SHOLOM SECUNDA'S FAMILY

CHANUKAH FESTIVAL

featuring JACOB BARKIN
CANTOR with the SHOLOM SECUNDA SINGERS
TENOR and WILLIAM GUNThER at the Organ
CHANUKAH: The Festival of Lights

Chanukah may be considered the most joyous festival in the entire Jewish calendar. The events of this absorbing story of sublime faith and valor, have been related in the miraculous victories of the Maccabees, under the priest Mattathias and his son Judah, later renamed Judah Maccabee.

Chanukah is observed for a period of eight days. This period of observance is further attributed to the miracle of the lone cruse of oil, unbroken among the ruins and rubble of the destroyed Temple. While this cruse contained but enough oil for one day, it nevertheless lasted for 8 days, in which time the priests had sufficient time to replenish the new oil for the altar service. This too, is said to be the reason for Chanukah being referred to as the Festival of Lights.

Being a joyous holiday, the music associated with it, is naturally of appropriate character and rhythms. There is great pageantry also associated with Chanukah, and many games played, while the exchange of gifts has become the added enjoyable practice. Young and old do look forward to this annual giving and receiving of some gifts.

As in all Jewish rituals, appropriate blessings are recited or sung, and so too, as you play this album, you will note that we begin our presentation with the traditional "B'rochos shel Hanukkah"—Blessings for Chanukah, followed by the proposed musical settings of the liturgical portions that are part of the ritual.

The second side, contains the more popular folk and symbolic songs and melodies in Yiddish, Hebrew and English, performed by a magnificent chorus under the direction of Sholom Secunda.

Featured in this album, as the soloist, is the distinguished Cantor and concert artist, Jacob Barkin.

The concluding song is an original composition, telling the story of Chanukah, in the rhythm of the Israeli Hora.

JACOB BARKIN is recognized as one of the foremost cantors of this period. In addition his career as a concert and opera star, has been acclaimed internationally by critics, audiences and fellow artists everywhere. He has performed before three presidents of the United States as well as several heads of state in Europe and Canada. At this time, Cantor Barkin is heard at the Concord Hotel during the High Holy Days and Passover, having succeeded Mr. Richard Tucker on a long term contract.

SHOLOM SECUNDA's pre-eminence in the field of Jewish liturgical music is especially remarkable in view of the composer's versatility. His prodigious list of accomplishments includes music for the theatre, chamber music, symphonic works, an opera, an oratorio and popular songs.

An original and distinguished creator, Sholom Secunda has imbued in this Chanukah album, compositions with all the color and mystical beauty of a proud and ancient Jewish heritage.

HANUKKAH BLESSINGS — B'ROCHOS

Boruch atoh Adonai, Elohenu melech ha-olom, asher kid'shonu b'mitzvotav, v'tzivanu l'hadlik ner shel Hanukkah
Boruch atoh Adonai, Elohenu melech ha-olom, she-eso nisim la'avoseinu ba-yamim ba-heim, ba-z'man ha-zei.

SIDE A 1. B'ROCHOS SHEL HANUKKAH 2. HANEROS HALOLU 3. MAOZ TZUR 4. BIRCHAS KOHANIM

SIDE B 1. CHANUKO OY CHANUKO (Yiddish)* 2. LIGHTING CANDLES FOR HANUKKAH 3. HANUKKAH — S'VIVON* 4. AL HANISSIM* 5. MI YIMALEL* 6. HANUKKAH

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CHANUKAH FESTIVAL
featuring
CANTOR JACOB BARKIN, TENOR

SIDE B
33 1/3 R.P.M.
STEREO

1. CHANUKO OY CHANUKO
   (Yiddish) 2:35

2. LIGHTING CANDLES FOR HANUKKAH 2:42

3. HANUKKAH - S'VIVON 1:35

4. AL HANISSIM 2:35

5. MI YIMALEL 2:31

6. HANUKKAH 3:14