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FOLK SONGS OF RUSSIA
IN CHORAL SETTINGS BY KURT SCHINDLER

TWO
TRADITIONAL
YIDDISH MELODIES

Transcribed for
Chorus of Mixed Voices
a cappella

No. 6690

EÏLI, EÏLI
Incantation
(With Mezzo-Soprano Solo)
after the notation of Shalitt

Price, 12 cents net

No. 6689

AVRAHM, AVRAHM!
The Prayer of the Patriarchs
after the notation of J. Engel

Price, 12 cents net

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E·E·

AVRAHM, AVRAHM! The Prayer to the Patriarchs.

Yiddish Folksong

(From the notation of J. Engel of Moscow)

Avrahm, Avrahm, Batjka nash!
Tshevo nje chodish, tshevo nje prossish,
Tshevo nje molish Boga za nas!
Tchtob on nas vuivodil,
Tchtob on nas vuisvolil.
„Wohin?"
L'artzéinu!

Yitzchok, Yitzchok, Molēētyel
Tshevo nje chodish, tshevo nje prossish,
Tshevo nje molish Boga za nas!
Tchtob on nas vuivodil,—vuisvolil.
„Wohin?"
L'artzéïnu!

Yakov, Yakov, Pastuch nash!
Tshevo nje chodish, tshevo nje prossish,
Oy, tshevo nje molish Boga za nas!
Tchtob on nas vuivodil,—vuisvolil.
„Wohin?"
L'artzéïnu, le'éretz avosséïnu!

Literal Translation

Verse 1.

Abraham, Abraham, our Father!

Verse 2.

Isaac, our spokesman, our intercessor!

Verse 3.

Jacob, Jacob, our shepherd!
Why dost thou not go, why dost thou not implore,
Why dost thou not pray to God for us!
That he may lead us away,
That he may call us away—
"Whereto?"
To the land of our fathers!

For several reasons this song stands unique among all the Jewish folk-melodies of Russia (and there are thousands). Most of them are sung in the Yiddish language, a jargon mixed from elements of mediæval German, Hebrew, Polish, Lithuanian and a little Russian. But "Avrahm" contains almost entirely Russian words, only the last two words of each verse being German and Hebrew, respectively. Furthermore, the musical structure is greatly influenced by Russian folk-melody.

Jewish experts have offered many explanations for this phenomenon, which is evidenced by a comparatively small group of similar songs. Some assert that the Lithuanian Jews used the Russian language instead of their jargon during the eighteenth century, and that the above-mentioned songs date back to this period. But the historical explanation, as given in Ginsburg's and Marek's preface to their edition of "Hebrew Folksongs in Russia" (Petrograd, 1901), seems to have more semblance of truth. Under the reign of Tsar Nikolai I obligatory military of 25 years' duration was introduced in Russia (1825–1855). The young Jewish boys, who were thus separated from their families, and who had to live far from the "pale" among only Russian people, soon began to learn the Russian language and kept only a dim remembrance of Hebrew and Yiddish words. It is to these so-called "Nikoláyevski Soldati" or "Póimanniki" that, in all probability, the preceding song has to be attributed.

Needless to say, "Avrahm" is included among these choral settings not for its historical curiosity, but for its singular pathos and human appeal. K. S.

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12 cents net

Avrahm, Avrahm!

The Prayer to the Patriarchs

Yiddish Folksong

Traditional Poem
from White Russia

Free Setting for mixed chorus
from the notation of J. Engel (Moscow) by
Kurt Schindler

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Un poco più mosso
That He may set us free,
Tshtob on nas vui-vo-dil,
Him who thrones in Heav-en a-bove!
vo nje mo-lish Bo-ga za nas!
That He may set us free,
Tshtob on nas vui-vo-dil,
Him who thrones in Heav-en a-bove! That He may set us free, That
vo nje mo-lish Bo-ga za nas! Tshtob on nas vui-vo-dil, Tshtob
Him who thrones in Heav-en a-bove!
vo nje mo-lish Bo-ga za nas!
That He may set us free,
Tshtob on nas vui-vo-dil,
Him who thrones in Heav-en a-bove! That He may set us free, That
vo nje mo-lish Bo-ga za nas! Tshtob on nas vui-vo-dil, Tshtob
Un poco più mosso
and lead us hence! Where-to?
nas vui-svo-lil. Wo-hin?
That He may lead us hence! Where-to?
Tshtob on nas vui-svo-lil. Wo-hin?
To
L'ar-
He may lead us hence! Where-to? Where-to?
on nas vui-svo-lil. Wo- -hin? Wo-hin?
That He may lead us hence! Where-to? Where-to?
Tshtob on nas vui-svo-lil. Wo- -hin? Wo-hin?
To
L'ar-
He may lead us hence! Where-to? Where-to?
on nas vui-svo-lil. Wo- -hin? Wo-hin?

Tempo Io
mf
f
To Pal - es - tine!
L'ar-tzéï - nu!
Fa - ther I - saac!
Yitz - chok, Yitz - chok,
Pal - es - tine!
tzéï - - nu!
I - saac, oh
Yitz - chok, oh
To Pal - es - tine!
L'ar-tzéï - nu!
Fa - ther I - saac!
Yitz - chok, Yitz - chok,
Pal - es - tine!
tzéï - - nu!
To Pal - es - tine!
L'ar-tzéï - nu!
Fa - ther I - saac!
Yitz - chok, Yitz - chok,
Tempo Io
Fa-ther I - saac! Be our spokes-man! Oh lend thine ear! And
Yitz-chok, Yitz - chok, Yitz-chok, Yitz-chok, Mo - lēēt - yel nash, Tshe -
I - saac! Oh be our spokes-man! Oh lend thine ear! And
Yitz - chok, oh Yitz-chok, Yitz-chok, Mo - lēēt - yel nash, Tshe -
Fa - ther I - saac! Be our spokes-man! lend thine ear! And
Yitz - chok, Yitz - chok, Yitz-chok, oh Mo - lēēt - yel nash, Tshe -
Fa - ther I - saac! Be our spokes-man! lend thine ear! And take our
Yitz - chok, Yitz - chok, Yitz-chok, oh Mo - lēēt - yel nash, Tshe - vo, tshe -

take our pray - ers, our sup-pli - ca - tions to Him who thrones in
vo nje cho - dish, tshe - vo nje pros - sish, tshe - vo nje mo - lish
take our pray - ers, our sup - pli - ca - tions, oh! to Him who thrones in
vo nje cho - dish, tshe - vo nje pros - sish, oy, tshe-vo nje mo - lish
take our pray - ers, our sup - pli - ca - tions, oh! to Him who thrones in
vo nje cho - dish, tshe - vo nje pros - sish, oy, tshe-vo nje mo - lish
pray - ers to Him, our sup - pli - ca - tions, oh! to Him in
vo nje cho - dish, tshe - vo nje pros - sish, oy, nje mo - lish
Un poco più mosso
Heav - en a - bove! That He may set us free, That He may
Bo - ga za nas? Tshtob on nas vui - vo - dil, Tshtob on nas
Heav - en a - bove!
Bo - ga za nas?
Heav'n! To our Lord! That He may set us free and
Bo - ga za nas? Tshtob on nas vui - vo - dil, nas
Heav - en a - bove! To our Lord! That He may set us free and
Bo - ga za nas? ah! za nas? Tshtob on nas vui - vo - dil, nas
Heav'n, to our Lord! That He may set us free, That He may
Bo - ga za nas? Tshtob on nas vui - vo - dil, Tshtob on nas
Heav'n, to our Lord! That He may set us free!
Bo - ga za nas? Tshtob on nas vui - vo - dil,
Un poco più mosso

Where - to?
Wo - hin?
rit.
a tempo
ff
f
lead us forth! Where - to? Where - to? To Pal - es - tine!
vui-svo-lil. Wo - hin? Wo - hin? L'ar - tzéï - nu!
Agitato
Fa-ther A - bram! Hear thy chil-dren's cry! Fa-ther I - saac! Heed thy children's wail!
Avrahm, A - vrahm, Avrahm, Bat-jka nash! Yitzchok, Yitzchok, oh mo-lēēt-yel nash!
Fa-ther! oh heed our wail!
mo - lēēt - yel nash!
Ah! Fa-ther hear!
Ah! Bat-jka nash!
Agitato come una lamentazione
straziando

Più calmo, piangendo
Ja - - - cob, shield thy
Ya - - - kov, Pa - - - stuch
fp
Fa - ther Ja - cob! Fa - ther Ja - cob! Is - rael's shep - herd!
Ya - kov, Ya - kov, Ya - kov, Ya - kov, Ya - kov, Ya - kov,
Ja - - - cob,
Ya - - - kov,
Ja - - - cob, shield thy
Ya - - - kov, Pa - - - stuch
Più calmo, piangendo
flock!
nash!
cresc. molto
Shield thy flock! Oh take our pray - ers, Oh heed our suff' - ring!
Pa - stuch nash! Tshe - vo nje cho - dish, tshe - vo nje pros - sish,
flock! Oh take our pray - ers, Oh heed our suff - 'ring and pain!
nash! Tshe-vo nje cho - dish, tshe-vo nje pros - sish, tshe-vo

disperato
ff
Plead for us be - fore the Al - might - y a - bove! That
Oy, tshe - vo nje mo - lish Bo - ga za nas? Tshtob
Plead for us be - fore the Al - might - y a - bove!
Oy, tshe - vo nje mo - lish Bo - ga za nas?
Plead be - fore the Al - might - y a - bove! That
Oy, nje mo - lish Bo - ga za nas? Tshtob
the Al - might - y a - bove!
mo - lish Bo - ga za nas?
Plead for us be - fore the Al - might - - - y! That He may
Oy, tshe - vo nje mo - lish Bo - - - ga? Tshtob on nas
Plead for us be - fore the Al - might - y a - bove!
Oy, tshe - vo nje mo - lish Bo - ga za nas?
Plead be - fore the Al - might - - - y! That He may
Oy, nje mo - lish Bo - - - ga? Tshtob on nas
disperato
ff
Un poco più mosso
He may set us free, and
on nas vui - vo - dil, nas
He may set us free, That He may
on nas vui - vo - dil, Tshtob on nas
That He may set us free, That He may
Tshtob on nas vui - vo - dil, Tshtob on nas
ff
set us free, That He may lead us all!
vui - vo - dil, Tshtob on nas vui - svo - lil!
set us free, That He may lead us all!
vui - vo - dil, Tshtob on nas vui - svo - lil!
Un poco più mosso
ff

ff
riten.
a tempo
fff
lead us all! Where - to?
vui - svo - lil! Wo - hin?
To L'ar -
Pal - es - tine!
tzéï - nu!
To Pal - es - tine, to the land of our fa - thers!
L'ar - tzéï - nu, l'é - retz a - vo - sséï - nu!
Pal - es - tine, to the land of our fa - thers!
tzéï - nu, l'é - retz a - vo - sséï - nu!
p

N. Y. Febr. 1917

Folk-Songs of Russia in Choral Settings

By KURT SCHINDLER

Mixed Voices

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