

Biography

- 16.8.1907 Born in Kolozsvár, (Hungary) capital of Transylvania now Cluj (Romania), to his parents David and Sarah Boskovich.
- 1915 Begins to learn the violin at the age of 8 at the Gheorghe Dima Conservatory and Academy of Music (Cluj); later changes to piano. Accepted by Hevesi Piroska, a well-known pianist and pedagogue for gifted children at the Institute de Pregatire de Artisti.
- 1924 Goes to Vienna. Studies composition with Richard Stöhr and piano with Viktor Ebenstein at the Academy of Music .
- 1925/6 Returns home. Leaves for Paris, where he studies piano with Lazar Levy at the Conservatoire National Supérieur. Continues piano studies with Alfred Cortot and composition with Paul Dukas and Nadia Boulanger at the Ecôle Normale de Musique . Specializes in vocal and choral music at the Schola Cantorum.
- 1929 Returns to Cluj. Manifold activities as composer, concert pianist and conductor at the National Opera.
- 1934 Founder and conductor of the Karl Goldmark Symphony Orchestra, comprised entirely of Jewish musicians. Among highlights: program with violinist Bronislaw Hubermann.
- Member of Jewish student organization “Bnei Brit”. Embarks on a research tour through Carpathian villages to study the musical folklore and collect the beautiful melodies of local Jewish communities.
- 1938 Invited by the Palestine Symphony Orchestra (now the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra) to attend the premiere of his orchestral suite *Chansons Populaires Juives* (later renamed *The Golden Chain*) under the baton of well-known conductor Issay Dobrowen. Arrives in Haifa in February. During his visit decides to stay in Eretz Yisrael and to take part in the cultural and artistic renaissance of his people in its ancient-new homeland

- 1939 Co-founder of an opera company in Tel Aviv. Produces and conducts Offenbach's *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*.
- 1942/3 Becomes acquainted with the Yemenite singer Bracha Zephira.
- 1944 Works with the dancer Yardena Cohen, preparing piano transcripts of Iraqi-Jewish ensemble music for her dance works based on Biblical themes.
- 1945 Co-founder with five of his Hungarian colleagues of the Israeli Conservatory and Academy of Music in Tel Aviv. Head of the Department of Composition and Theoretical Subjects. Teaches composition, harmony and counterpoint.
- 1946 Receives the tragic news that his parents perished in Auschwitz.
- 1950 Married to Miriam Israelit
- 1950 Scholarship from the Ministry of Education and Culture for a three-months study tour to Europe. Meets, among others, Honneger, Messiaen, Milhaud and Hindemith. Writes travel reviews for *Al Hamishmar*. Lectures on the BBC and at Hilversum, the Netherlands, on Israeli music.
- 15.8.1950 Member of the Public Council of Kol Zion La-Gola (The Voice of Zion to the Diaspora, a division of the Israeli Radio)
- 1954 His son David was born
- 1950-1960 Member of the Public Council for Art and Culture since its foundation (December 16), at the invitation of the Minister of Education, Zalman Shazar.
- 1950 - Co-editor of *Bat Kol*, journal of the Israel Composers' League.
- 1953 Music adviser to the Habima Theatre.
- 1956 Music advisor to the Inbal Dance Company.
- 1958 Co-founder of the Thelma Yellin Arts High-School, an integral part of the Israeli Conservatory and Academy of Music, Tel Aviv. Lays the groundwork for the school's curriculum in music subjects.

- 1959 His daughter Sarit was born
- 1956-64 Music critic of 'Ha'aretz " daily newspaper
- 1959-1964 Member of the Senate of Tel Aviv University, after the Music Academy's became part of the University.
- 1964 Died on November 5 in Tel Aviv.

Alexander Uriyah Boskovich's wife, Miriam (a pianist), his two children – Sarit (a psychologist) and David (an artist) – and three grandchildren live in Tel Aviv.