

Prof. Edwin Seroussi – short CV – June 2024

Edwin Seroussi is Professor Emeritus in the Faculty of Humanities at the Hebrew University and holds there the Emanuel Alexander Chair of Musicology. He is also a visiting research fellow at Dartmouth College (USA).

He was born in Montevideo, Uruguay, where he began his studies in music (violin and composition). In 1971 he immigrated to Israel where he completed the B.A. and M.A. in Musicology at the Hebrew University. He continued his graduate studies at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) where he received his Ph.D. in 1988. Upon graduation he joined the faculty of the Music Department at Bar-Ilan University which he directed between 1995-1999. In 2000, he joined the faculty of the Department of Musicology at the Faculty of Humanities of the Hebrew University, directed the Jewish Music Research Centre and established the School of Arts (now the Institute of Arts). Parallel to his teaching and research in Israel, he was visiting professor and research fellow at the universities of Binghamton (New York), California (Los Angeles and Berkeley), Moscow, Anahuac (Mexico City), Buenos Aires (UBA), Harvard, New England School of Music, Boston University, Chicago, Pennsylvania and Yale. Since 2007 he has been a visiting research fellow in Jewish Studies at Dartmouth College.

His research focuses on the religious and secular musical cultures of the Mediterranean and the Middle East, interrelationships between Jewish and Islamic cultures (especially in art music genres), the Judeo-Spanish (Ladino) song and popular music in Israel. Within these topics, he investigates processes of hybridization, nationalism and transnationalism in specific contexts such as the Ottoman Empire, and the construction of Jewish identities through music in diverse places and historical periods such as colonial Morocco and Algeria, the Second German Empire, the Austro-Hungarian Empire, the Yishuv and the Judeo-Spanish-speaking diaspora. His research emphasizes the agency of individuals in shaping folk and popular culture, social networks and processes of reception, canonization and consumption in the making of musical cultures. He has published extensively on these topics. In addition, he founded and edits the Yuval Music series and edits the acclaimed CD series, the Anthology of Music Traditions in Israel. He also serves as an editorial board member in a number of prestigious academic journal in Israel (e.g. *Pe'amim*) and abroad (e.g. *Jewish Quarterly Review*).

Besides his academic activities, Seroussi is active in the music scene in Israel and abroad in various roles, such as consultant for music festivals, member of state committees related to music and the arts and producer of live music programs. In the past, he represented Israel in the International Music Council of UNESCO. For his achievements in the study of Jewish, Sephardic and Israeli music, he received the Morris Toledano International Prize (2009), the Engel Prize of Tel Aviv Municipality (2017) and in 2018 the Israel Prize in the field of Musicology.