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Klezmer Music to Ring Out

01.19.2007 | Culture and Society, Campus and Community The event is cosponsored by Dayton Christian Jewish Dialogue and the UD departments of religious studies, languages and music.

Klezmer, Eastern European Jewish folk music, has been revived in the United States and in Germany, where the music not only connects Jews to their traditions, but also has become a way for Germans to learn about Jewish culture.

Ortner, a music teacher in Augsburg, Germany, is a visiting musician at the University of Pittsburgh European Union Center of Excellence, exploring intercultural understanding through music and literature, primarily focusing on the Holocaust.

Retired UD professor Ken Rosenzweig, a member of the Dayton Christian Jewish Dialogue and who was instrumental in bring Ortner to Dayton, said Ortner, who is not Jewish, "pursues klezmer for the love of the music and as a symbol of reconciliation."

Her U.S. performances and work have centered on using this Jewish art form to promote interfaith understanding to a variety of audiences.

She will be accompanied by guitarist Steven Stuhlbarg, director of the Cincinnati Klezmer Project.

Ortner's performance is free and open to the public. Free parking for the Sears Recital Hall is located in Lot C, off Evanston Avenue, near Kettering Labs.

For information on the performance, contact Ken Rosenzweig at 937-298-7140 or by e-mail at ken.rosenzweig@udayton.edu.