridge. B.A. Psychology, June, 1994

*Santa Monica Sr. High School, June 1984.

*Institute of Psycho-Structural Balancing. Graduated in 1986 with 350 hours of state-mandated training to receive title Certified Massage Therapist.

*Vocal Training with Cantor Nathan Lam, Robert Edwards and Rebecca Somberg.

Publications:

*Articles related to Massage Therapy published in "New Woman Spirit", published by Louise-Diana Enterprises.

*Publish articles bi-monthly for "The Makomer" magazine.

*Blog on www.mitzischwarz.com

REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST