

Veretski Pass
Cookie Segelstein, Joshua Horowitz, Stuart Brotman

Ask Drs. Klez

We've always considered the most interesting portion of our lectures to be the Q+A at the end. This is when often heated discussions happen and the audience gets a chance to participate in the event. In order to accommodate this natural occurrence, we decided to extend the Q+A. Then we took the extension to the extreme until we dispensed with the lecture portion altogether. Here's how it works:

Through our years of experience we have been able to analyse the categories of audience questions as follows:

- 1) Music Technique
- 2) Behind the Scenes
- 3) Gossip and Anecdotes
- 4) Music History and Politics
- 5) Jewish Culture
- 6) Media and Recording
- 7) Cross Cultural Connections (Gypsy, Greek, Turkish, Arabic, etc)
- 8) Personal and Family Details
- 9) Field Work and Musicological Process

We have gathered, digitized and organized historical recordings for immediate access during the performance/demonstration. Any questions of a historical or musical nature can then be answered via :

- 1) recorded track
- 2) live demonstration by the trio
- 3) discussion within the trio, as well as directly with the audience

We have preserved the performance atmosphere of the session by seamlessly joining talking, demonstration and playing recorded examples. In the rare event that the audience becomes sluggish or shy, we simply launch into a new piece or begin to banter amongst ourselves. In order to warm up the audience as they enter the hall, the trio plays a traditional welcome piece to greet them. When the doors are closed, the trio moves to the stage and, immediately invites the audience to ask virtually anything. We have presented this format at venues as diverse as the British Library, San Francisco Klez California and the Gelsenkirchen Germany Cultural Week. Because anything goes, the results are often side-splitting and the response has been unanimously positive.

Ask Drs. Klez Promo Text

Ever wonder what chord you should play at the bridge? What to do when your sound system crashes? Why Germany is the home of the largest klezmer scene? What to tell agents who want exclusivity? Join Stu Brotman, Cookie Segelstein and Josh Horowitz in a variant of the master class concept taken to the extreme, where you can ask virtually anything! The audience directs the class and because anything goes, the results are not only fascinating but often side-splitting as well. Bring your most pressing question, or just listen. Open to everyone and their relatives, musicians and lay folk alike.