

Veretski Pass

The Musicians

Cookie Segelstein, violin and viola, received her Masters degree in Viola from The Yale School of Music in 1984. She is principal violist in Orchestra New England and assistant principal in [The New Haven Symphony Orchestra](#). She is the founder and director of Veretski Pass, is a member of [Budowitz](#) and The Youngers of Zion with Henry Sapoznik, and has performed with Kapelye, The Klezmatics, Frank London, Klezmer Fats and Swing with Pete Sokolow and the late Howie Leess, Margot Leverett and the Klezmer Mountain Boys, and The Klezmer Conservatory Band. Cookie has presented lecture demonstrations and workshops on klezmer fiddling all over the world, including at Yale University, University of Wisconsin in Madison, Marshall University in Huntington, West VA, University of Oregon in Eugene, Pacific University, and SUNY-Cortland, and at Klezmerwochen in Weimar, Germany. She was on the music faculty at Southern Connecticut State University, is a regular staff member at Living Traditions' [KlezKamp](#), [Klezkanada](#), KlezCalifornia, Klezmer Festival Fürth, Klezfest London, and has been on staff at Centrum's Festival of American Fiddle Tunes in Port Townsend, Wash. She was featured on the ABC documentary, "A Sacred Noise", heard on HBO's "Sex and the City", appears in the Miramax film, "Everybody's Fine" starring Robert De Niro, and heard on several recordings including the Veretski Pass self titled release and the new CD, Trafik, the Koch International label with Orchestra New England in The Orchestral Music of Charles Ives, Hazònes with Frank London, A Living Tradition with the late Moldovan clarinetist, German Goldenshteyn, [Fleytmuzik](#) with Adrienne Greenbaum and Budowitz Live. She is also the publisher of "The Music of..." series of klezmer transcriptions. Active as a Holocaust educator and curriculum advisor, she has been a frequent lecturer at the Women's Correctional Facility in Niantic, CT. Cookie is also an Apple Certified Support Professional, and owns and operates [The Macmama, LLC](#). Cookie lives in Berkeley, California.

Joshua Horowitz, chromatic button accordion, cimbalom and piano, received his Masters degree in Composition and Music Theory from the Academy of Music in Graz, Austria, where he taught Music Theory and served as Research Fellow and Director of the Klezmer Music Research Project for eight years. He is the founder and director of the ensemble [Budowitz](#), a founding member of Veretski Pass and has performed with Rubin and Horowitz, Brave Old World, Adrienne Cooper and Ruth Yaakov. His music was recently featured in the British film, "Some of my best friends are... Jewish / Muslim", awarded the Sandford St. Martin Trust Religious Broadcasting Award and is also featured in the new film by Jes Benstock, "The Holocaust Tourist". Joshua taught Advanced Jazz Theory at Stanford University with the late saxophonist Stan Getz and is a regular teacher at [KlezKamp](#), KlezCalifornia, Klezmer Festival Fürth and KlezKanada. His musicological work is featured in four books, including The Sephardic Songbook with Aron Saltiel and The Ultimate Klezmer, and he has written numerous articles on the counterpoint of J.S. Bach. His recordings with Veretski Pass, Budowitz, the Vienna Chamber Orchestra, Rubin & Horowitz and Alicia Svigals, have achieved international recognition and he is the recipient of more than 40 awards, including the Prize of Honor for his orchestral composition, Tenebrae, presented by the Austrian government. Beside his work as a musician, he led the first post-WWII music therapy group at the pioneering Beratungszentrum in Graz, Austria. Joshua also runs a website design business www.fidlweb.com and lives in Berkeley, California.

Stuart Brotman, bass, basy (cello), tilinca and baraban, has been an accomplished performer, arranger and recording artist in the ethnic music field for over 50 years. A founding member of Los Angeles' Ellis Island Band, he has been a moving force in the klezmer revival since its beginning, and has defined klezmer bass ("It's a large instrument that plays really low and has an accent.") He holds a B.A. in music with a concentration in Ethnomusicology from the University of California at Los Angeles, and has taught at [KlezKamp](#), Buffalo on the Roof, the Balkan Music and Dance Workshops, [Klezkanada](#), KlezCalifornia, and numerous European festivals and institutes, including Klezfest London, Yiddish Summer Weimar, Klezmer Festival Fürth, and the Krakow Jewish Festival. Stu has been recording, touring, and teaching New Jewish Music with world class ensemble, [Brave Old World](#) since 1989, who are featured in the 2010 documentary, "Song of the Lodz Ghetto, with the music of Brave Old World." Long admired as a versatile soloist and sensitive accompanist in traditional and pop music circles, he has toured and recorded with Canned Heat, Kaleidoscope, and Geoff and Maria Muldaur, and played cimbalom on Ry Cooder's celebrated recording, "Jazz," which premiered at Carnegie Hall. Stu appeared in the Los Angeles production of Joshua Sobol's "Ghetto," the San Francisco production of "Shlemiel the First," by Isaac Bashevis Singer, played cimbalom in "The Postman Always Rings Twice," and contrabass balalaika in "Love Affair." He produced The Klezmerim's Grammy nominated album, "Metropolis," has recorded with The Klezmerim, Kapelye, Andy Statman, the Klezmer Conservatory Band, Davka, The San Francisco Klezmer Experience, and Khevrissa, and performs with Itzhak Perlman in the PBS Great Performances film and CD, "Itzhak Perlman, in the Fiddler's House." Stuart lives in Berkeley, California.