**Strauss/Warschauer Duo: Biographies**

**Deborah Strauss** and **Jeff Warschauer** are sweet and soulful performers who draw from klezmer, Yiddish, Hasidic and liturgical music and culture, adding their own original compositions and song settings. Their music is grounded in tradition, yet thoroughly contemporary.

They were both longtime members of the Klezmer Conservatory Band, one of the premiere groups of the klezmer revival, and have performed with legendary violinist Itzhak Perlman on film and in concert.

Now in their 18th year as the Strauss/Warschauer Duo, they have performed to overwhelming acclaim in such diverse venues as the Philadelphia Folk Festival, Great Britain’s Fiddles on Fire, the Jewish Culture Festival in Cracow, Poland, and the Art of Yiddish in Los Angeles with actor and singer Theodore Bikel.

Deborah and Jeff are Yiddish speakers, and have researched and collected Yiddish and Hebrew songs and instrumental melodies since the 1980s. They lead some of the most popular klezmer music, Yiddish song and traditional dance workshops throughout North America, and Eastern and Western Europe. Both teach regularly at KlezKamp: The Yiddish Folk Arts Program, KlezKanada, Yiddish Summer Weimar, and the Warsaw International Summer Seminar in Yiddish Language and Culture.

**Jeff Warschauer:**

Jeff is Founding Artistic Director and Senior Artistic Advisor of the KlezKanada Institute for Yiddish/Jewish Culture and the Arts, is on the faculty of Columbia University in New York, and is a graduate student in Cantorial Music and Modern Jewish Studies at the Jewish Theological Seminary.

**Deborah Strauss:**

Deborah is an award-winning children’s educator and a highly regarded Yiddish dancer and dance leader. Her recent music collaborations include “Fidlroyz” and “Voices of Ashkenaz” with the German klezmer group, Tickle in the Heart, “The Kadya Project: Voices of the Yiddish Fiddle,” with violinists Abigale Reisman and Keryn Kleiman, and “Zeller/Vromens/Strauss,” 3 fiddles in a boundary-breaking collaboration of North German and Yiddish music. Deborah studied violin at Rutgers University and ethnomusicology at the University of Chicago.