

B' nai Israel is proud to announce that Seth Lutnick, known as *The Broadway Rabbi*,--a singer, writer and performer who has his feet firmly planted in both the Jewish world and the world of musical theater and cabaret, will serve as our High Holiday cantor this year and also present a special cabaret-style program prior to our Selichot services on Saturday evening, Sept. 4th, entitled *The Broadway Rabbi Sings His Mind*.

A Yeshiva University educated cantor and ordained rabbi, Seth has recorded two albums of original Hebrew music, appeared in many stage productions in Jerusalem where he also makes his home, and concertized extensively in both Israel and America. In addition to directing, writing and performing musical theater, Seth spends his Saturdays delivering sermons at the pulpit as the rabbi of Mevasseret Zion congregation in Israel. In his spare time, Seth also blogs on a number of timely topics.

His two albums of original Hebrew music and his album "Gesharim" reached the top 10 Jewish artists list on the international Real Rhapsody network. Although Seth, the artistic director and producer of Israel Musicals, has been writing music for many years, it was not until a few years ago that he decided that musical theater was where he would like to focus his energies

Seth has become involved, and acted and sung in many stage productions, including *Any Dream Will Do*, *Camelot*, *Oliver*, *The Disputation*, *A Chorus Line*, *Joseph And The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and lots of Gilbert and Sullivan and more. He has also crafted two cabaret shows, "Dr. Beethoven and Mr. Broadway" and "Jerusalem Love", which have sold out theaters in Jerusalem, and been performed as wide afield as New York, Los Angeles, the Catskills, Berkshires and Poconos. These shows combine his love of musical theater, standup comedy, and his Jewish identity.

For our pre-Selichot program, entitled *The Broadway Rabbi Sings His Mind*, Seth will mix comedy, classic and contemporary music with lots of love and joy, and create a memorable and personal event for our congregants and other friends.

Describing *The Broadway Rabbi Sings His Mind*, as a mix of music and Judaism, he combines his love of teaching and sharing, with his love of music. During the performance he asks the audience questions, shares stories and performs music, including songs by George Gershwin, Billy Joel, Naomi Shemer, cantorial tunes and some of his own creations. Seth will be accompanied at the piano by B' nai Israel Board Member Marshall E. Feldman who has served for many years as Choirmaster at B' nai Israel as well as other local shuls.

*The Broadway Rabbi Sings His Mind* will begin at 8:45 p.m., followed by light refreshments, and the Selichot service to be led by Rabbi Alan Yuter and chanted by Cantor Seth Lutnick.

We are also happy to announce that Aaron Tessler, who together with his father, Cantor Jacob Tessler, chanted the High Holiday liturgy at B' nai Israel in 2008, will return and serve as our Baal Shacharit and Torah reader. Aaron begins his freshman year at Johns Hopkins University in the fall.

Specific information about the High Holidays at B' nai Israel will be mailed to our membership and friends next week and also appear on our web site.