

University of Haifa

The Senate of the University of Haifa, by virtue of the authority vested in it by the constitution of the University and in accordance with the recommendations of the President and the Executive Committee

hereby confers upon

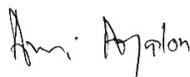
Shlomo Artzi

the degree of

Doctor of Philosophy, Honoris Causa

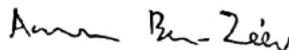
in recognition of his great contribution to shaping the Israeli experience through his unique talent and ability to convey “Israeliness” through melodies and lyrics; for being a cornerstone of Israeli culture in general and of songwriting in particular expressing life in Israel through his distinct musical expression and style; for showing that it is possible to consistently retain a creative spirit and high level of achievement over many years while continually producing quality music; for his social and community activities and ongoing commitment to involvement in Israeli society.

Conferred in Haifa, Israel
13 Sivan 5772/June 3, 2012



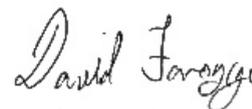
Ami Ayalon

Chairman of the Executive Committee



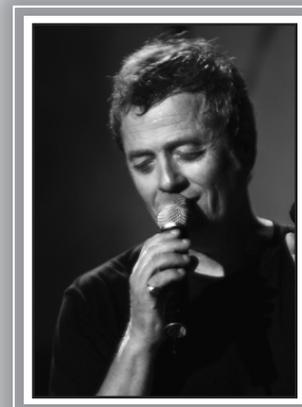
Prof. Aaron Ben-Ze'ev

President



Prof. David Faraggi

Rector



SHLOMO ARTZI

Singer and songwriter

Shlomo Artzi was born on Moshav Alonei Abba in 1949 and grew up in Tel Aviv. He began his career as a musician before his army service when he established “Tzemed Sinai” with singer Ricki Gal. The duo even appeared before soldiers serving in the Sinai. During his military service, he served in the Artillery Corps, then joined the Naval Corps Entertainment Group and soon after became its lead singer.

In 1970, Shlomo Artzi won first place in the Israel Song Festival and recorded his debut album entitled “Shlomo Artzi”. In 1972 he was voted Singer of the Year, an accolade he subsequently won nine more times. In 1975 he was selected to represent Israel in the Eurovision Song Contest.

During forty years of creative endeavors, Shlomo Artzi wrote the words and music for his own songs. As a singer-songwriter, he recorded more than thirty albums including children’s albums, mini-albums, and concert albums. He took part and was a guest performer in many other albums. He is registered in ACUM – the Society of Composers, Authors and Music Publishers in Israel as composer and/or writer of more than 400 songs. He has been one of the three most listened-to artists on Israeli radio for many years. In 2008, Shlomo Artzi won the ACUM award for his life’s work and unique contribution to Israeli music. On the occasion of the State of Israel’s 60th anniversary, he was awarded “THE singer of 60 years” after winning song contests on Israeli television channels 2 and 10. During recent years he was chosen as the most popular performer among soldiers and new recruits to the I.D.F. In addition to his direct contribution to Israeli culture and creative endeavors, Shlomo Artzi has consistently developed a personal connection with peripheral areas of Israel. During the 1980’s, he volunteered in the local community center in Beit Shean. He was also persistent in bringing his performances to places such Yerucham and Gaza area (including installing necessary infrastructure which was previously unavailable for musical performances).

Shlomo Artzi is known to have generously cultivated the talent of many members of his band. These same musicians (Ronit Shahr, Shimon Buskila, Etti Ankri, Danny Robas and others) have developed independent successful careers and have greatly enriched local culture.

In his diverse musical compositions, Shlomo Artzi repeatedly relates to topics which constitute Israeliness: love of the county, Israel’s wars, bereavement and sorrow, the Holocaust, etc. He, more than any other artist, is thought to symbolize Israeliness.

Shlomo Artzi has been considered the most beloved and most successful musical artist in Israel for two consecutive decades. His performances, particularly those in Caesarea, have become mythological in Israel.

In addition to his cultural activities, Shlomo Artzi founded, together with his spouse, Michal Cheled, “Tzimaon” ten years ago and currently serves as its President. Tzimaon is a non-profit association active in Givat Olga and the Shapira neighborhood of south Tel Aviv and also awards scholarships for higher education to those facing economic challenges.

Shlomo Artzi has three children: Shiri, Ben and Jonathan. He lives in Ramat Gan.