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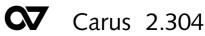
# Choral Repertoire from Israel

for mixed voices

edited by Maya Shavit

Carmina mundi





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Covers by Max Ackermann (1887–1975), Ackermann-Archiv Bietigheim-Bissingen, Germany These paintings, whose forms are connected by fine lines, could be interpreted as bridges between continents, nations, and cultures, and thus could portray music as a bridge of song. In the 26 years since International Federation for Choral Music (IFCM) was founded, we have worked tirelessly to achieve its stated mission: ... to facilitate communication and cultural exchange through choral music. We are pleased to announce a new collaboration with Carus-Verlag to publish fresh, interesting international repertoire and make it available to choirs around the world. Through this partnership, IFCM will help select respected editors whose job it will be to select music from their region of the world that meets the criteria and makes possible cultural exchange.

I am certain that most conductors around the globe are like me, in that they are constantly searching for interesting repertoire that not only is accessible, but that reflects the many cultures of the world. We feel positive that this collaboration will open up further opportunities to achieve this goal and in doing so will help create a more peaceful world through a greater artistic understanding of other lands.

Please refer to the *International Choral Bulletin* for present and coming volumes and CDs, and how you can obtain them. Look for the IFCM and Carus logos for quality international repertoire!

> Michael J. Anderson, Vice-President International Federation for Choral Music

### Foreword

Israeli music is rich in its variety of styles and colors. It has many sources of inspiration, which are all expressed in the multitude of songs sung by one and all. In many parts of the world, folk songs are passed down from generation to generation verbally, whereas in Israel, this tradition is virtually non-existent, the exception being the songs derived from the various traditions of the many ethnic groups who immigrated to Israel from all over the world.

Musicians who came from a Western tradition have composed most of what is known today as Israeli songs. Many of these songs have become known as the Classics of Israeli music.

In this collection the chosen songs are based mainly on texts of Biblical source and on poems written by some of our leading poets: Chaim Nachman Bialik, Rachel, Chana Senesh, Shimrit Or.

Among the composers are two of the pioneer-composers, those who were of the first generation born in Israel: David Zehavi and Emanuel Zamir. Other names of composers and arrangers in this collection belong to younger generation, people who write and compose today, taking active part in the cultural life of modern Israel : Nira Chen, Sara Shoham, Pnina Inbar, Tzvi Sherf, Kobi Oshrat, David Morse and Gideon Efrati.

A significant point may be mentioned in regard with the two songs by Nira Chen, to Biblical texts of Song of Songs: These tunes were composed in a close collaboration between the composer and a leading figure in the dance-scene: Rivka Shturman, member of the same Kibbutz as Nira Chen.

Ms. Shturman was a pioneer in the field of shaping the new, modern tradition of Jewish Holidays, by composing dances based on simple, folk-like steps. Many of her dances, such as Dodi Li and Iti Milevanon are well known now all over the world as Israeli Folk Dances.

Maya Shavit

### Hebrew Pronunciation Guide

Vowels:			Consonants:		
a as in e as in i as in o as in u as in ei as in ai as in	"cut" "ever" "in" or "Italy" "au revoir" "book" "day" "eye"	ch g sh ts z h	as in as in as in as in as in as in	"chutspa" "get" (always hard) "shop" "boats" "zebra" "hot"	



Born on Kibbutz Maa'barot, Israel, **Maya Shavit** studied at the Music Teachers College in Tel-Aviv and is a graduate of the Musicology Department of Tel-Aviv University. She studied choral conducting in Israel under Gary Bertini and at the Guildhall School of Music in London under John Alldis. She is the Musical Director of the Efroni Girls' Choir, which she founded in 1981. The choir has received international acclaim through concert-tours that have taken it to central Europe, Scandinavia, Canada, the USA and Japan. Maya Shavit is one of the most active members on the Israeli choral scene today. For many years, she has focused on promoting choral music through the commissioning of new works both for children's choirs throughout the country and abroad as well as for her own Efroni Choir. This project has created new interest in children's choirs in Israel and as a result many Israeli choirs have attained success on an international level. Today Maya Shavit is the head of "Hallel", the Israeli Choral Organization, and she also leads many projects aimed at helping conductors and choirs to achieve choral excellence at the highest levels.

### 1 Shabat Hamalka - Sabbath, the Queen

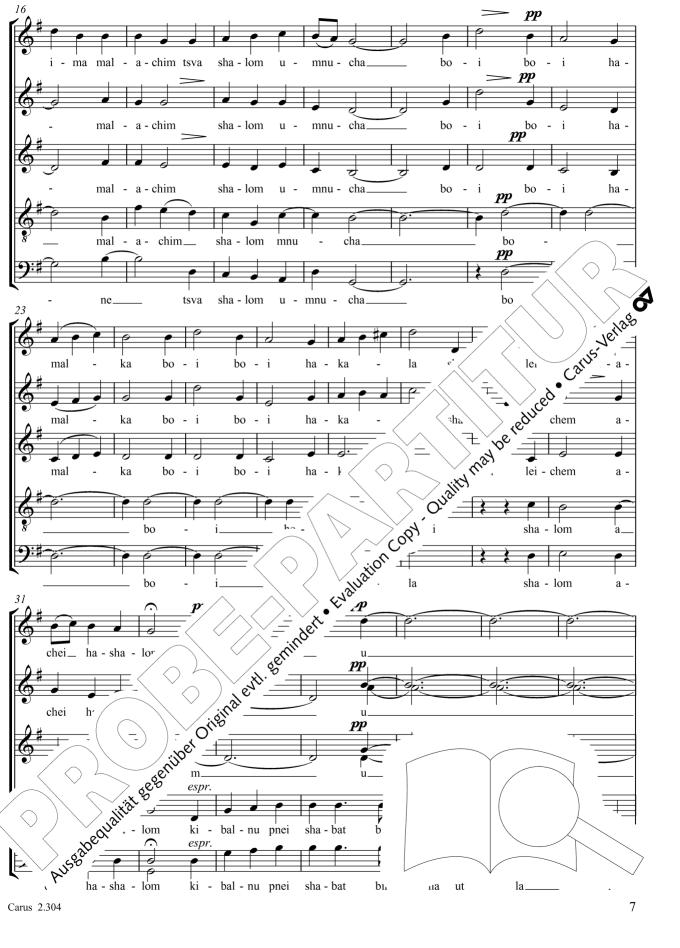
Text: Chaim Nachman Bialik Music: Pinchas Minkovsky Arr: Sara Shoham

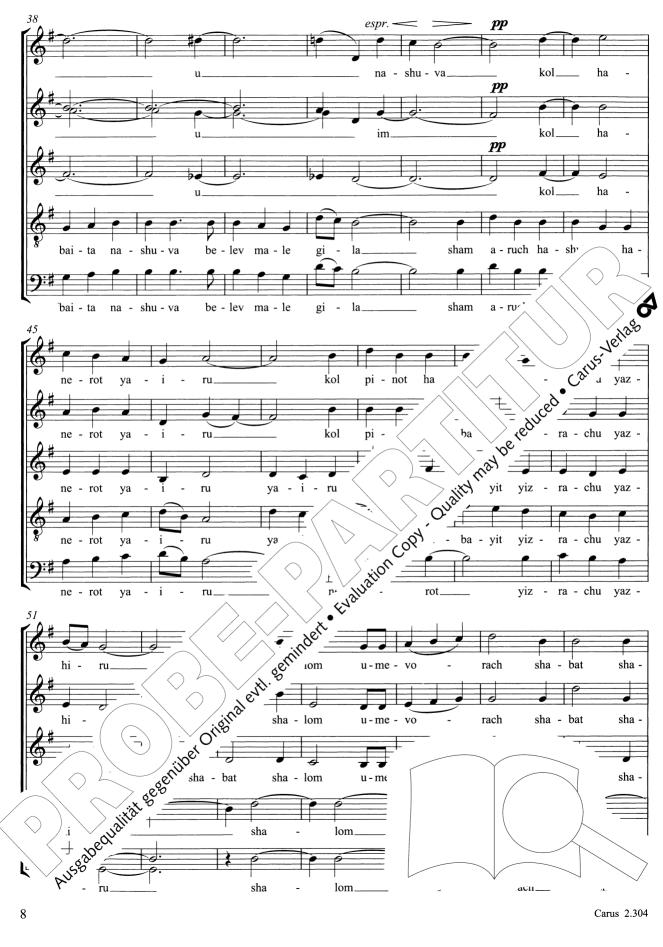


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שבת המלכה



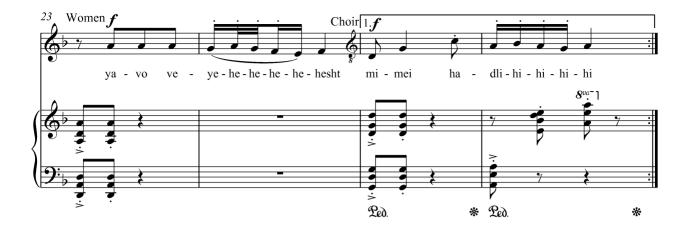


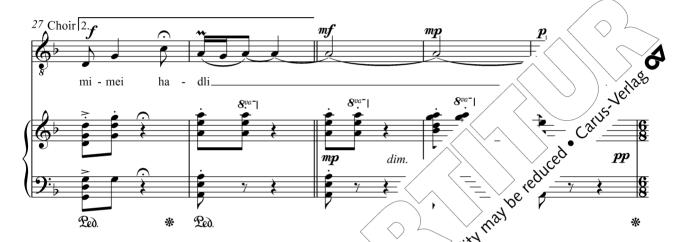


2 Ali Be'er - Rise Up, Well עלי באר

Text: Chaim Nachman Bialik Music: Nachum Nardi & Sara Levi Tanai Arr: Sara Shoham



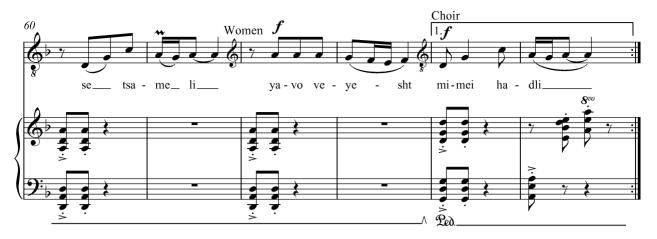










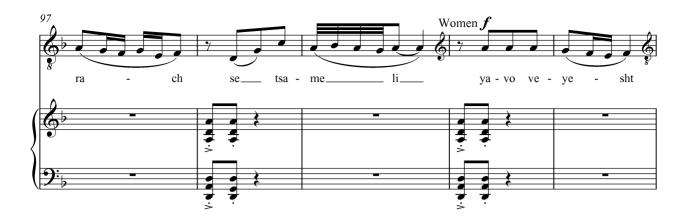














# 3 Bifat Hakfar - On The Outskirt, Of The Village בפאת הכפר

Text and Music: Emanuel Zamir Arr: Sara Shoham





















## 4 Halicha Lekesaria - Walking to Caesarea הליכה לקיסריה

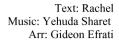






# 5 Ve'ulai - Maybe

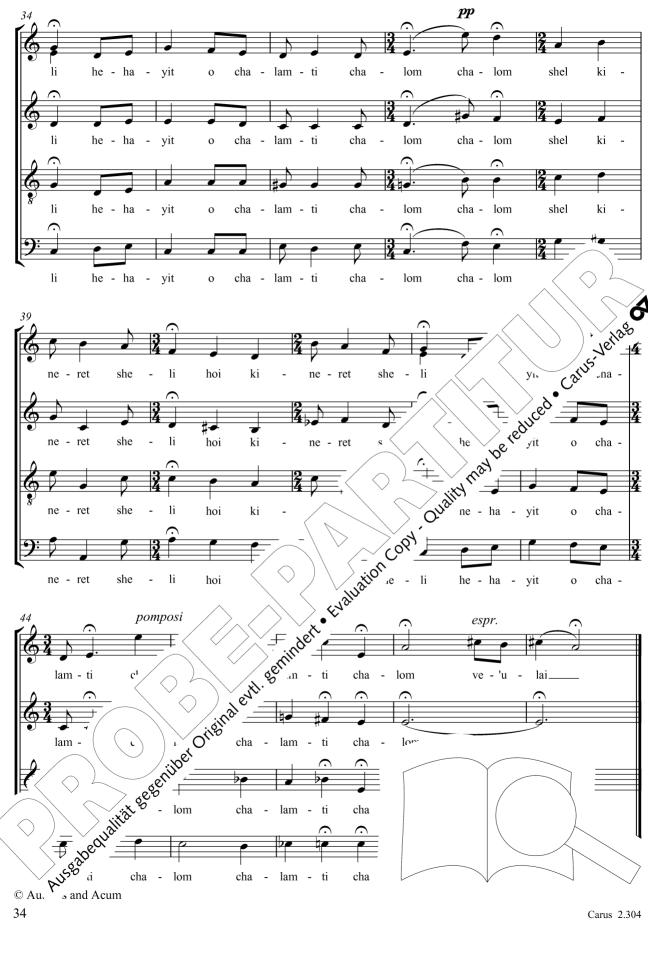
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### 6 Dodi Li - My Beloved Is Mine דודי לי

Text: Song of Songs Music: Nira Chen Arr: David Morse



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## 7 Iti Milevanon - Come With Me From Lebanon אתי מלבנון

Text: The Song of Songs Music: Nira Chen Arr: David Morse









## 8 Haduda'im - The Mandrakes הדודאים





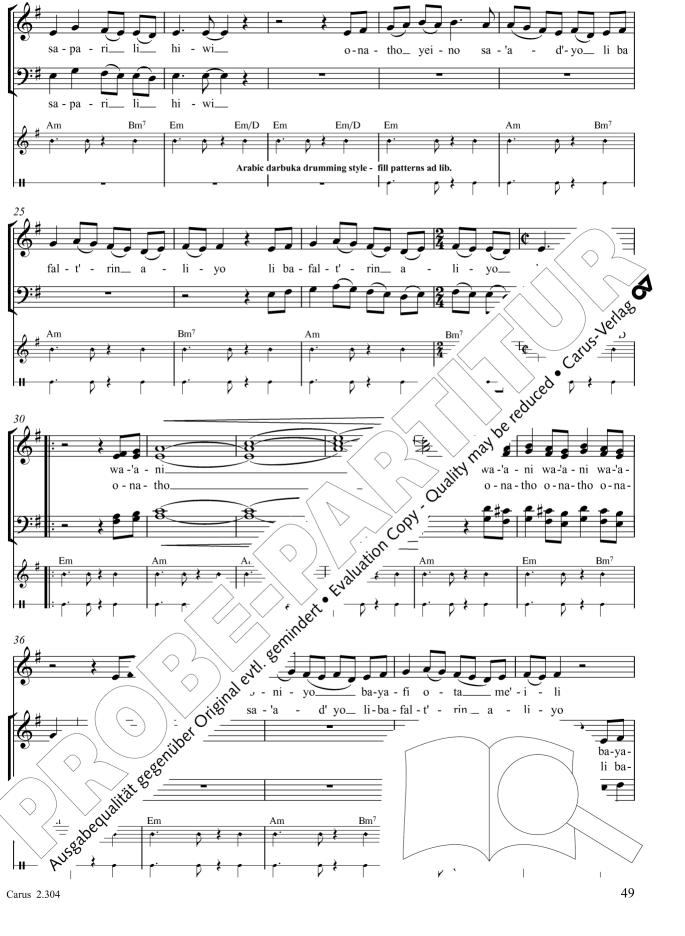




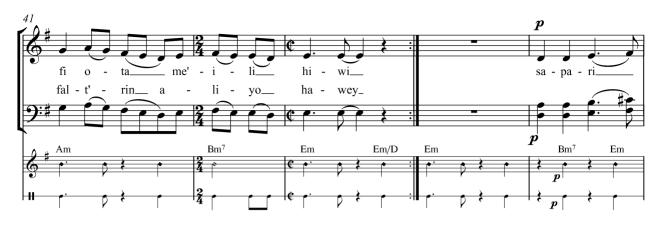


## 9 Sapari Tamo - Tell Me, You Innocent One ספרי תמה

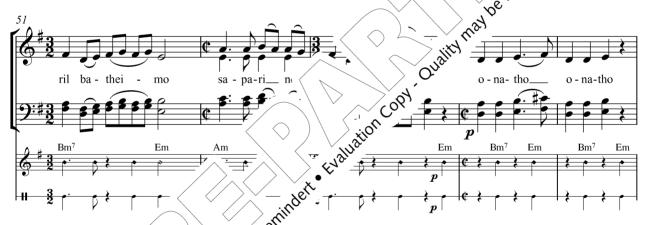




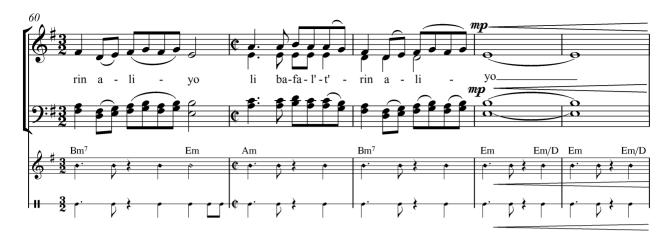
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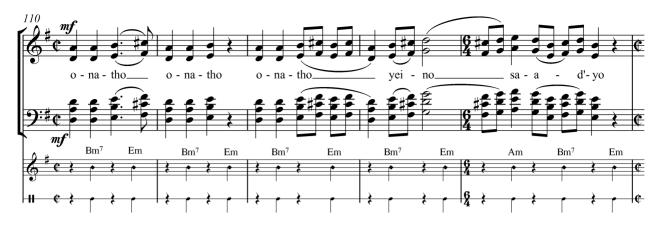


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# 10 Halleluja

Text: Shimrit Or Music: Kobi Oshrat Arr: Pnina Inbar

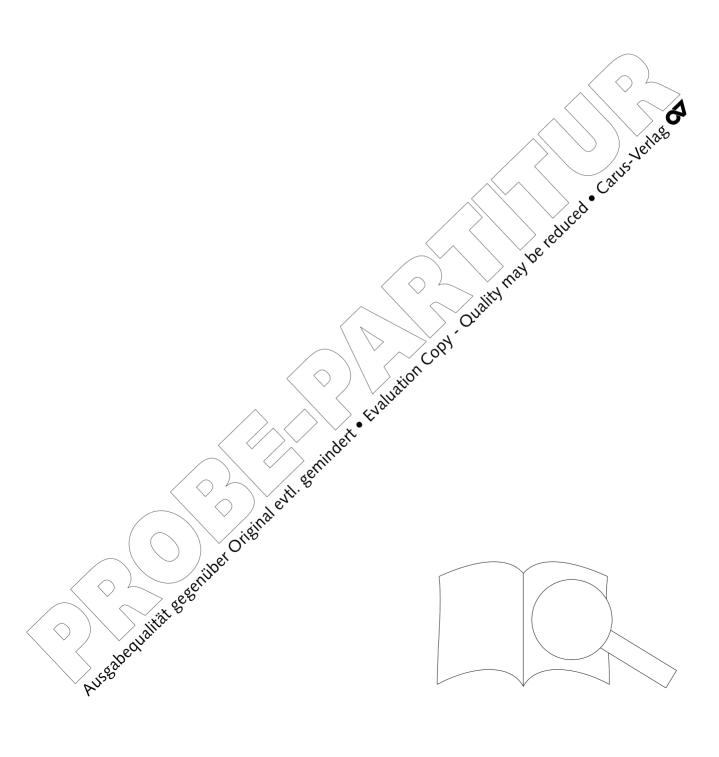


הללויה









### **Biographies**

Se'adya Ben-Amram apparently lived and worked in the early seventeenth century.

Chaim Nachman Bialik (1873-1934) was one of the pioneers among modern Hebrew poets. He came to be recognized as Israel's National poet.

Nira Chen, composer, pianist and musical-pedagogue, lives in Kibbutz Ein-Harod. Her songs were influenced by the traditional steps of the Yemenite dances.

Gideon Efrati, composer, conductor, pianist, arranger and active singer, currently works to preserve the heritage of different ethnic groups and Jewish cultures by transcribing, arranging and recording their music without changing its authenticity.

Pnina Inbar (Pinkiert), conductor, singer, arranger and a voice-training teacher. Ms. Inbar is the founder and conductor of the Naama Women's Choir, and the Meggido mixed Choir. She received the "Conductor's Award" at two international competitions sponsored by Interkultur. Since 2003 she has been the conductor of the Shani Girls Choir from the Jezreel Valley Arts Center. The singers are Jewish, Arab Christian and Muslim, with repertoire representing many different cultures.

Pinchas Minkovsky (1859-1924), lived in Odessa and wrote most of his music there. He composed primarily songs to Jewish texts. He never came to <sup>1</sup>

David Morse, conductor and arranger. Liv butz Magen and conducts the Eshkol Choir Beer-Shiva Students-choir. His ar reme widely performed in Israel and ah

Nachum Nardi (1901-1977 influenced by Eastern an

Shimrit Or, poet and Ya'acov Orland have been set l her most farma

Kobi m

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erwi meloc of the line of r be of the line Aussabequalität arovision Song Contest with Hal-

Rachel (Blustein) (1890–1931) became a poet at the age of 15 and to this day she is considered as one of the most important poets of modern Israel. She lived for some years in Kibbutz Degania near lake Kineret, and died of tuberculosis at a young age. Many songs were composed to her poems.

Chana Senesh (1921–1944), poet and Israel's national heroine, Senesh returned to her native Hungary in 1943 to help rescue Jews. She was captured and executed at the age of 23.

Yehuda Sharet (1901–1979), composer, vi music pedagogue, lived many years in K where he composed most of his se groundwork for the creation of new celebrating the Jewish Holidays

Tzvi Sherf. born in Israel conductor of vocal e ments are an origir classical and por

be reduced Sara Shoh Jstigious Israel ้ำทะโ .ar Award, ir ∫ pianist. Her comy choirs in Israel and positi ten he ab Quality Juded and played on the ^^us ael Broadcasting service. posing competitions in Israel, .J the IBLA competition (New COPY okyo). Recipient of the Prime-Min-.mposers in Israel.

Evaluation , Tanai (1911–2005), Israeli composer of ite origin. A dancer, choreographer, and ballet .ctor, who founded the Inbal Dance Theatre in ,949, creating over 40 dances for it.

Emanuel Zamir (1925–1962) was a pioneer composer who wrote many shepherds songs, both lyrics and melodies, to Biblical themes.

David Zehavi (1910-1975). The first Israeli-born composer. Hr '→ Na'an, were most ng, A Caravan i of 17 and is kno ; are many of I was written in he found

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#### 1. Shabat Hamalka (Sabbath, the Queen) 4. Halicha Lekesariya (Walk to Caesarea) Text: C. N. Bialik Text: C. Senesh The sun on the treetops is no longer seen, Oh God, my God, come, gather, to welcome the Sabbath Queen, May these things never end: behold her descending, the holy, the blessed, the sand and the sea. and with her, the angels of peace and of rest. the rush of the waters. Come, come, the Queen, the brilliance of the heavens, come, come, the Bride, the prayer of Man. peace [also] to you, the angels of peace. 5. Ve'ulai (Maybe) Text: Rachel 2. Ali Be'er (Rise up, well) Text: C. N. Bialik be reduced . Carus vertas And maybe these things never And maybe I never rose at Rise up, well, to work it by the sweat c well, rise! Pour out your golden water to fill the bucket. On long and blazir atop a cart full of A young lamb, pure and soft, never did I ra a young lamb, thirsty for me, will come and become weakened 4. I was n' Kı from the water of the bucket. and i Qualitymay 0<sup>1</sup> ere **3.** Bifat Hakfar (On the outskirts of the village) Text: E. Zamir CORY Evaluation Evening, and the charming, joyful sounds can be heard around the well, on the c Li (My beloved is mine) village. the Song of Songs Aussabedualität eeseniiber Orieinale ung This is the meeting time betweer י she help their thirsty cattle, and <sup>4</sup> My beloved is mine and I am his; their jars from the well. He tends his flock among the lilies. The sounds turn into a Who is this that cometh up from the wilderness, The flute is depicted Decked with myrrh, myrrh and frankincense? The water being p Thou hast ravished my heart, onomatopoeic 'r My sister, my spouse. Awake o north wind; and come, thou south. The arrange between th

Texts – translations and paraphrases

7. Iti Milevanon (Come with me from Lebanon) Text: The Song of Songs

Come with me from Lebanon My bride, with me from Lebanon From the lion's dens. From the peak of the Snir and Hermon mountains.

Thou art fair, my love, thou hast dove's eyes. This is my beloved, and this is my friend, O daughters of Jerusalem, this is my friend.

8. Haduda'im (The mandrakes) Text: The Songs of Songs

7:14 The mandrakes give forth fragrance, and at our doors are all manner of precious fruits; 1:16 Behold, thou art fair, my beloved, yea, pleasant; 8:14 And be thou like a gazelle or a young hart.

9. Sapari Tamo (Tell me, you innocent one) Text: Se'adya Ben-Amram

The poem is signed with the author's full name in acrostic at the top of the 11 stanzas. It is written mostly in Hebrew, apart from the third and fourth stanzas, which are in Arabic.

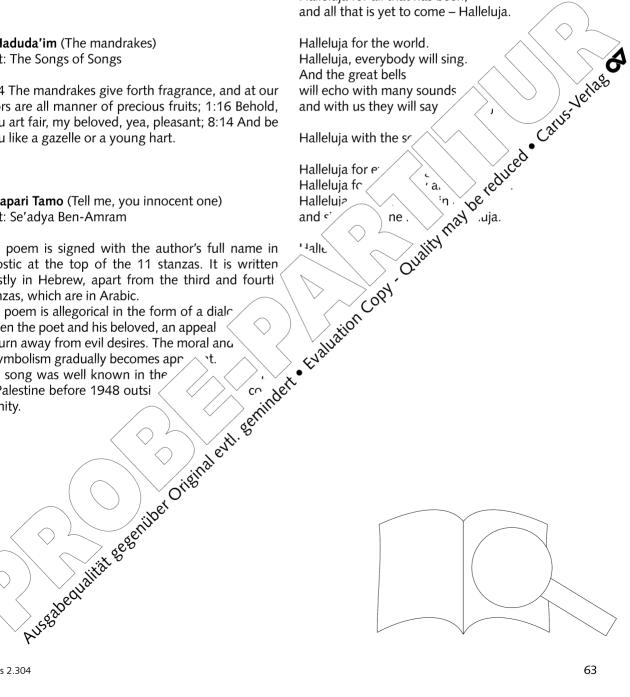
The poem is allegorical in the form of a dialo tween the poet and his beloved, an appeal to turn away from evil desires. The moral and al symbolism gradually becomes apr The song was well known in the of Palestine before 1948 outsi munity.

### 10. Halleluja

Text: Shimrit Or

Halleluja to the world. Halleluja, everyone will sing with one single word. The heart is filled with much gratitude and also beats: "What a wonderful world."

Halleluja with the song. Halleluia for a day that shines. Halleluia for all that has been. and all that is yet to come - Halleluja.



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