

# The wow factor

International entertainment is heading to Leeds – make sure you book out your diary for the last week of June.

A dynamic programme of international music, drama and comedy is heading your way when this year's International Jewish Performing Arts Festival comes to Quarry Hill in Leeds, so make sure you're in on the action.

Between 25 June and 1 July, four evenings of high quality UK and international entertainment will hit the stages of Northern Ballet and the Leeds College of Music, both located on St. Peters Square, Leeds.

Now in its 12th year and offering something for everyone, this entertainment showcase bursting with versatility will celebrate Jewish-related performing arts and talent on a huge scale.

The majority of artists come to Leeds this year from the US, Poland and Israel including the extremely talented **Doo Wap Girls** from Jerusalem. This vocal vintage trio offers a fresh musical perspective on all-time classics combined with unbeatable harmonies.

Offering a young energetic take on popular Klezmer music is **Klezmafour** from Poland. This talented group, currently heading to the final of the Polish equivalent of The X Factor, takes an innovative approach to this popular genre of music adding in catchy drum beats, Balkan sounds and a whole load of explosive energy.

For drama buffs, award winning US television and stage actress **Deborah Jean Templin** brings her celebrated one woman show Unsinkable



Tina Law sings Streisand Show, UK



The Doo Wap Girls, Israel

Women to the festival. Playing nine different female characters, Deborah Jean tells how Molly Brown and other extraordinary women on board the Titanic not only survived that night but changed their own lives and the world around them.

**Graffiti Classics** bring outrageous musical comedy to the festival. Four very talented but wacky characters on strings power hilariously through musical preconceptions of jazz, classical, opera and folk. This crazy four were a huge hit at this year's New Orleans Mardi Gras celebrations and have toured around the world.

Tipped to be popular are an all-star band from London who are known for having audiences out of their seats with a range of music genres such as The Twist, Cuban Dance, Mambo, West Indian Calypso, Surf Guitar and more. **The Yiddish Twist Orchestra**, although traditional by name, are anything but conventional and a must see at this year's festival.

Also included in the line up is **City of Lights**, a drama/cabaret performed by New York actress **Rebecca Joy Fletcher**; a **tribute show to the music of Barbra Streisand**; and popular comedian **Mark Maier** to name a few.

All shows are advertised on the festival website: [www.leedsjewishfestival.co.uk](http://www.leedsjewishfestival.co.uk). Tickets are on sale at the **MAZCC Centre, 311 Stonegate Road, Leeds**, or direct from the venues. Tickets can also be booked by phone at Makor **0113 2680899**. To request a festival programme, e-mail [info@makor.co.uk](mailto:info@makor.co.uk) or call Makor.



Graffiti Classics, London

*"This crazy four were a huge hit at this year's New Orleans Mardi Gras celebrations"*

**MAZCC Centre Box Office Times:**  
Monday – Thursday: 11am–2pm  
Sunday: 11am–1.30pm