

# West End Synagogue brings new music in the New Year

Posted on: December 18th, 2011 by The Jewish Observer

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Innovation, inspiration, tradition: three ideas that capture the spirit of West End Synagogue's 2012 Concert and Cultural Series. Launching in January, the series was created as a way to share the richness and diversity of Jewish music with the greater community by bringing world-class performers to Nashville.

The inaugural event's premier concert stars the renowned, Grammy nominated entertainer Neshama Carlebach, in collaboration with the Green Pastures Baptist Church Choir. Neshama sings inspiring original compositions as well as those of her father, famed Rabbi Shlomo Carlebach. But while her father's music touched off a musical movement in the Jewish world, Neshama's music has wider appeal. And, her pairing with the Baptist Choir brings a powerful counterpoint to her soft folk style.

"We are so excited to bring Neshama Carlebach to Nashville," said West End Synagogue Rabbi Klief Rose, "She has managed to continue her father's tremendous legacy. At the same time, she has created her own path, offering a unique product that has touched a multi-faith, contemporary and culturally sophisticated audience. She embodies in song all of the spirituality and emotion of our heritage."

Neshama's album "Higher and Higher" was an official entrant in the 2011 Grammy Awards and this is her first time on a Music City stage.

The inaugural concert is the first in a varied series for the community. In May, West End Synagogue will host the second concert starring Rick Recht. Recht is known to teens around the country for his interactive performances at such places as Camp Ramah, BBYO and USY International Conventions and NFTY National Conventions. Recht is also a regular headliner at Jewish festivals around the country.

West End Synagogue has plans to expand its concert series with more offerings next year. "Our mission is create something meaningful and lasting for our local Jewish community and for the community at large," said West End's President Steve Hecklin. "This signature event also marks the beginning of a new period of growth and leadership at West End and we are thrilled to share it with everyone," he added.

West End Synagogue's 2012 Concert and Cultural Series' inaugural Neshama Carlebach concert is on Sat., Jan. 14, 2012, at 7 p.m. at 3rd & Lindsley. For more information and to purchase tickets, contact Marcia Stewart at 615/269-4592, or email [office@westendsyn.org](mailto:office@westendsyn.org).



Neshama Carlebach