

Ron Benvenisti

Ron Benvenisti is widely recognized as an accomplished Pianist/Keyboardist, Arranger, Composer and Producer. His most recent released CDs are "Zaidy Avi" and "Aneinu Hashem".

Ron has studied piano with Professor Jan Gorbaty of Rutgers University, Director of the Chopin Foundation and piano and arranging with Tony Aless, the Musical Director for CBS and pianist with Woody Herman, two beloved giants who are fondly remembered.

Ron graduated The Cooper Union where he did early experiments with digital synthesis and sampling under a grant and fellowship from the National Institute of Science and Technology. Ron attended the City University of New York (CUNY) Masters of Music Program with a full scholarship and grant sponsored by the American Federation of Musicians Local 802 (NYC).

Ron emerged as an outstanding talent on the New York musical scene, playing in various jazz, funk and rock-fusion bands. He was part of the pioneering digital music scene developing some of the first PC software applications and hardware for digital sound synthesis and sampling. Ron's computer expertise led him to a 25 year day-gig as a valued systems consultant for Fortune 100 companies and the New York City Government as Associate Commissioner of Information Technology and Manager of Citywide Information Security.

Ron performed his first original recording when he was fourteen and shortly afterward at sixteen he was working with Academy Award winning composer Elmer Bernstein at Atlantic Records. During that period his band opened for Janis Joplin and Jimi Hendrix at Steve Paul's legendary "The Scene" in New York. His devotion to music education led him to perform many free concerts and street-theater performances in almost every New York City neighborhood. While under Elmer's tutelage, as Ron's Artist & Repertoire manager, his interest in the rock world would soon give way to a concentrated pursuit of jazz studies earning him the AFM scholarship.

Ron has kept up with his keyboard and digital music skills over the years, continuing to perform, record, compose and arrange in his state-of-the-art home studio, Sound Assets (www.soundassets.com).

Ron's pioneering efforts have also been applied to Biblical analysis from a musical perspective. In line with Torah and Jewish metaphysical traditions, he has composed a variety of compositions based on sequences of the Hebrew letters and their musical note equivalents according to the teachings of the great mystical Rabbis.

Heroically surviving the 9/11 WTC attack, while working for the NYC Department of Investigation, Ron re-evaluated his life priorities and has put his spiritual and musical sensibilities first. A recent newcomer to the Lakewood community, he is becoming more popular as a gifted performer and a staunch advocate of organized music education and appreciation. He and his wife of seventeen years (also a gifted vocalist) don't mind the army of kids (including his own) that come to play violin, drums, guitar and keyboards, ogling at the blinking lights that festoon his home studio. Ron hopes that one day there will be a formal space that they can go to learn, practice and perform in an organized and regular basis.

Toward that vision Ron is currently working with Wilbur Wittemann of The Lakewood Jazz Ensemble and Lakewood School System to enhance and develop a variety of music educational and appreciation programs.