



From Our Lips ...

Celebrating Synagogue Music



Richmond Synagogue – London



Richmond Synagogue has a very long and fascinating history. In the 18th century, successful Sephardi and Ashkenazi city merchants discovered Richmond, purchasing large weekend homes in the area. There were no Shuls allowed as the Sephardi and Ashkenazi authorities felt it was too far from their control. A shul briefly operated in Kew in 1905. In 1915 Rosh Hashanah services were held in Richmond and the following year a building was purchased and converted for 130 men and 30 women and formally opened by Chief Rabbi Hertz and Leopold de Rothschild. In 1938, the Shul moved to what was a former non-conformist Chapel on Sheen Road. In 1922, the University educated Rabbi Dr Ginsberg was appointed Rabbi and stayed until 1961. In 1987, The community moved to its present purpose-built Shul with hall, kitchen, classrooms and grounds. Read more of the fascinating [History](#)



For the ECA's 'From Our Lips ...' initiative, the Richmond Jewish Community Hub (RJCH) welcomes as its guest Cantor, **Rabbi Samuel de Beck Spitzer**, who has French and Indian-Iraqi heritage, and grew up in both the Sephardic and Chasidic communities of Stamford Hill. As well as rabbinic studies in the UK and Israel, Rabbi Samuel studied music in London and Manchester gaining distinctions in piano and voice and with his rich baritone voice has performed principal roles with the Israeli Opera and Philharmonic Orchestra to great acclaim. He also trained as a Medical Clown at Haifa University and has worked in this capacity at the Shaare Zedek Medical Centre, Jerusalem. Before becoming rabbi of the Hove Hebrew Congregation in 2017, Rabbi Samuel led the Lisbon Jewish community. In 2023 he joined the RAF as a Jewish Chaplain.

What to Expect Musically: A rich baritone voice in some familiar and some surprising renditions. Rabbi **Chaim Golker**, Chairman **Paul Lawrence** and Richmond **adult and youth** will participate. Guests welcome: Please register at info@rjch.org.uk and bring photo ID

Friday 23 February at 7.00pm and **Saturday 24 February** at 10.00am.
Richmond synagogue, Lichfield Gardens, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 1AP,
Tel: 020 8940 3526 (07741 801292)

Full Festival programme of services and concerts ECA Website www.cantors.eu

