Words of Wisdom in Song

Music by Ella Shurin
Musical Direction, Velvel Pasternak
Cantor Zvee Aroni
Accompanied by Orchestra & Children's Ensemble

Shiru Li - Shiri Moser

TP 418
Shiru Li, Volume 4

Design / Jules Halfant
At first glance, the idea of teaching mussar (ethical values) through song seems quite novel. Yet the Talmud states (Megillah 32a) that our sages used to teach the Torah with tunes in order to enable the student to more easily remember the words of the Scriptures. Modern educators also have found that which is sung is learned and remembered with greater ease. This concept, therefore, is the underlying principle of SONGS OF WISDOM—16 melodies set to well known sayings, sayings which are as meaningful today as when they were first expressed by our sages many years ago.

It is hoped that these songs will partially fill an existing void and that young people will be reached through mussar in song. If the recording succeeds in helping one individual to learn a single lesson in ethics then the producers of this album shall consider themselves amply rewarded.

Ella Shurin—Composer
For Ella Shurin, Songs of Wisdom marks the fourth album in the popular Shurit Lii series. Her catchy melodies have become part of the basic music repertoire of children in the US, Canada, and throughout the world. She has successfully combined both the music of the great cantors with the melodic and harmonic qualities of modern American and Israeli children’s music. She has released an album titled “Ella Shurin’s Children’s Chorus at South Shore, Hewlett, N.Y.”

Mirel Pasternak—Director
Mirel Pasternak’s name has become synonymous with Jewish music. His numerous recordings and publications have introduced Jewish music to a large repertoire of students in the world. He has also contributed significantly to the world of Jewish music by spreading the love of Jewish music to literally thousands of young people and adults in the classroom and through extensive lectures. At present, Mirel serves as chairman of the department of music, Yeshiva University, New York City. This recording marks his third collaboration with Ella Shurin.

Cantor Zuse Aron—Soloist
Cantor Zuse Aron has established an enviable reputation as a soloist and conductor. He is known for his rich and warm voice, his musicality, and his ability to connect with his audience. He has performed with many renowned orchestras and choirs around the world. In addition, he has recorded several solo albums, each one praised for his musicality and emotional depth.

Vladimir Gribbin—Orchestral Arranger
Vladimir Gribbin is a composer, arranger, and producer with a long career in the music industry. He has created music for television, film, and theater productions, and has also written and produced music for various artists. His work has been recognized with numerous awards, and he is highly respected in the industry.

Photos—Arthur Elfenbein

Children’s Chorus of the Yeshiva
Toras Chaim at South Shore, Hewlett, N.Y.

Seated (left to right): Jonathan Hoenig, Chaim Krigman, Rabbi Benjamin Kamenetsky, Cantor Zuse Pasternak, Mordechai Schwartz, Joel Sanders.

Standing (left to right): Mondy Blank, Mayer Pasternak, Yussef Silverstein, David Shenker, Baruch Brecher. Photo—Arthur Elfenbein

A booklet of all the music contained in this recording is available...
SONGS OF WISDOM
composed by Ella Shurin
Music Direction, Velvel Pasternak

1. Ezehu Chacham 1:55
2. Hazor’im B’dima 1:30
3. Al Sh’losha D’varim 1:50
4. Et Lifrots 2:45
5. Talmide Chachamim 2:40
6. Shalach Lachmicha 1:50
7. Lo M’komo 2:00
8. Mitzva Goreret 1:55

Produced and Directed by Velvel Pasternak
© by TARA Publications, 1975