# Klezmer Duets & Trios

# Violin, Mandolin & Flute with Guitar Chords

based on

Kammen International Dance and Concert Folios
Nos. 1 and 9

arranged by Jack Kammen & William Scher compiled by Jos. Kammen © and distributed by J. & J. Kammen Music Co.

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Contents: 65 popular Klezmer tunes. Harmony, counterpoint, and rhythmic arrangements are published by Kammen for the 2nd Bb clarinet. These I transcribed into the key of C, edited, and augmented. Sources were the Kammens' editions for clarinet, violin, and piano. There are 40 tunes from No. 1, and 25 tunes from No. 9. Parts allow ensemble playing with readers of all the other Kammen editions.

Thanks to Joe Liebling and Stan Heilbrun for musical wisdom, taste, and advice.

I welcome corrections, suggestions and general feedback. Please write Barbara Stack c/o

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### Introduction

When I was about eleven years old, I was taken by a strong idea. I played the violin and cello and my sister, the violin. One of two close cousins played clarinet and piano, and her brother, drums. My dream was that we might someday find a way to play together. I lobbied each of them, and although each was willing to give it a try, none of us could imagine the scene, imagine what we'd do, what instrument we'd play, or the context or pretext for such an undertaking. We weren't a string quartet, a rock group, a Salvation Army Band, or any other ensemble any of us could imagine. I decided to sit on it for a while.

Then one day, I presumed to open the piano bench at my cousins' house. The piano had been my mother's as a child. I found an odd assortment of sheet music, including the tattered remains of one *Yosel, Yosel* by Nellie Casman, dated in the exotic 1923. My mother said that it had been a popular Yiddish song, and the basis for a successful 1938 American swing hit, *Joseph! Joseph!* A family conference concluded that I could take the music home if I would take good care of it. I have it today.

Time passed. I occasionally took out the precious piece of history, a popular song by a woman, a remnant of a culture which, at least sometimes, allowed a woman to be successful. More time passed. My uncle died and my cousins moved to a different house. And it was in that house that I brought the fruits of my contemplation of a piano score.

I arrived carrying four half-sheets of green music paper, each with a different cut on *Yosel, Yosel.* It was done in pencil and I had set it as a string quartet, the only quartet form I had ever seen. Untutored in arranging, I had lifted various lines from the piano score. However, we cousins never did manage to sit down and play together. Eventually, I went on to find my musical company with strangers.

So my fate remains in the hands of the larger music community. I dream of people making music together in living rooms, people who play many different instruments. I can live that dream, these days, in playing Klezmer music with all sorts of people: young and old, skilled instrumentalists and novices, Jews and non-Jews. And while many of us were educated to read music, we less rarely learned how to invent harmonies and rhythm lines. In the Kammen Folios I found a plethora of harmonies and rhythms, but cast in the Bb Clarinet version, inaccessible to players of C instruments, or to cellists. I began to make arrangements for myself, and then I couldn't stop.

Please note that I consider this a rough draft. Although slurs are indicated, these are, for the most part, those indicated in various Kammen editions, and not specifically tailored to string players. I have notes on violin fingering, straddling the line between classical conventions and the more mobile Gypsy style. This needs more research. I am aware of weaknesses in the chords for Folio No. 9, the lack of dynamic markings, and some parts of harmony and rhythm lines. I welcome feedback from any into whose hands fall a copy of this draft.

Finally, please note that it is the computer that made all this worth beginning.

## **CONTENTS**

#### Volume No. 1

2	Frailach No. 1			
4	Frailach No. 2			
6	Di Silberne Chasene No. 3			
8	Frailach No. 4			
10	Frailach No. 5			
12	Frailach No. 6			
16	Frailach No. 7			
18	Frailach No. 8			
20	Frailach No. 9			
22	Itzikel No. 10			
24	Shpielt Mir Klesmorimlach or			
	Die Macheteneste No. 11			
26	Frailach No. 12			
28	Roumanian Horra No. 13			
30	Bessarabian Horra No. 14			
32	Frailach No. 15			
34	Volach No. 16			
38	Frailach No. 17			
40	Frailach No. 18			
42	Frailach No. 19			
44	Kolomeike No. 20			
46	Kolomeike No. 21			
48	Kosotchok No. 22			
49	Ukranian Dance No. 23			
50	Russian Dance No. 24			
52	Ukranian Dance No. 25			
54	Kosotchok III No. 26			
56	Russian Sher I No. 27			
58	Russian Sher II No. 28			
60	Russian Sher III No. 29			
62	Yeshzi Polska Nie Sginele No. 30			
64	Oberek-Wieszu No. 31			
66	Oberek No. 32			
68	Poi Lastocha Poi or			
	Over The Sea No. 38			
70	Expectation No. 39			
72	Chosen-Kalle Mazel Tov No. 47			
74	Ot A Soi/Schwieger Tanz No. 48			
75	Lo Mir Sich Iberbehten No. 49			
76	Der Broiges Tanz No. 50			
78	Der Patch Tanz No. 51			
80	The Star Spangled Banner No. 52			

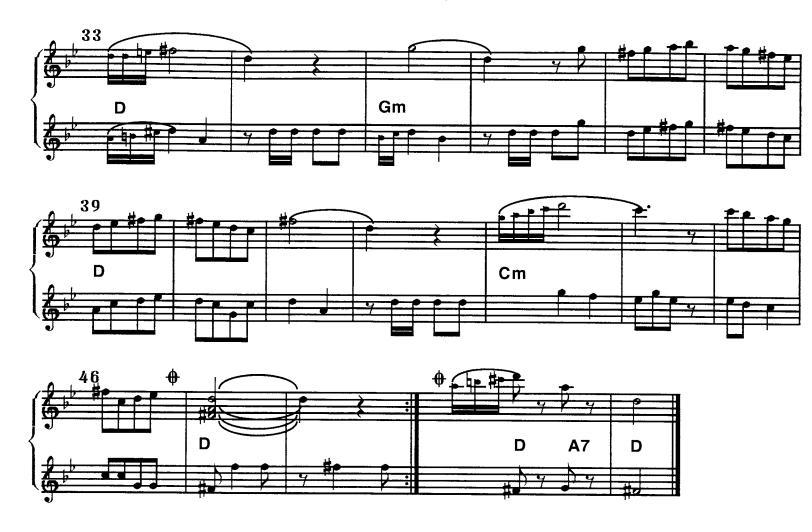
#### Volume No. 9

Frailach No. 10
Frailach No. 11
Frailach No. 12
Frailach No. 13
Frailach No. 14
Frailach No. 15
Boberiker Wedding Bulgar No. 16
Frailach No. 17
Wu Nemt No. 18
Jack Boogich Frailach No. 19
Jewish Overture INTRO No. 20
In A Klein Shtiebele No. 21
Glick No. 22
Mein Yiddishe Meidel No. 23
Hoo-tza-tza No. 24
Belz, Mein Shtetele Belz No. 25
Oi I Like She No. 26
Papirossen No. 27
Baigelach (Bublichki) No. 28
Rumanian Horra No. 29
Abrasha Fin Odess No. 30
Serba La Booga No. 31
Mikor Az Est Meselni Kezd No. 35
Polish Bamberrock No. 39
Cheiem's Neir Shtieler Bulgar No. 63





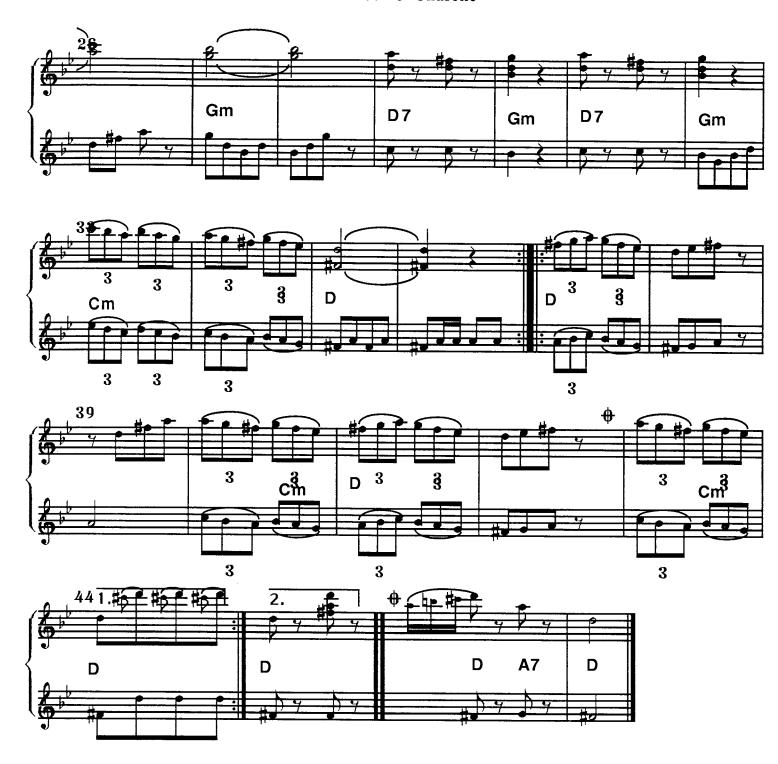




#### KAMMEN Folio No. 1, Frailach No. 3 Di Silberne Chasene



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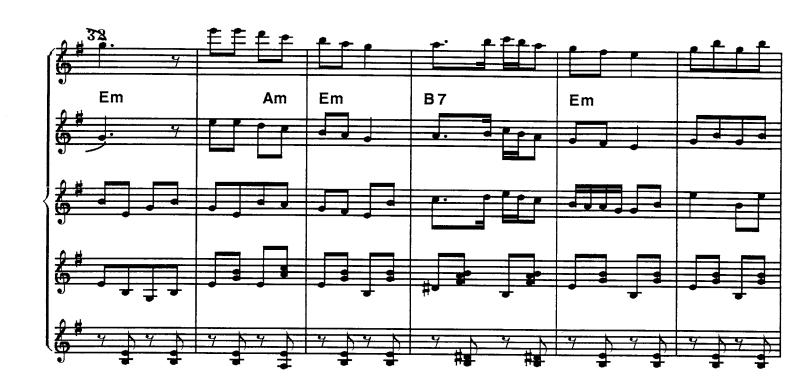
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#### KAMMEN Folio No. 1, Frailach No. 8 Noch A Bisel/A Tentzel Far Die Machetunem



#### KAMMEN Folio No. 1, Frailach No. 8 Noch A Bisel/A Tentzel Far Die Machetunem





