

## **Benjamin Fox-Rosen, BA, BFA, MA**

Musician • Composer • Researcher  
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*Married.*

*Father of three children born in 2014, 2017, and 2020; paternity leave for 6-18 months with each child.*

### **Education**

- 2017 – 2023 MA in Musicology with focus in Ethnomusicology, Institute for Musicology at the University of Vienna. Master’s Thesis: *The Vienna Stadttempel Choir: Musical Practice, Change, and Meaning*, graduated with Honors.
- 2012-2013 Fulbright research grant to study Yiddish and Romanian vocal music and technique in Chisinau, Moldova.
- Summer 2010/11 Vilnius Yiddish Institute Summer Language Program, levels III and IV (of IV) Vilnius University; Vilnius, Lithuania.
- 2002-2007 New School for Jazz and Contemporary Music; New York, NY  
BFA in Jazz Performance on Double Bass, graduated with Honors.
- 2002-2007 Eugene Lang College; New York, NY  
BA in Liberal Arts, Concentration 'Arts in Context'.

### **Employment**

- Winter 2023 Instructor at the Institute for Musicology, University of Vienna. Teaching “Introduction to eastern European Jewish Music.”
- July 2022- present Co-leader of the Artistic Research Pilot Project “Challenging the Theater of Memory. Yiddish Song beyond Kitsch and Stereotype” at the Music and Minority Research Center at the University of Performing Arts, Vienna.
- Dec. 2017-present Choir Director of the Vienna Stadttempel Choir (liturgical choir which accompanies all Sabbath and Holiday services at the main synagogue of the Jewish community of Vienna).
- Feb. 2014-present Freelance performer, composer and music educator based in Vienna, Austria. Performances with Frank London, Cantor Yaakov Lemmer, Vienna KlezMORE Orchestra, the Wladigeroff Brothers, Ethel Merhaut and others. Appearances at festivals including Krakow Jewish Culture Festival, Wiener Festwochen, Yiddish Summer Weimar, Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and others. Performances at the Wiener Festwochen, the Musikverein, and the Konzerthaus.

### **Scholarly publications, Conferences (select)**

- September 2023 “Ethnomusicology in the crossfire: navigating political conflict in ethnomusicological minority research” co-presented with Isabel Frey at the 38<sup>th</sup> European Seminar in Ethnomusicology, Palermo Italy.

- November 2022      Challenging the Theater of Memory: Yiddish Song beyond Kitsch and Stereotype” presented with Isabel Frey at the joint annual meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology, the Society for Music Theory and the American Musicological Society, November 2022, New Orleans, Louisiana.
- 2020                  Fox-Rosen, Benjy. “On Not Understanding: Performing Yiddish Song Today.” In *Yiddish and the Field of Translation*, edited by Olaf Terpitz, pp. 231-242. Wien: Böhlau Verlag, 2020.
- 2019                  “The Paradox of Continuity: The Vienna Stadttempel Choir” presented at *Magnified & Sanctified - The Music of Jewish Prayer # 2*, September 2019, Hanover University of Music, Drama and Media.

### **Recordings (select)**

- 2021                  *Zelik*, recording. Self-released, vocalist, bassist and arranger, recorded in Chişinau, Moldova.
- 2021                  Ethel Merhaut *Suß und Bitter*, bassist and select arrangements. Released on Sony Masterworks.
- 2014                  *Yiddish Art Trio*, with Patrick Farrell and Michael Winograd, vocalist, bassist and compositions, self-released.
- 2014                  *Two Worlds: The Poetry of Mordechai Gebirtig*, vocalist, bassist, composer, song cycle of original compositions, Golden Horn Records GHP-039-2.
- 2011                  *Tick Tock*, CD, vocalist, bassist, arranger, self-released.

### **Concerts, Workshops, Festivals (select)**

- October 2023      *Manasse*, live film score at the Transylvanian International Film Festival, Oradea, Romania.
- Summer 2023      Performances and workshops at Yiddish Summer Weimar, Klezkanada and Warsaw Singer Festival.
- May 2023           *Magie - Hommage an Rilke*, settings of Rilke texts by the Wladigeroff Brothers, Presented at Kasino, Burgtheater, Vienna.
- October 2022      *Challenging the Theater of Memory* lecture / concert presented by the Music and Minorities Research Center, and Central European University at the University of Performing Arts, Vienna.
- September 2022   Ethel Merhaut Band at the Wiener Konzerthaus, September 11, 2022.
- October 2021      Solo Performance of material from the Beregovski archives. Jewish Film Festival Vienna.

### **Commissions, Collaborations (select)**

- Sept. 2021          *Langzam un likhtik*, SATB and piano arrangement, commissioned by the Vancouver Jewish Folk Choir.

- Dec. 2019 *Manasse*, live film score, composed by Benjy Fox-Rosen and Shaun Williams. Commissioned by the Romanian Culture Institute for the [Europalia Festival](#) (Brussels, 2019).
- Dec. 2018 *Nitl iz a beyzer layd / Christmas is a Wicked Burden* composition for soprano and chamber ensemble, commissioned by Ensemble Wiener Collage. Performed at the A. Schoenberg Center, Vienna.
- Oct. 2018 *Unsere 20 schönsten ZahntechnikerInnenlieder*, composition for SATB and string trio, commissioned by the Gegenstimmen Chor. Premiere at the Musikverein/Gläserne Saal, Vienna.
- Sep. 2016 *Music Box* mixed media installation with artist Razvan Anton based on the sheet music and photograph collections of the Mediaș and Cluj Jewish Community Archives, Mediaș, Romania.
- 2016 *A Stone Stands Here. Formations of Remembrance, 1949–*, spatial gallery installation by Zsuzsi Flohr and Eduard Freudmann, music by Benjy Fox-Rosen, presented in *Unheimliche Materialien. Gründungsmomente der Kunsterziehung* at the Academy of Fine Arts, Vienna.
- May 2015 *Was sie unterließ, haben wir getan*, performance and intervention in public space by Zsuzsi Flohr, Benjy Fox-Rosen, Eduard Freudmann, Eva Reinold, Luisa Ziaja. Music for choir composed by Benjy Fox-Rosen. Commissioned by the Wienerfestwochen, Vienna.

### Awards and Fellowships

- 2023 Recipient of Fortunoff / In Geveb Fellowship for the project “Musically Augmenting and Amplifying Memory” a project designed as an “artistic intervention” in the Yiddish-language materials captured in testimonies at the Fortunoff Video Archive. Funding from the *Fortunoff Video Archive for Holocaust Testimonies at Yale University*.
- 2022 Recipient of Artistic Research Pilot Grant for the project “[Challenging the Theater of Memory. Yiddish Song beyond Kitsch and Stereotype.](#)” Funding from Forschungsförderung mdw, Vienna.
- 2016 Recipient of 'Asylum Arts Small Grant' to research *Transylvanian Lullabies* project.
- 2015 Recipient of fellowship to attend Asylum Arts International Jewish Artists Retreat in Garrison, New York.
- 2014 Recordings *Two Worlds/Tsvey Veltn* and *Yiddish Art Trio* selected by *The Jewish Daily Forward* as two of the top five Jewish music recordings of 2014.
- 2012/13 Fulbright research grant from the US Department of State to study Yiddish and Moldovan vocal music.
- 2011/12 Folk Apprenticeship Grant from New York State Council for the Arts to study Yiddish vocal music with master Yiddish songwriter Joshua Waletzky.

2011

Recording *Tick Tock* selected by *The Jewish Daily Forward* as one of the top five Jewish music recordings of 2011.

## Languages

English: native speaker  
German: B2 (2018), likely C1  
Yiddish: advanced  
Romanian: conversationally fluent  
Hebrew: conversant

## Computer Software

I am proficient in Microsoft Office programs.

For music recording (DAW) I am proficient in Logic Pro and Ableton Live.  
For music notation, I am proficient in Sibelius.