



Renowned Ladino Singer Sarah Aroeste to Perform at the Main Library

Cambridge, MA, November 17, 2022 -- Sarah Aroeste, an international Ladino singer/songwriter and author will headline the second performance in Sacred Songs and Rituals, the Cambridge Public Library's music series celebrating sacred songs and rituals from around the world. The event will take place on Wednesday, December 7 at 6:30 p.m. in the Lecture Hall of the Main Library. The series is sponsored by the Friends of the Cambridge Public Library.

Inspired by her family's Sephardic roots in Macedonia and Greece, Aroeste has spent the last twenty years bringing her contemporary vision for Sephardic culture through music and books to audiences around the world. Aroeste writes and sings in Ladino, the Judeo-Spanish dialect spoken by Sephardic Jews who were expelled from the Iberian Peninsula in the 1490s. Sephardic Jews who left the Iberian Peninsula, including Aroeste's family, settled along the Mediterranean coast and the Middle East where they developed the language. In time, Ladino came to absorb the languages spoken along the Mediterranean coast. Today, the population of Ladino speakers is so small that it is considered an endangered language by UNESCO. Music is an important vehicle for the preservation of Ladino language and culture.

Aroeste trained as a classical opera singer at Westminster Choir College and at Yale University. She has released several albums of Ladino music for children and adults. In addition to producing music, Aroeste has also spoken widely and published many articles about ways to preserve Ladino language and culture. She is especially recognized for her work in introducing Ladino to young families. In 2016, Aroeste's Ora de Despertar children's project won a coveted Parents' Choice Award. She is currently working on writing Sephardic-themed books for children. [Registration is encouraged but not required to participate in this program.](#)

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