

On Tuesday, March 5, 2013 the Iranian American Jewish Federation of NY had the honor of co-sponsoring a unique concert organized by the Permanent Mission of Israel to the UN at the United Nations' General Assembly Hall.

For one unforgettable night, the United Nations General Assembly hall was turned into a dazzling concert hall, featuring a special performance by the Israeli-Iranian artist Rita. Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon, President of the General Assembly Vuk Jeremic, and Israel's Ambassador to the UN, Ron Prosor addressed the audience prior to the performance. The concert was attended by ambassadors from all corners of the globe, community leaders, members of the Iranian community New York and Los Angeles, and celebrities.

In her performance, titled "Tunes for Peace," Rita sang some of her greatest hits in Persian, Hebrew and English – and swept hundreds of UN ambassadors and diplomats off their feet.

Ambassador Ron Prosor: "Through this concert, Israel is sending a message that while our enemies play the drums of war, we play songs of love and peace. Today, Rita showed the world how simple melodies have the power to connect people to people, even in the most difficult of circumstances."

Rita is the first Israeli artist to perform in the UN General Assembly hall – and only the third artist in history to perform a full concert there. In his opening remarks before the concert, Ambassador Prosor said: "... It is our sincere hope that this musical evening will echo from New York to the hearts and minds of people throughout Israel and Iran – fostering better relations, understanding, and communication between our two peoples."

Ambassador Prosor recognized and thanked the organizations who helped make the concert a reality: the Nazarian Family Foundation, the Iranian-American Jewish Federation of New York and the UJA-Federation of New York. He also thanked the Iranian-American Jewish Federation of Los Angeles.



*Left to right: H.E. Ambassador Ron Prosor, Permanent Representative of Israel to the UN, Mrs. Ki-moon, H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon, UN Secretary-General, Rita, H.E. Mr. Vuk Jeremic, President of the 67th Session of the UN General Assembly, Mrs. Jeremic*

*Ambassador Prosor: "The United Nations was united behind Israel, under Rita's wings"*



*Credit to Shahar Azran*

*Performance of Israel's Pop Diva, Rita at the United Nations General Assembly Hall*