SPARKS A-FLYIN' SUMMER 2021 issue #6

Welcome to the summer issue of our quarterly newsletter – yes, I know summer officially ended yesterday, so I'm a day late, but a lot has been going on!

the biggest recent *SPARKS* news is:

- At the 2021 New Mexico Music Awards event in Albuquerque, I (accompanied by awesome musicians from the album – Bill Radcliffe on lap steel guitar and mandolin, Amalia Zeitlin on violin, and Ross Ingram on synth bass) got to be one of five acts to perform on stage. It was a bit surreal singing with a mask on to a capacity in-person audience of 200, but it was a blast and there was a top-notch crew recording it: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R2511tD08wQ And here's the moment we got to walk back up to the stage later that night when my "The Bark Mitzvah Song" was announced as the **winner** of the Best Humorous/Novelty Song category: https://youtu.be/Mf8X5TMYNik?t=6429

- And speaking of humor, an international peer-reviewed journal on humor just published a piece about the album's use of humor: http://www.israeli-humor-studies.org/media/5-the_use_of_humor_on_a_contemporary_folk_jewish_album.pdf

I hope you and your loved ones had a wonderful summer and that your fall is off to a fun, productive, and healthy start. If you have a friend (or someone who writes a music blog, is a music DJ, curates a Spotify playlist, etc.) who is eclectic in their musical or Jewish tastes, thank you for letting them know the album is available via the major platforms, and that https://larrylesser.com/sparks has links to browse the lyrics, access the music, and learn about the project. A project that tries to transcend denomination/faith can hopefully help at a time our country remains so divided.

Take care,

Larry