



THE MAGIC NUMBER Three of the performers attending the International Jewish Performing Arts Festival are (l-r) Brenda Adelman, Lionel Blair and Rietta Austin

THE PERFECT TEN

Big ten brings top acts to Leeds for sparkling international Festival!

Don't miss the highlight of this summer, when 25 top quality international shows of music, drama, dance and comedy hit the stages of The Carriageworks, Millennium Square, Leeds, for the International Jewish Performing Arts Festival.

Celebrating ten outstanding years and running for five days, the Festival kicks off on Sunday 6 June with the legendary Lionel Blair. Lionel's hit show; 'Tap and Chat with Lionel Blair' is just the first in this bumper line-up of some of the best acts the Festival has seen to date.

Amidst beautifully choreographed songs and hailed 'scandalously charming' by the press, Lionel captivates his audience with spellbinding anecdotes, from tea at Number 10 to personal engagements with Liza Minnelli and his legendary performances with Sammy Davis Jnr.

The Festival is also packed with powerful drama including 'My Brooklyn Hamlet', the unbelievable true story of Brenda Adelman. Direct from New York, Brenda's acclaimed one-woman show is about family, murder, love, betrayal and the awesome power of forgiveness. In 1995 Adelman's mother was shot and killed by her father and within months he married her aunt. This is a story about love and hate, passion and numbness and how to find joy after you've lost everything.

Hip-hop, street

dance and some serious cool, offer a dynamic show for all ages when the Tel-Aviv Youth Performing Arts Academy return, by popular demand, for this huge celebration. Run by directors and choreographers from the former Soviet Union, the academy produces some of the slickest choreography displayed at international festivals – a must see.

Passionate Spanish and Gypsy rhythms hit the main stage with the beautiful and highly talented Mor Karbasi, international Ladino Diva. Ladino is the ancient Jewish dialect of Spanish. Mor and her band of top musicians are now in demand on the International circuit and will perform for one night only.

The Festival goes out with a bang, when The Joe Leader Collective, London, bring their sweltering hot jazz, funk soul and pop to the main stage. Hailed as one of the most popular performances to date at the Festival and a 'must have' for the tenth anniversary, this dynamic and diverse, top class show band, led by award winning, charismatic saxophonist, Joe Leader, will deliver a night to remember.

The collective features 'the lady with the big voice', vocalist Rietta Austin. Originally from New Zealand and described as being 'up there with Anastacia' by the music press, Rietta has appeared on the same bill as Bryan Adams, and supported Joe Cocker in Moscow.

If you're the type that likes to participate, why not come to the Tango taster by Tango Yorkshire or interactive laughter session with US comedian, Lenny Ravich.

These are just a few of the outstanding shows on offer at the Festival evenings, Sunday 6 June-Thursday 10 June.

Make sure you book this thrilling week of entertainment in your diary.

For more information visit www.leedsjewishfestival.co.uk

The Carriageworks box office: 0113 224 3801
Festival office: 0113 268 0899

SAX APPEAL

(below) Joe Leader and his Collective will be on the main stage

