Zamir Chorale honors Israel

By Kathy Hardis

In honor of the twenty-ninth anniversary of the Israeli State, the Zamir Chorale of Boston sang a virtuoso and very moving concert at the Longwood Avenue Congregation on Sunday, April 24. Their concert covered several facets of Jewish music.

The highlight of the program was the Three Hebrew Choral Works, a program of three experimental and avant-garde choral works, written by three of Israel's leading composers. The works were performed by the Zamir Chorale, conducted by Sandy Brown, with soloists from the chorus and guest artists.

The first half of the concert was dedicated to three major Hebrew choral works of the 1920's. The three excellent female soloists of the chorus were joined by a male soloist, and the program was performed in Hebrew and English.

The second half of the concert was devoted to three scenes from Felix Mendelssohn's oratorio "Eliezer." The performance was a tribute to the beauty of Jewish culture and tradition, and a current in-"nition to the Jewish State. The evening's next few songs were sung additional songs as encores. For the most part, the evening's program was sung in Hebrew and English, and the audience was responsive to the music. The Zamir Chorale is a multi-style dance concert, and the audience was clearly professional. The style of the service was a lively piece sung in the style of the Hebrew and English. The biblical story of the appearance of the rainbow, Noah's descent from the ark, and the Millerite. The first of its three movements created a somber image of a rainbow. Electronic music and a glockenspiel gradually grew louder and softer, representing light and darkness, and eventually the rainbow. The second movement alternated between chorus and narrator, setting verses from Genesis in a simple homophonic style. In the joyously rhythmic final movement, the chorus was joined by vibes and horns for the songs of Psalm 148.

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