

Shtetl Berlin 2026 — Full Schedule

Six days of Yiddish music, song, poetry, workshops, and community — from Grüner Salon to UfaFabrik, with artists from Berlin, Budapest, and Buenos Aires.

TUESDAY · JUNE 9, 2026

Doors 19:00 · Start 19:30 · Grüner Salon, Volksbühne

New Yiddish Poetry & New Music

From the interwar avant-garde to today, Berlin has been a center of Yiddish culture. Meet the new generation: an evening of original Yiddish music and poetry with Patrick Farrell, Yael Merlini, and Di Shkatulkelekh.

Included in Festival Pass · Advance Adult / Vorverkauf €15 · Student / Ermäßigt €10 · At the door / Abendkasse €20

WEDNESDAY · JUNE 10, 2026

Tune learning 18:30 · Jam 19:00 · Oblomov Kreuzköln

Neukölln Klezmer Jam — Festival Edition

The beloved monthly session goes festival-sized. Come to play, to listen, to dance.

Free for all

THURSDAY · JUNE 11, 2026

Artist talk 18:00 · Concert 19:00 · KulturKirche Nikodemus

Early Jewish Music: Simkhat HaNefesh & Ensemble Lucidarium

Long before klezmer, there was Ashkenaz. Simkhat HaNefesh and Ensemble Lucidarium resurrect the songs, dances, and melodies of Renaissance and Baroque Jewish Europe — a rare chance to hear two of the world's only proponents of this special repertoire. Don't miss the pre-concert 'meet the artist' session at 18:00.

Included in Festival Pass · Adult / Regulär €20 · Discount / Ermäßigt (Students) €15 · Children 6–12 / Kinder 6–12 €10 · At the door / Abendkasse €25

FRIDAY · JUNE 12, 2026

Doors/Jam 18:30h · Concert 19:30h · KulturKirche Nikodemus, Nansenstr. 12

Shabes in Shtetl: A Celebration for Everyone

A community Melting Pot Dinner with Interkulturelles Zentrum Neukölln. Bring a dish to share. Free event.

Free for all

SATURDAY · JUNE 13, 2026

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

June 13 & 14 · UfaFabrik, Viktoriastr. 10–18 · Ages 5+ · Free

Dancing, stories, music & Yiddish, led by Eyal Davidovitch and Yeva Lapsker. Runs parallel to the adult workshops. Full details: shtetlberlin.com/kids

WORKSHOPS & LECTURES · UfaFabrik, Viktoriastr. 10–18

Included in Festival Pass, Weekend Pass & Daytime Pass

11:00–11:45

Theater

Plenary Session — All Welcome

Opening for all participants: learn a tune together and meet the khevre.

12:00–13:30

Theater

WORKSHOP Instrumental Workshop*Ilya Shneyveys*

Klezmer style, ornamentation, and feel.

12:00–13:30

Atelier 1

WORKSHOP Introduction to Klezmer Music*Szilvia Csaranko*

A welcoming entry point for newcomers.

12:00–13:30

Atelier 2

WORKSHOP Yiddish Song Workshop*Daniel Kahn & Sasha Lurje*

Repertoire, style, and context from two of the leading Yiddish singers working today.

12:00–13:30

W. Neuss Salon

LECTURE Singing in Yiddish, 1300–1750*Dr. Diana Matut*

The history of Yiddish reaches back into the Middle Ages — and so does singing in Yiddish. Sources, songs, and singers from those centuries: how much is reconstructed? Plus: the history of prohibitions and of women who kept singing.

13:30–15:00 · Lunch break

15:00–16:15

Theater

WORKSHOP Instrumental Workshop*Susi Evans*

Learn tunes, learn how to make them work. Susi brings her deep knowledge of klezmer into a hands-on session focused on getting the music off the page and into your body.

15:00–16:15

Atelier 1

LECTURE In Conversation with Muzsikás

Meet the artists and learn about their process: how do you take decades of field research and bring it to life on stage? A rare opportunity to go behind the music with one of the world's great folk ensembles.

15:00–16:15

Atelier 2

WORKSHOP Singing for a besere velt*Derek David*

Experience the magic of Yiddish choir with the choirmaster from Boston. This special workshop explores the power of resistance in group singing in parts.

15:00–16:15

W. Neuss Salon

LECTURE Yiddish Literature as a Response to Apocalypse*Katerina Kuznetsova*

How poets and writers have used Yiddish to confront the major tragedies of Jewish history. We examine selected poetry and prose to explore responses to historical trauma, and discuss the role of literature in preserving memory and imagining survival after catastrophe.

16:30–18:00

Theater

WORKSHOP Hasidic vs. Klezmer Style*Dr. Alan Bern*

Many melodies exist in both hasidic and klezmer repertoires, but with major differences in style and feel. Alan shares ideas about these differences and why it's important for players to be aware of them.

16:30–18:00

Atelier 2

WORKSHOP Yiddish Song Workshop*Daniel Kahn & Sasha Lurje*

Repertoire, style, and context from two of the leading Yiddish singers working today.

16:30–18:00

W. Neuss Salon

LECTURE From One Root? Ashkenazic and German Folk Culture*Andreas Schmitges*

Schmitges presents how Ashkenazic and German folk cultures interact and connect through song, dance, and instrumental music, drawing on decades of research since Yiddish Summer Weimar 2011–12.

EVENING CONCERT

20:00h · UfaFabrik, Viktoriastr. 10–18 · Outdoor stage (indoor theater in case of rain)

Muzsikás: The Lost Jewish Music of Transylvania

One of the most celebrated folk ensembles in the world, Muzsikás from Budapest rarely tours anymore and has no other scheduled performances in Germany. Over more than fifty years, they have redefined how audiences hear Hungarian traditional music — and rescued an entire chapter of Jewish musical heritage from oblivion. Their concert will draw on various points in their remarkable career, including music from their groundbreaking album *Máramaros: The Lost Jewish Music of Transylvania*. Founded in 1973 at the heart of Budapest's *táncház* (dance house) movement, Muzsikás are winners of Hungary's Kossuth Prize, the country's highest state award for artists.

Included in Festival Pass & Weekend Pass · Children 6–12 / Kinder €15 · Student / Ermäßigt €20 · Adult Advance / Vorverkauf €25 · At the door / Abendkasse €30

SUNDAY · JUNE 14, 2026

WORKSHOPS & LECTURES · UfaFabrik, Viktoriastr. 10–18

Included in Festival Pass, Weekend Pass & Daytime Pass

10:30h

Freiluftbühne

Klezmer Brunch

Start Sunday with live music and good company.

10:30h

Freiluftbühne

Ukrainian Craft Market

Ukrainian craft market runs through the day.

12:30–14:00

Theater

WORKSHOP **The Lost Music of Transylvania***Muzsikás*

Learn about the style and drive behind this very special music from its most important practitioners.

12:30–14:00

Atelier 1

LECTURE **The Ashkenazi Diaspora: A Very Short History***Dr. Avinoam Stillman*

From the late antique origins of the Ashkenazim to their early modern migration across Europe and beyond.

12:30–14:00

Atelier 2

WORKSHOP **Italian Jewish Song Workshop***Enrico Fink*

Sephardic and Italian Jewish musical heritage.

14:15–15:45

Theater

WORKSHOP **Beyond the Tune***César Lerner & Marcelo Moguilevsky*

Expand the form of klezmer music with their very special blend of tradition and improvisation.

14:15–15:45

Atelier 1

LECTURE **Historical Tour of Yiddish Berlin***Jake Schneider*

A multimedia lecture-tour through Berlin's Yiddish past — theatres, cafés, cabarets, street signs, and more.

14:15–15:45

Atelier 2

WORKSHOP **Yiddish Song Workshop***Daniel Kahn & Sasha Lurje*

Repertoire, style, and context from two of the leading Yiddish singers working today.

16:00–17:30

Freiluftbühne

Family Yiddish Dance*Yeva Lapsker & Sayumi Yoshida*

The joyful experience of togetherness for the whole family, with a live all-star international klezmer band.

EVENING CONCERT

19:30h · UfaFabrik, Viktoriastr. 10–18

Khupe (Berlin) & Lerner Moguilevsky Duo (Buenos Aires)

The 2026 Festival closes with two legendary klezmer duos for an unforgettable evening of instrumental music. From Berlin, Khupe — clarinetist Christian Dawid and accordionist Sanne Möricke — pioneers of the city's klezmer scene, performing together since the mid-1990s. From Buenos Aires, Lerner Moguilevsky Duo — César Lerner and Marcelo Moguilevsky — among South America's most highly regarded performers of klezmer and improvised music, with a four-decade career that has taken them to stages around the world. Two duos, two continents — one shared musical language. Afterwards: bring your instruments for the traditional Sunday evening jam session, with Eastern European inspired cocktails.

Included in Festival Pass & Weekend Pass · Children 6–12 / Kinder €10 · Students / Ermäßigt €15 · Adult Advance / VVK €20 · At the door / Abendkasse €25

TICKETS & PASSES

Full Pass · Weekend Pass (Sat & Sun) · Daytime Workshop Pass · Individual concert tickets

shtetlberlin.com/tickets