



"IKH VEL NISHT FARGESN" – A CD remembering Dr. Isaac Moses Hallemann



Richard & Barry Smerin: IKH VEL NISHT FARGESN. Red Rose Records © 2000 (LC 10433). Featuring the following songs:

- Ikh vel nisht fargesn (English)
- Indzer Shteytl brent (Yiddish)
- Dr. Hallemann (English)
- Belts (Yiddish)

The songs on the CD were recorded in Fuerth. On the cover of the CD is the following short biography of Dr. Hallemann:

"Dr. Isaac Moses Hallemann was born on April 18th 1896 in Drohobycz, Galizia. A year later, his family moved to Poznan in the German partition of Poland, where he grew up.

On March 2nd 1916 he passed his examination for entry to University at Marien-Gymnasium. On May 3rd of the same year he began studying at Hildesheimer-Rabbiner-Seminar in Berlin. At the same time he entered the Berlin University, studying Philosophy, Mathematics and Physics.

From October 1917 to April 1919 he taught at the religious school of the orthodox Adas Jisroel Community in Berlin. He then qualified to teach religion in schools of further education.

From Pessach 1919 onwards, he taught religion and mathematics at the Jewish School of Higher Education in Leipzig.

On August 2nd, 1922, he received a Doctorate of Philosophy for his dissertation: 'A Contribution to Philosophical Scepticism'.

In 1923, he married Klara Mandelbaum, a teacher. Their home became a meeting place for intellectuals. Dr. Hallemann prepared boys for their Barmitzvah and gave lessons on religious education. While in Leipzig, the couple had a son, Ralf Raphael, and two daughters; Judith and Eva Esther.

In July 1929, Dr. Hallemann became Director of the Jewish Orphanage in Fuerth. He immediately modernised and renovated the orphanage using most up to date educational methods. There he became a father to generations of children, many of whom came from broken homes and disadvantaged backgrounds and cared for their physical and mental well-being with love and kindness.

In 1933, another daughter, Beate Rachel was born.

During the Nazi regime, Dr. Hallemann made every effort to protect the children in his charge, including an attempt to transfer the entire orphanage to Israel. When it became obvious that there was no solution, he made a conscious decision not to leave the orphans. He continued to educate and instruct pupils in the teachings of the Torah.

On March 22nd 1942, Dr. Hallemann, his wife Klara, daughters Eva, Beate and all the children in his care were deported to Izbica and then sent to Belzec from where no one ever returned."