

ResoNation Celebrates Sacred World Music



Miriam Peretz and Qadim Ensemble (PSR Chapel, Saturday)

The Pacific School of Religion chapel came alive on Saturday, September 21, as the GTU hosted the inaugural performance of *ResoNation: Sacred Sounds Beyond Borders*, Berkeley's first sacred world music festival. We welcomed to the stage six fantastic performers, all locally based and hand-selected by festival director (and GTU alum), Dr. Eleanor Shapiro. A wide range of religious traditions were represented, from Christian African Roots music to north Indian *baul* music and dance. The chapel was filled with joyful songs as hundreds of hands clapped to the beat.

ResoNation resumed the following day with an action-packed Sunday afternoon of hands-on musical workshops. The crowd gathered on the grassy quad at PSR as all of the performers from the previous night were joined by additional musicians to share their talents with the Berkeley community. People of all ages learned the technicalities of Eurasian and Eastern European chant, the movements of capoeira, how the music of Beyoncé was used in a womanist worship service, and so much more. We were lucky enough to have a cloudless day, filled with learning, laughs and timely reflection on the unifying quality of sacred music.

—Lydia Webster

GTU Center for the Arts & Religion



Kitka Women's Vocal Ensemble (PSR Chapel, Saturday)



West African Dance with Naomi Diouf
(Badè Musuem, Sunday)



Threshold Choir
(PSR Courtyard, Sunday)

Linda Tillery and the Cultural Heritage Choir
(PSR Chapel, Saturday)



Photographs by Jerryl Lynn Ruben