

# BRIAN BENDER

(trombone, keyboards, melodica, composer, bandleader)



## **Brian Bender & Little Shop of Horas**

Original and traditional Jewish melodies blended with Latin, African, Caribbean and Middle Eastern rhythms

Brian has performed in Egypt, Israel, the Cape Verde Islands, Alaska, France, the United Kingdom, Italy and throughout the United States. He has also performed at Carnegie Hall and the Presidential Inauguration of Bill Clinton.

“Brian Bender...the most-requested Klezmer trombone in the Northeast USA.”

“Brian Bender's trombone is an entire horn section, when needed, by himself.”

- Ari Davidov, Klezmershack

“On the aptly titled ‘Eyn Velt’ (which means ‘One World’), Brian Bender achieves several landmarks. For one, he gathers some of the greatest Klezmer and non-Klezmer musicians in the world, including trumpeter Frank London and violinist Alicia Svigals of the Klezmatics and the saxophonist Charles Neville of the famed New Orleans group, the Neville Brothers. The dozens of other musicians on hand from all traditions testify to Bender’s universal musical world-view, as does the music they make: World Music with Jewish roots.”

“Bender exhibited his inventive streak, exploring new possibilities for the trombone in the ensemble, as melody or rhythm instrument, and for the melodica, a breath-powered keyboard from which he elicited a particularly ancient sound.”

- Seth Rogovoy, author of “The Essential Klezmer”  
Host of “The Klezmer Hour” radio show

"Lovingly brings back the rhythms and sounds of our ancestors as the sounds of today. Some wonderful unexpected twists, like a tangy latin version of the yiddish chestnut "Shloimele, Malkele" and a Rastafarian approach to a traditional Bobover Hasidic processional."

- Dr. Hankus Netsky, New England Conservatory of Music;  
Director, Klezmer Conservatory Band, pioneer of the Klezmer revival

“I find your sound very interesting. You really mix the rhythms in a nice way and you have very effective arrangements.. And you did not lose the precious traditional melodies. “

- Carlos Kibrit, YidishMusic.com (internet radio station from Brazil)

“Your blending of the rhythms and the combination of traditional and new selections makes for a wonderfully varied and delightful listening experience. ‘Eyn Velt’ is a ‘must-have’ for anyone who enjoys klezmer. Thanks for the great new addition to my playlist!!”

- Barry Reisman  
Program Host, WNWR AM 1540 (Philadelphia, USA)

“Brian Bender brought a truckload of trombone to the stage.”

- Irv Yarg, Hudson Valley Music

“Love the music...I can’t wait to put it on the JazzXpress playlist. Amazing fusion of genres....YES!”

- Helen Simons, JazzXpress 941FM Jazz Radio (Queensland, Australia)

For more info: +1 413 253 9980

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[www.LittleShopOfHoras.com](http://www.LittleShopOfHoras.com)

[www.MySpace.com/BrianBender](http://www.MySpace.com/BrianBender)

## BRIAN BENDER & LITTLE SHOP OF HORAS - On the Radio

### Internet Radio (International)

- YidishMusic.com (based in Sao Paulo, Brasil) – listened to in 70 countries  
[www.YidishMusic.com.br](http://www.YidishMusic.com.br)
- Radio Free Klezmer [www.home.comcast.net/~radiofreeklezmer](http://www.home.comcast.net/~radiofreeklezmer)
- Klezmer Podcast [www.klezmerpodcast.com](http://www.klezmerpodcast.com)
- Spin The Globe (Kaos Radio) [www.earball.net/spintheGlobe](http://www.earball.net/spintheGlobe)
- XM Radio Hanukkah [www.xmradio.com/hanukkah](http://www.xmradio.com/hanukkah) Radio Hanukkah - XM 108, is XM's first-ever channel dedicated exclusively to Jewish culture.
- Klezmania show on Shalom America Worldwide [www.Radio-J.com](http://www.Radio-J.com)
- Jewish Watchman Radio (JWR) (based in Ontario, Canada)  
[www.freewebs.com/jwrstation](http://www.freewebs.com/jwrstation)
- Jewish World Radio (based in Florida, USA) [www.jewishworldradio.com](http://www.jewishworldradio.com)
- WJEW Teen Radio (West Bloomfield, MI) Michael Smolash
- Continental Drift WNUR 89.3 (based in Chicago, USA) Erik Osmond  
[www.wnur.org/drift](http://www.wnur.org/drift)
- New York Jewish Radio [www.newyorkjewishradio.com](http://www.newyorkjewishradio.com)
- Shemspeed (Jewish Music Site with radio show) “DJ Handler” [www.shemspeed.com](http://www.shemspeed.com)
- Upper Room Radio Show (Bridgeport, Connecticut) [www.upperroomwithjoekelley.com](http://www.upperroomwithjoekelley.com)  
(Gi Dussault & Joe Kelley)
- BRTO Radio (Netherlands) [www.brto.nl](http://www.brto.nl) (Alex Pijnen)
- Celtica Radio (Swansea, United Kingdom) [www.celticaradio.com](http://www.celticaradio.com) (James Lewis)
- Alooga Radio (Sinzig, Germany) [www.alooga.de](http://www.alooga.de) (Gerd Hoeschen)
- Cobalt Stream 59 (Moreno Valley, CA) - Jackson Cobalt, LLC  
[www.live365.com/stations/zen823](http://www.live365.com/stations/zen823) (Kirk Jackson)
- Sky Valley Radio (Canada) [www.live365.com/stations/skyvalleyradio](http://www.live365.com/stations/skyvalleyradio)
- SIRIUS (New York, NY) [www.sirius.com](http://www.sirius.com) \*\*satellite radio
- World Music Network Radio (Brighton, United Kingdom) [www.totallyradio.com](http://www.totallyradio.com)  
(Martin Sinnock) - internet podcast
- World Mix Radio (Clifton, NJ) [www.worldmixradio.org](http://www.worldmixradio.org)

### United Kingdom

- Sound of The World (London, UK) [www.soundoftheworld.com](http://www.soundoftheworld.com) Charlie Gillett
- BBC Clubglobal 105FM (Cambridge, UK) [www.209radio.co.uk](http://www.209radio.co.uk) (DJ Skunk) -- also internet
- Broadcasting House (London, United Kingdom) [www.bbc.co.uk/bh](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bh)
- Vibes 90.6FM (Huddersfield, United Kingdom) "Riddim Master"  
[www.vibes906fm.co.uk](http://www.vibes906fm.co.uk)
- "Jazz World" Radio Maldwyn 756 AM (Brecknockshire, UK) [www.magic756.net](http://www.magic756.net)  
(Tony Wickham)
- Open Air Radio (London, UK) University of London, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) [www.openair.org.uk](http://www.openair.org.uk)

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[www.LittleShopOfHoras.com](http://www.LittleShopOfHoras.com)

### Europe

- Radio Juive de Lyon 94.5 FM (Lyon, France) Zemer Vekiner [www.radiorjl.com](http://www.radiorjl.com) (also broadcast on the internet)
- Radio Penguin (Siberia, Russia) - Serge Tikhanoff
- YidishMusic.com (based in Sao Paulo, Brasil) – listened to in 70 countries  
[www.YidishMusic.com.br](http://www.YidishMusic.com.br)
- “Animajazz” 91.6 Punto Radio (Pisa, Italy) [www.animajazz.it](http://www.animajazz.it)
- Yuval Italia Radio (Italian Center for the Study of Jewish Music)  
[www.powerlink.it/yuval/english.html](http://www.powerlink.it/yuval/english.html)
- “National Bread” Radio 102.5FM (Belgrade, Serbia) [www.myspace.com/pedjaizvuk](http://www.myspace.com/pedjaizvuk)
- Radio Ostfriesland (Aurich, Germany) UKW 94.0 [www.radio-ostfriesland.com](http://www.radio-ostfriesland.com) (Heiko Rocker)
- SergeKozlovsky.com (Minsk, Belarus) [www.sergekozlovsky.com](http://www.sergekozlovsky.com)
- Radio Gold Popular Network (Carpenato, Italy) [www.radiogold.it](http://www.radiogold.it) (Giovanni Pietro Scazzola)
- 94.1 FM Radio 2 (Skopje, Macedonia) [www.mrt.com.mk](http://www.mrt.com.mk) (Vasja Ivanovski)
- Radio Incontro (Pesaro, Italy) [www.incontro.it](http://www.incontro.it) (Maurizio Benvenuti)
- Radio Unerhort Marburg (Marburg, Germany) [www.radio-rum.de](http://www.radio-rum.de) (Constantin Sieg)
- City-FM 106 (Yerevan, Armenia) [www.cityfm.am](http://www.cityfm.am) (Armen Manukyan)
- Radio Despi 107.2 FM (Barcelona, Spain) [www.radiodespi.com](http://www.radiodespi.com) (Francisco Manual Lopez Herrero)
- Radio X 91.8 FM (Frankfurt, Germany) DJ Jazzmadass [www.radiox.de](http://www.radiox.de) (Robert Lochmann)
- Radio Campus (Haubourdin, France) Claude Colpaert
- GRS Radio (Kiev, Ukraine) Victor Kaminskiy
- Radio Zusa (Luenburg, Germany) [www.zusa.de](http://www.zusa.de) (Juergen Kramer)
- Discopolis-Radio 3 (Madrid, Spain) [www.rtve.es](http://www.rtve.es) (Jose Miguez Lopez)
- RBB Radio MultiKulti (Berlin, Germany) [www.rbb-online.de](http://www.rbb-online.de) (Tobias Maier)
- Radio EINS-RBB (Berlin, Germany) [www.radioeins.de](http://www.radioeins.de) (Johannes Theurer)
- Radio Govorit Moskva, Public Russian Radio [www.arba.nm.ru](http://www.arba.nm.ru) (Nazim Nadirov)
- Radio France International (Paris, France) [www.rfi.fr](http://www.rfi.fr) (Daniel Brown)
- Funkhaus Europa (Bremen, Germany) [www.gkultur.de](http://www.gkultur.de) (Gulbahar Kultur)
- Radio Belgrade 2 (Belgrade, Serbia & Montenegro) [www.rts.co.yu](http://www.rts.co.yu) (Ivana Komadina)
- RTBF – Le Premiere (Belgium) [www.lapremiere.be](http://www.lapremiere.be) (Didier Melon)
- Radio Prague (Prague, Czech Republic) (also on internet) [www.world.freemusic.cz](http://www.world.freemusic.cz) (Peter Doruzka)
- B92 (Serbia & Montenegro) Bojan Djordjevic (also on internet)
- OE1-ORF (Vienna, Austria) [www.oe1.orf.at](http://www.oe1.orf.at) (Albert Hosp) – also on internet
- Radio 6 (Holland, Netherlands) [www.radio6.nl](http://www.radio6.nl) (Saskia Bender)

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[www.LittleShopOfHoras.com](http://www.LittleShopOfHoras.com)

Europe (continued)

- Radio Umland-Bremer Umland 92.5FM (Wildeshausen, Germany) [www.radio-umland-tv.de](http://www.radio-umland-tv.de) (Joe Kretzschmar-Stromer)
- Radio Vilafant 107.3FM (Vilafant-Girona, Spain) [www.radiovilafant.net](http://www.radiovilafant.net) (Josep Palmada Verdier)
- Radio Holstebro 97.4FM (Holstebro, Denmark) [www.radioholstebro.dk](http://www.radioholstebro.dk) (Kjell Andreassen)
- Sveriges Radio International (National Radio of Sweden) (Stockholm, Sweden) [www.sr.se/rs/english](http://www.sr.se/rs/english) (Lennart Wretland)
- "Psyche Van Het Folk" (Duffel, Belgium) 106.7FM [www.radiocentraal.be](http://www.radiocentraal.be) (Gerald Van Waes)
- "All That's Jazz" Radio RICK FM (Uithoorn, Netherlands) [www.rickfm.com](http://www.rickfm.com) Rolf H. Polak
- Jazz Radio 88.4 FM (Mosina, Poland) Dioni Piatkowski
- "Radio Lu" (Luxembourg) William Zenner
- "Virus De Blues" 101.1 FM (Dax, France) [www.virusdeblues.free.fr](http://www.virusdeblues.free.fr) (Jean-Pierre Savouyaud)
- "La Otra Orilla" Radio Despi 107.1 FM (Barcelona, Spain) [www.radiodespi.com](http://www.radiodespi.com) (Francisco M. Lopez Herrero)
- ERT/Greek National Radio 2 (Athens, Greece) [www.ert.gr](http://www.ert.gr) (George Monemusassitis)
- Instituto Mpal de Cultura 101.1 FM (Buccaramanga, Columbia) Enrique Carlos Cancelado Ch.

Middle East

- Dr. Reggae (Israel) [www.irielion.com/israel/reggae\\_power.htm](http://www.irielion.com/israel/reggae_power.htm)
- The Beat - Israel National Radio [www.israelnationalradio.com](http://www.israelnationalradio.com) (Ben Bresky)
- Walter's World - Israel National Radio [www.israelnationalradio.com](http://www.israelnationalradio.com) (Walter Bingham)
- Radyo SDU (Isparta, Turkey) [www.radyotv.sdu.edu.tr](http://www.radyotv.sdu.edu.tr) (Murat Kasap)
- Acik Radyo (Istanbul, Turkey) 94.9 [www.acikradyo.com.tr](http://www.acikradyo.com.tr) (Ahmet Ulug)

Australia

- JazzXpress on Jazz Radio 94.1 FM (Queensland, Australia) [www.jazzradio.com.au](http://www.jazzradio.com.au)
- PBS FM 106.7 (Melbourne, Australia) [www.pbsfm.org.au](http://www.pbsfm.org.au) (Jordan Kirwin)
- Shoalhaven Community Radio – TripleU FM (Kings Point, Australia) [www.tripleu.org.au](http://www.tripleu.org.au) (Harold Ellison)
- County Club Productions (Prospect, Australia) George Young
- Triple H-FM (Horsham, Australia) [www.triplehfm.com.au](http://www.triplehfm.com.au) (Michael Criddle)
- PBS 106.7FM (Melbourne, Vic, Australia) [www.pbsfm.org.au](http://www.pbsfm.org.au) (Clare Presser)
- "2WAY FM" 104.1 FM (Wauchope, Australia) [www.2wayfm.org](http://www.2wayfm.org) (Ken Lindsay)
- OKR 97.1 FM (Whittlesea Vic, Australia) [www.cbaa.org.au](http://www.cbaa.org.au) (Raymond Phillips)
- FBi 94.5 FM (Strawberry Hills, Australia) [www.fbi.org](http://www.fbi.org)
- FBI 94.5 FM (New South Wales, Australia) [www.fbiradio.com](http://www.fbiradio.com)

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### Canada

- Jewish Digest on 102.3 FM Radio Centre-ville (Montreal, Canada) – Leslie Lutsky [www.radiocentreville.com](http://www.radiocentreville.com)
- The Global Jewish Connection on CHIN FM 100.7 (Toronto, Canada) – Zelda Young [www.zeldayoung.com](http://www.zeldayoung.com)
- Radio Shalom 1650AM (Montreal, Canada) – Helene Engel [www.radio-shalom.ca](http://www.radio-shalom.ca)
- Anthology of Jewish Music CFRO-FM 102.7 (Vancouver Cooperative Radio) Ethan Minovitz, Co-Host [www.coopradio.org](http://www.coopradio.org)
- Winnipeg Jewish Radio Hour CKJS, 810AM (Winnipeg, Canada) Rochelle Zucker [www.ckjs.com](http://www.ckjs.com)
- CFBX Radio 92.5FM (Kamloops, British Columbia, Canada) [www.thex.ca](http://www.thex.ca) (Steve Marlow)
- CKMN 96.5 FM (Saint-Anaclet, Quebec) [www.ckmm.fm](http://www.ckmm.fm) (Louis Brunet)
- CHLY 101.7 FM (Nanaimo, British Columbia) [www.chly.ca](http://www.chly.ca) (George Miller)
- CKMO Village 900 AM (Victoria, British Columbia) [www.village900.ca](http://www.village900.ca) (Clint Lalonde)
- CFF Trent Radio 92.7 FM (Ontaria, Canada) [www.trentu.ca/trentradio](http://www.trentu.ca/trentradio) (William Bain)
- CBC Radio-1 "Routes-Montreal" (Quebec, CA) [www.radio-canada.ca](http://www.radio-canada.ca) (Dan Behrman)
- CIUT Radio Toronto 89.5 FM(Toronto, Ontario) [www.ciut.fm](http://www.ciut.fm)

### United States (West Coast)

- The Yiddish Hour KBOO FM (Portland, OR) – Yankl Falk
- KWVA 88.1 FM (Eugene, Oregon) [www.kwvaradio.org](http://www.kwvaradio.org) (James Cervantes)
- KUER FM90.1 (Salt Lake City, Utah) [www.kuer.org](http://www.kuer.org) (Mike Anderson)
- KUSP 88.9 FM (Santa Cruz, CA) [www.kusp.org](http://www.kusp.org) (Robert Mullen)
- Texas Public Radio (San Antonio, TX) [www.tpr.org](http://www.tpr.org) (Deirdre Saravia)
- The Magic Carpet (Limerick, Ireland) - RTE Lyric FM [www.rte.ie](http://www.rte.ie) (Rachel Blech)

### United States (Central)

- Klezmania show on Shalom America (Cleveland, OH) [www.Radio-J.com](http://www.Radio-J.com)
- Jewish Waves Radio WOKY-AM920 (Milwaukee,WI) Marge Eiseman and Andy Muchin [www.jewishwaves.net](http://www.jewishwaves.net)
- WJEW Teen Radio (West Bloomfield, MI) Michael Smolash
- Continental Drift WNUR 89.3 (based in Chicago, USA) Erik Osmond [www.wnur.org/drift](http://www.wnur.org/drift)
- WBSD 89.1 FM (Burlington, Wisconsin) Terry Havel
- Jewish Community Radio 88.7FM (University Heights, OH) WJCU Radio [www.jewishcommunityradio.org](http://www.jewishcommunityradio.org) (Fred Taub) - Little Shop of Horas
- "Shalom Nashville" (Nashville, TN) WRVU 91.1FM [www.wrvu.org](http://www.wrvu.org)  
[www.myspace.com/shalomnashville](http://www.myspace.com/shalomnashville) DJ Chanan

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United States (East Coast)

- Chagigah WERS (Boston, MA) 88.9 FM [www.wers.org/chagigah](http://www.wers.org/chagigah)
- WGBH 89.7FM (Boston, MA) [www.wgbh.org](http://www.wgbh.org)
- JM IN THE AM (Jersey City, NJ) 91.1FM [jmintheam.org/](http://jmintheam.org/) Nachum Segal
- Sunday Simcha WFDU (Orangeburg, NY) Bill Hahn <http://alpha.fdu.edu/wfdu/wfdufm/sounds.html>
- Shalom South Florida WLVI 1040-AM (Ft. Lauderdale, Florida) Richard Kamins [www.shalomsouthflorida.com](http://www.shalomsouthflorida.com)
- Sunday Simcha WMNF - 88.5 FM (Tampa, Florida) Kevin Frye [www.wmnf.org](http://www.wmnf.org)
- New World Radio WNWR AM 1540 (Bala Cynwyd, PA) Barry Reisman [www.wnwr.com](http://www.wnwr.com)
- WBUR 90.9 FM (Boston, MA) [www.wbur.org](http://www.wbur.org)
- WCVF-FM (Fredonia, NY) [www.fredoniaradio.com](http://www.fredoniaradio.com) (Tom Bingham)
- WPKN 89.5FM (Bridgeport, CT) [www.wpkn.org](http://www.wpkn.org) (Kimberly Massengill)
- "Jazz Without Borders" WACG 90.7FM (Augusta, Georgia) [www.gpb.org/jazzwithoutborders](http://www.gpb.org/jazzwithoutborders) Georgia Public Broadcasting (Mirchell Feldman)
- O's Place Jazz Magazine (Charlotte, North Carolina) D. Oscar Groomes
- WSCS 90.9FM (Warner, New Hampshire) [www.colby-sawyer.edu/wscs](http://www.colby-sawyer.edu/wscs) (Frederick Moe)
- "World Peace Through Cultural Celebration" WWUH 91.3FM (Hartford, CT) [www.wvuh.org](http://www.wvuh.org) (Brian Grosjean)
- WXYC 89.3 FM (Chapel Hill, NC) [www.ibiblio.org](http://www.ibiblio.org)
- WSHA (Raleigh, NC) 88.9 FM [www.wshafm.org](http://www.wshafm.org)
- WPVM 103.5 FM(Asheville, NC) [www.wpvm.org](http://www.wpvm.org) Stephen K.
- WMBR (Boston, MA) 88.1 FM [www.wmbr.mit.edu](http://www.wmbr.mit.edu)
- WAER Jazz 88 FM (Syracuse, NY) [www.waer.org](http://www.waer.org) (Eric Cohen)

South America

- UIS Stereo (Bucaramanga, Santander, Columbia) Carlos Mantilla

## Reviews - Brian Bender & Little Shop of Horas



With Special Guests: Frank London (Klezmatiks, Hasidic New Wave), Alicia Svigals (Klezmatiks, Mikveh), Stuart Brotman (Brave Old World), Charles Neville (Neville Brothers), Grant Smith (Klezmer Conservatory Band), Jose Gonzalez (Bando Criollo), Raquy Danziger (Raquy and the Cavemen), and others.

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- Ari Davidov, Klezmershack

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Host of “The Klezmer Hour” radio show

"Lovingly brings back the rhythms and sounds of our ancestors as the sounds of today. Some wonderful unexpected twists, like a tangy latin version of the yiddish chestnut "Shloimele, Malkele" and a Rastafarian approach to a traditional Bobover Hasidic processional."

- Dr. Hankus Netsky, New England Conservatory of Music  
Director, Klezmer Conservatory Band  
Pioneer of the Klezmer revival

“I find your sound very interesting. You really mix the rhythms in a nice way and the arrangements are very effective. And you did not lose the precious traditional melodies.”

- Carlos Kibrit, YiddishMusic.com  
(internet radio station based in Sao Paulo, Brazil)

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[www.LittleShopOfHoras.com](http://www.LittleShopOfHoras.com)

“I have received your Little Shop of Horas CD ‘Eyn Velt’ and it is FANTASTIC!! Everything from the art on the CD jacket to the liner notes to the music on the CD is first class. I have already scheduled several tracks to use on my six-day-a-week klezmer / Jewish music program on WNWR and wnwr.com in Philadelphia. My listeners are in store for a real treat when they hear the fresh and exuberant sound of your music. Your blending of the rhythms and the combination of traditional and new selections makes for a wonderfully varied and delightful listening experience. ‘Eyn Velt’ is a ‘must-have’ for anyone who enjoys klezmer. Thanks for the great new addition to my playlist!!”

- Barry Reisman  
Program Host, WNWR AM 1540 (Philadelphia, USA)

“Love the music...I can’t wait to put it on the JazzXpress playlist. Amazing fusion of genres....YES! YES! YES!”

- Helen Simons, JazzXpress 94.1FM Jazz Radio (Queensland, Australia)

"I am the music manager for radio station PBS FM Melbourne Australia. We have just received your wonderful CDs "Urban Jungle" and "Eyn Velt". Certainly two highly stylish CDs, incredibly sublime yet subtle, explorative, with exquisite composition choice and orchestration. These CDs are very passionate and intimate with colorful mood changes all joining together to create a vast musical tapestry of styles. The compositions you have chosen are stunning interpretations accentuated by your playing and by your very talented band, minimalist in nature at times but very rhythmic so as to not distract from the beauty of your playing. Your passion for the music shines through every note played, a truly wonderful partnership. World music-inspired Jazz is one of our most listened to and leading styles here at this station and in this city."

- Peter Merritt, PBS FM  
(Melbourne, Australia)

“Oy, I’ve been looking everywhere for this CD!”

- Elijah T. Prophet

**(Reprinted from Soundroots.org) 03 October 2007**

**Oct. 12-22, 2007**

### **A Great Day on Eldridge Street**

Klezmer musician, composer, author Yale Strom just let me know about a fascinating event taking place next week in New York. He's calling it "A Great Day on Eldridge Street," modeled after the famous photograph "A Great Day in Harlem."

Strom's idea is to assemble 75 top klezmer musicians from around the world for a 10-day celebration, including workshops, concerts, and a group photo on Oct. 12.



**Participating artists include:** Aaron Alexander, Michael Alpert, Art Bailey, **BRIAN BENDER**, Phyllis Berk, Eric Berman, Mina Bern, Mark Berney, Steven Bernstein, Theo Bikel, Joanne Borts, Judy Bressler, Paul Brody, Tamara Brooks, David Buchbinder, Ismail Butera, Don Byron, Neshama Carlebach, Bob Cohen, Marty Confurius, Adrienne Cooper, Matt Darriau, Peggy Davis, Di Gojim (Holland), Sruli Dresdner, Larry Eagle, Marty Ehrlich, Yaeko-Miranda Elmaleh, Annette Ezekiel, Yankl Falk, Barry Fisher, , Brian Glassman, Beyle Schaechter Gottesman, Burton Greene, Steven Greenman, David Julian Grey, Jim Guttmann, Glen Hartman, Michael Hess, Avi Hoffman, Dave Hofstra, Alex Jacobowitz, David Krakauer, Alex Kontorovich, Joe Kurland, Shifra Lerer, Rachel Lemisch, Marilyn Lerner, Howard Leshaw, Margo Leverett, Marty Levitt, David Licht, Shura Lipovsky, Frank London, Gary Lucas, Ken Maltz, Lisa Mayer, Robin Miller, Barry Mitterhoff, Zalmen Mlotek, Ray Muziker, Hankus Netsky, Alan Oresky, Leon Pollak, Eleanor Reissa, Ron Robboy, Leon Robinson, Jason Rosenblatt , Eric Rosenthal, Joel Rubin, Peter Rushefsky, Basya Schechter, Michael Schlesinger, Elizabeth Schwartz, Harold Seletsky, Paul Shapiro, David Shneyer, Eve Sicular, Grant Smith, Peter Sokolow, Sprocket, Norbert Stachel, Ilene Stahl, Peter Stan, Andy Statman, Theo Stone, Deborah Strauss, Yale Strom, Alicia Svigals, Stephanie Tarras, Sy Tarras, Joshua Waletsky, Greg Wall, Jeff Warschauer, Elaine Watts, Susan Hoffman Watts, Jim Whitney, Doug Wieselmann, and John Zorn.

# LISTEN 2 THE MUSIC

The Valley's Independent Guide  
to Music & Concert Happenings

An Apple  
A Day 

published by Cider Records



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Issue # 17

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## Fire & Water Featured Artist - Brian Bender

BRIAN BENDER has been performing, teaching, and recording music in the area since 1993. He plays comfortably in a variety of genres as a member of the Wholesale Klezmer Band, Black Rebels reggae band, and the Pangeans world music group. He is also active in Fiddle Hill, a Celtic ensemble, Kano y Su Banda, a salsa and merengue band, as well as his own Jazz and Klezmer groups. He has performed at Carnegie Hall and the Knitting Factory in New York, President Clinton's Inauguration, and in many other venues across the United States and beyond in Anchorage, Omaha, New Orleans, North Carolina, and the Cape Verde Islands. He has also performed at the Drumming in the New Millennium World Music Festival at the Great Pyramids in Egypt and also a solo show in Jerusalem.

Brian comments on his profound experience in the Middle East, "At the festival in Egypt I took a peace song based on verses from the Book of Isaiah that says, 'Nation shall not lift sword against other nations, nations shall study war no more.' I sang the song in three different languages: English, Arabic and Hebrew. This was accompanied by two percussionists from the Arabic Conservatory while the audience was dancing in a circle. This was my first time in the Middle East, and it was particularly meaningful to play Jewish music (as well as Celtic and Brazilian) at the festival. I walked away from the experience with a strong feeling that although there are historical places that have great religious and cultural significance for many people, they are simply not worth killing each other over."



Brian likes to share his music as a means to bring forth peace in the world and unity among people. "To me, music has the ability to bring people together and to address social and political concerns in a more effective way than politics. Ultimately, music is a great healing force. I like to think of a musical group as a microcosm of how a society can function and operate. Within a group there are individual members who are all given opportunities to express themselves while maintaining a sense of a larger collaboration with the whole."

"As I get older, it is becoming more important to feel that there is a sense of purpose to the music that I make. I feel very fortunate that I have been involved with groups such as The Wholesale Klezmer Band and Black Rebels, in particular, because of the strong social message that each band puts forward of peace, justice, tolerance and unity (each from a different cultural perspective)."

Currently, Brian is working on two new projects: Little Shop of Horas (original and traditional Jewish melodies blended with Latin, Caribbean, African and Middle Eastern rhythms) and The World Beatniks (Samba, Funk, Latin Jazz, Afro-Beat, Calypso, Reggae). The two CDs are scheduled to be released sometime next year. He describes the spirit of the recordings by saying, "It is a musical statement that elements from different musical traditions can be combined in a way that respects each tradition and creates something new."

Brian is also very active as a teacher for students of all ages. He teaches piano, trumpet, trombone, trumpet, piano, Jazz and Klezmer ensembles, as well as individual and group lessons focusing on improvisation.

"I like to bring oral traditions into teaching music", Brian says. "Once a teacher noticed that I wasn't using notated music during a particular lesson and commented that she had never seen music taught that way. Actually, in many traditions, music is taught completely orally. Music is a language in itself. If we look at how we learn to speak, of course we've been taught grammar, vocabulary, spelling, reading and writing, but before and alongside this more formal instruction we learn by hearing things and repeating them."

Check our listings for Brian's upcoming performance dates with his various groups.

*Jimmy Connors*

# Brian Bender - Biography

Brian Bender (trombone, trumpet, melodica, keyboards, percussion, composer) has performed in the Cape Verde Islands (West Africa), Egypt, Israel, Alaska, France, Italy, the United Kingdom and throughout the United States. He has performed at Carnegie Hall as well as the Presidential Inauguration of Bill Clinton. He is based in the Northeastern USA.

Brian has formerly performed with O.J. Ekemode and the Nigerian All-Stars, Kotoja (African World-Beat), Ibrahima Camera, Black Rebels (African Reggae), La Perfecta (Salsa/Merengue) and the Berkshire Bateria Escola de Samba (Brazilian). He currently performs with the The Pangeans (World Beat), the Wholesale Klezmer Band, Lucky Seven (Caribbean Ska) and Big Bandemonium (Celtic).

Brian has also performed in numerous tribute concerts for the legendary jazz bandleader Sun Ra at venues such as the Knitting Factory (NYC) and the Southern University of New Orleans. In 1989 Brian was asked by Art Blakey to "sit in" with the Jazz Messengers at the Great American Music Hall (San Francisco, CA). An interview with Brian in 1997 on the subject of Klezmer music was aired on National Public Radio.

Brian performs frequently at festivals, concerts, clubs, parties, schools and cafes with various Jazz, Reggae, Latin Jazz, Calypso, Samba, Klezmer, Celtic and other groups. He also teaches lessons and workshops on trombone, piano and trumpet focusing on improvisation and playing music "by ear." He also teaches Jazz, Klezmer and original music ensembles to children and adults.

# Brian Bender - Performance History

Here is a partial list of venues at which Brian Bender has performed with the Black Rebels (African Reggae), Wholesale Klezmer Band, Ibrahima Camera (Afro-Beat), Kotoja (Afro-Beat), O.J. Ekemode and the Nigerian All-Stars (Afro-Beat), Jazzotree (Jazz/Poetry), La Perfecta (Salsa/Merengue), Revelacion (Salsa/Merengue), the Pangeans (World Beat), World Beat Music and Dance Ensemble, Spirit Ensemble, Di Bostoner Klezmer, Young People's Klezmer Workshop, Alicia Svigals' Klezmer Ensemble, Klezmer Conservatory Band, Klezical Tradition, Sweet Blend (Celtic), Grumbling Gryphons Travelling Children's Theatre, the Afro-Semitic Experience (Klezmer/Pan-African), Pharoah's Daughter (Jewish/World), Art Blakey and the Jazz Messengers, Brian Bender Jazz Quartet/Quintet, Timmy Hesla and the Converse All-Stars, Harambe (Afro-Beat), Big Bandemoneum (Contradance Band), Casco Bay Tumblers (Klezmer), Synthesis (Latin Rock), Gumbo Jumbo Dixieland Band, Berkshire Bateria Escola De Samba (Brazilian), Gunter Hampel, Jeanne Lee, Michael Ray, Billy Bang, Kidd Jordan, etc.

## Festivals

Drumming in the New Millenium Festival (Great Pyramids, Egypt)  
Baia Des Gatos Festival (Cape Verde, West Africa)  
Presidential Inauguration of President Bill Clinton (Washington, DC)  
Klezmer in the Park (Hyde Park, London, UK)  
Gathering of the Vibes (Bridgeport, CT)  
Wormtown Music Fest (Hadley, MA)  
Berkshire Music Fest (Great Barrington, MA)  
Vermont Reggae Fest (Burlington, VT)  
Green River Fest (Greenfield, MA)  
Bloomfield Drum Festival (Bloomfield, CT)  
Drums Around The World (Amherst, MA)  
Hot Summer Nights (Amherst, MA)  
Adirondack Music Fest  
World Peace and Prayer Day (Amenia, NY)  
Falcoln Ridge Folk Festival  
Old Songs Folk Festival (Altamont, NY)  
Bread and Roses Festival (Lawrence, MA)  
New England Folk Festival of the Arts (Natick, MA)  
Cambridge River Festival (Cambridge, MA)  
Camp Kinderland (Tolland, MA)  
Porter-Phelps Huntington Museum (Hadley, MA)  
Maine Festival (Portland, ME)  
International Festival of Arts and Ideas (New Haven, CT)  
Reggae Sunsplash (Greensboro, NC)  
Greensboro Justice Foundation Festival (Greensboro, NC)

[www.LittleShopOfHoras.com](http://www.LittleShopOfHoras.com)

## Concerts

Carnegie Hall (New York, NY)  
Great American Music Hall (San Francisco, CA)  
National Yiddish Bookcenter (Amherst, MA)  
Klezmer: The Next Generation (London, UK)  
Jordan Hall (Boston, MA)  
Yung Yiddish (Jerusalem, Israel)  
Zeitgeist (Boston)  
First Night (Boston, MA)  
First Night (Northampton, MA)  
First Night (Worcester, MA)  
First Night (Hartford, CT)  
Libraries all over New England....  
The Towers (RI)  
Artbank (Shelburne Falls, MA)  
World Peace and Prayer Sanctuary (Amenia, NY)  
The Roxy Theatre (Boston, MA)  
Workmen's Circle (Philadelphia, PA)  
Eisenhower Park (Hempstead, NY)  
Berkshire Museum (Pittsfield, MA)  
Claremont Opera House (Claremont, NH)  
Full Moon Coffehouse (Wendell, MA)  
Utica Monday Nights (Utica, NY)  
92nd St. YMCA (New York, NY)

## Clubs

Iron Horse (Northampton, MA)  
Pearl Street (Northampton, MA)  
Johhny D's (Boston, MA)  
Le Baisser Sale (Paris, France)  
Club Metronome (Burlington, VT)  
The Western Front (Boston, MA)  
Ashkenaz (Berkeley, CA)  
The Hotel Utah (San Francisco, CA)  
The Full Moon Saloon (San Francisco, CA)  
The Knitting Factory (New York, NY)  
S.O.B.'s (New York, NY)  
Satalla (New York, NY)  
Club Passim (Cambridge, MA)  
The Folkway (Peterborough, NH)  
Café Lena (Saratoga Springs, NY)  
Club Helsinki (Great Barrington, MA)  
Fire and Water (Northampton, MA)  
CAV Coffehouse (Providence, RI)  
Tonic (New York, NY)  
The Empty Glass (Charlotte, NC)  
Town Crier (Pawling, NY)

## Has Opened Up For

Maceo Parker  
Burning Spear  
The Wailers  
Israel Vibration  
Culture  
Lucky Dube  
The Itals  
Peter, Paul and Mary  
Pete Seeger  
Jean Richie  
Sweet Honey and the Rock  
Toots and the Maytals

## Radio Appearances

National Public Radio (Chicago, IL)  
(Interviewed on the subject of Klezmer Music)  
WJCT (Jacksonville, Florida)  
WFCR (Amherst, MA) "Valley Folk":  
WMUA (Amherst, MA)  
WAMC (Albany, NY)  
WRSI (Greenfield, MA)  
Jack Falk's "The Yiddish Hour" KBOO FM (Portland, OR)  
Numerous North Carolina stations  
UMASS Amherst  
WERS (Boston, MA)  
Valley Public Radio (Florence, MA)

## Colleges/Universities

Brandeis University (Waltham, MA)  
Fitchburg State College (Fitchburg, MA)  
Greenfield Community College (Greenfield, MA)  
Hampshire College (Amherst, MA)  
Holyoke Community College (Holyoke, MA)  
Lyndonville State College (Montpelier, VT)  
Mount Holyoke College (South Hadley, MA)  
Northeastern University (Boston, MA)  
Simon's Rock College (Great Barrington, MA)  
Smith College (Northampton, MA)  
UC Berkeley (Berkeley, CA)  
UMASS Amherst (Amherst, MA)  
Westfield State College (Westfield, MA)  
Quinnipiac College (New Haven, CT)

Southern University of New Orleans (SUNO)  
Grinnel University  
Landmark College (Putney, VT)  
Wesleyan University (Middletown, CT)  
University of Connecticut (Storrs, CT)  
North Adams State College (North Adams, MA)  
Western New England College (Springfield, MA)  
Dartmouth College (Hanover, NH)  
Princeton University (Princeton, NJ)  
Franklin Pierce College (Rindge, NH)  
School for International Training (Brattleboro, VT)  
Berkshire Community College (Pittsfield, MA)  
University of Iowa at Iowa City  
Guilford College  
Franklin Pierce College (Rindge, NH)

### Schools/Camps

Williston-Northampton School (Easthampton, MA)  
Suffield Academy (Suffield, CT)  
Berkshire Hills Music Academy (South Hadley, MA)  
Deerfield Academy (Deerfield, MA)  
The Putney School (Putney, VT)  
Northfield Mount Hermon (Northfield, MA)  
Erving Elementary School (Erving, MA)  
Jackson Street School (Northampton, MA)  
Camp Kinderland (Tolland, MA)

### Community Centers

JCC Springfield, MA  
JCC Jacksonville, FL  
JCC New Haven, CT  
JCC Albany, NY  
JCC Newton, MA  
JCC Portland, OR  
JCC Iowa  
JCC Omaha, Nebraska