

WAKS- Yiddish voices

Reviews

“... by harmonizing or alternating Mandos’ lyrical voice with the older performers, one senses that two worlds, one destroyed and one living, have been synthesized to form something that bridges this span of time. The fact that hardly any of these Yiddish songs or versions of songs are known today makes this project even more full of *chutspah*.

Let us hope that this will be the first of many imaginative recordings to bring original artistry to the old but still powerful field recordings of Yiddish singers.”

*Itzik Gottesman,
Senior Lecturer in Yiddish Language and Culture University of Texas at Austin,
Director of blog “Yiddish Song of the Week”.*

“Thanks to the WAKS project, however, the recorded Yiddish voices are given a new life, a new context. One that shows deference, respect and knowledge while at the same time recognizing the waxen singers as colleagues. As such, they are taken on with all their musical wealth and competence and with all their shortcomings. ...Inge Mandos has once said : “I simply longed for to sing with them,” and this project is the result of years of study, musical imagination, both feet firmly on the ground, and a heart full of respect.”

Dr. Diana Matut (Seminary for Judaistic and Jewish studies, Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, member of the Ensembles simkhat hanefesh)