

# EYN VELT

1. DER GAZEBO (6:51) Brian Bender
2. EL JUDIO (8:06) Brian Bender
3. PAPIROSN (6:31) Bulgarian Folk Melody
4. AVADIM HAYENU (5:06) Hebrew Song
5. HEBRAISH (7:03) Brian Bender
6. DI GRINE KUZINE (3:40) Abe Schwartz
7. SHLOIMELE MALKELE (7:09) J. Rumshinsky
8. LONG ISLAND GROOVE (4:33) Chassidic Nigun
9. JAHDONAI (4:26) Brian Bender
10. ARTIK (6:37) Turkish Melody
11. BOBOVER BINGHI (4:40) Chassidic Nigun

Total Time 65:43

*with special guests:* Alicia Svigals      Frank London  
Charles Neville      Stuart Brotman  
Backa Niang      Jose Gonzalez

**Original and traditional Jewish melodies blended with  
Latin, Caribbean, African and Middle Eastern rhythms**

1. **DER GAZEBO** (Brian Bender) (6:51)  
*This tune combines an original Jewish melody with an Arabic-Turkish rhythm. At times the horn section has a Caribbean sound.*  
 Brian Bender - melodica, trombone, trumpet, keyboard (accordion)  
 Alicia Svigals - fiddle  
 Raquy Danziger - tar, riqq, darbouka  
 Michael DiMartino - djun djun  
 Mohammed Mejour - nay
  
2. **EL JUDIO** (Brian Bender) (8:06)  
*An original Klezmer melody arranged with a Latin Jazz groove. It has also been recorded as a traditional Klezmer tune entitled "Bender's Bulgar".*  
 Brian Bender - trombone, piano  
 Frank London - trumpet  
 Lise Brown - flute  
 Jose Gonzalez - acoustic guitar, cuatro  
 Stuart Brotman - bass  
 Hiram Rivera - timbales  
 Hillary Noble - congas, bongos  
 Bob Weiner - drums  
 Rolando Bobo - maracas, guiro
  
3. **PAPIROSN** (Traditional Bulgarian Folk Melody) (6:31)  
*Herman Yablokoff composed lyrics for this traditional Bulgarian Folk melody, telling the tale of an orphaned cigarette peddler freezing in the rain on a street corner. The melody has been arranged with a Samba feel.*  
 Brian Bender - melodica, trombone  
 Alicia Svigals - fiddle  
 Ken LaRoche - flute  
 Jose Gonzalez - acoustic guitar, cuatro  
 Heshima Yager - electric bass  
 Jim Weber - drums, Brazilian percussion (surdo, agogo bell, shaker, cuica, tamborim)
  
4. **AVADIM HAYENU** (Traditional Hebrew Song) (5:06)  
*Hebrew Reggae Lives! The words to this traditional Passover song mean "Once we were slaves, now we are free."*  
 Brian Bender - vocals, melodica, trombone, piano, organ, djembe, percussion  
 Demse Zullo - drums, afuche, tambourine  
 Garrett Sawyer - bass
  
5. **HEBRAISH** (Brian Bender) (7:03)  
*An original Klezmer melody set to an Arabic-Turkish rhythm. Also sort of a "Klezmatiks Reunion." Frank London sounded so good on this tune, I gave him two solos! And Alicia Svigals, well -- I like to call her the Jimi Hendrix of Klezmer fiddle...*  
 Brian Bender - trombone, melodica, baritone horn  
 Frank London - trumpet  
 Alicia Svigals - fiddle  
 Stuart Brotman - bass  
 Markus Bishko - flute  
 Michel Moushabek - tar, riqq, dumbek  
 Michael DiMartino - djun djun, dumbek
  
6. **DI GRINE KUZINE** (Abe Schwartz) (3:40)  
*A "little big band" Swing treatment to this classic Yiddish song. Lise Brown swings hard on this tune!*  
 Brian Bender - trombone, piano, keyboard bass  
 Lise Brown - alto and tenor saxophones  
 Grant Smith - drums

(Liner Notes for BRIAN BENDER & LITTLE SHOP OF HORAS – "Eyn Velt" )

7. **SHLOIMELE MALKELE** (J. Rumshinsky) (7:09)  
*Originally a Yiddish waltz, the rhythm has been adapted to an African feel in 4/4 time. With a surprise Latin twist towards the end.*  
 Brian Bender - trombone, trumpet  
 Alicia Svigals - fiddle  
 Lise Brown - flute  
 Jose Gonzalez - acoustic guitar  
 Rolando Bobo - bass, balafon  
 Shanti - djun djun, shekere  
 Backa Niang - djembe, djun djun
8. **LONG ISLAND GROOVE** (Traditional Chassidic Nigun) (4:33)  
*A traditional Chassidic nigun (wordless melody) arranged with a Calypso groove. This melody was taught to me by Sruli Dresdner.*  
 Brian Bender - trombone, keyboard (steel drums), percussion  
 Hillary Noble - congas  
 Dave Noonan - drums  
 Garrett Sawyer - bass  
 Jose Gonzalez - guitar
9. **JAHDONAI** (Brian Bender) (4:26)  
*More Hebrew Reggae, this time an instrumental. Legend says that King Solomon of Israel and Queen Sheba of Ethiopia had a son named Melanek I, who later became ruler of Ethiopia. Rastafarians often refer to Ethiopia as their spiritual homeland and furthermore see themselves as one of the Tribes of Israel.*  
 Brian Bender - trombone, melodica, piano, organ, percussion  
 Charles Neville - tenor and soprano saxophones  
 Alicia Svigals - fiddle  
 Rolando Bobo - bass  
 Kalpana Devi - hand drum  
 Dave Noonan - drums  
 Jahro - Vocals (Dance Hall section)
10. **ARTIK** (Traditional Turkish Melody) (6:37)  
*This beautiful melody was taught to me by two young musicians from Turkey. I have added some new parts to the original tune.*  
 Brian Bender - melodica, keyboard (accordion)  
 Alicia Svigals - fiddle  
 Mohammed Mejour - nay  
 Raquy Danziger - tar, riqq, darbouka
11. **BOBOVER BINGHI** (Traditional Chassidic Nigun) (4:40)  
*A traditional melody often played as a wedding march in Chassidic communities. It has been set to a Nyabinghi (folkloric Rastafarian) rhythm here. When a Jewish community sings a melody together, everyone can sing the melody in his or her own way while still singing with the group. The Nyabinghi, or heartbeat rhythm, is traditionally played in a very similar manner.*  
 Brian Bender - trombone, trumpet, baritone horn, melodica, percussion  
 Alicia Svigals - fiddle  
 Kalpana Devi - djembe, dumbek  
 Shanti - djun djun

*Hello and thanks so much for purchasing this CD!*

*I have always been drawn to the traditional musics of the world. For the past 15 years I have explored various traditional musics. Along my journey I have found great delight in the diversity of human beings and the depth of our cultural traditions.*

*When I began to compose music, what immediately emerged was a hybrid of the various traditional genres that I have been exposed to. Along my musical and cultural journey I have found many similarities between different musical traditions (rhythms, melodies, textures) which formed the basis for my compositions. The result is a hybrid of many genres that tries to maintain the integrity of each musical tradition.*

*I have really enjoyed composing, recording and performing this music. Many thanks to the wonderful musicians who have contributed their talents to this project.*

*Enjoy!*

*P.S. Many people ask me about the melodica. It is a small, windblown keyboard instrument that has reeds inside. It is similar in sound to the harmonica and the accordion.*

Brian Bender (trombone, keyboards, melodica, trumpet, vocals, percussion, composer) is based in the Northeastern USA. He has performed at Carnegie Hall, the Presidential Inauguration of Bill Clinton, the Great Pyramids of Egypt, Israel, West Africa (Cape Verde Islands), Alaska and throughout the United States. He performs frequently at clubs, festivals, schools, concerts, parties, etc. throughout New England, New York and beyond. He also teaches music classes, workshops and lessons (Improvisation, Jazz, Blues, World Music) to students of all ages.

He has performed extensively with a wide variety of bands, including Black Rebels (African Reggae), The Wholesale Klezmer Band (Jewish Folk Music), Big Bandemonium (Celtic), the Pangeans (World Beat), O.J. Ekemode and the Nigerian All-Stars (Afrobeat), Kotoja (Afrobeat, Juju), Shokazoba (Afrobeat), the World Beat Ensemble (World Music), the Alicia Svigals Klezmer Ensemble, the Berkshire Bateria Escola De Samba (Brazilian), La Perfecta (Salsa/Merengue), Revelacion (Latin Jazz), Di Bostoner Klezmer (Jewish Folk Music), the Brown Bag Guzzlers (Blues), Beans and Rice (Blues), The West End Blues Band (Blues), the Gumbo Jumbo Dixieland Band (Traditional Jazz), the Brian Bender Jazz Group (Jazz), Jaya The Cat (Ska), Lucky Seven (Ska), Jazzotree (Jazz & Poetry), Ibrahima Camera's World Beat (African), and others.

With the African Reggae group Black Rebels, Brian has opened up for The Wailers, Burning Spear, Culture, Israel Vibration, Toots and the Maytals and Steel Pulse at a variety of major Reggae festivals. With the Wholesale Klezmer Band he has shared the stage with Pete Seeger, Peter Paul & Mary and many other folk legends. He has also performed in numerous tribute concerts for the legendary jazz bandleader Sun Ra at venues such as the Knitting Factory (NYC) and the Southern University of New Orleans with Michael Ray, Kidd Jordan, Trudy Morse, Gunter Hampel, Billy Bang and others. In 1989 he was asked by Art Blakey to "sit in" with the Jazz Messengers at the Great American Music Hall (San Francisco, CA).