

JEWISH LATIN PRINCESS

FRANCISKA, MUSICAL COMPOSER AND PERFORMER

EPISODE 39

You're listening to Jewish Latin Princess Podcast by Yael. Every week get your dose of inspiration from the world's most uniquely talented Jewish women and from Yael herself. Seeking profound and practical ways to live a joyful, richer Jewish life? Welcome to Jewish Latin Princess Podcast.

And now, Jewish lifestyle expert and bilingual blogger at www.jewishlatinprincess.com, your host, Yael.

Yael Trusch: You are listening to Jewish Latin Princess. Everyone, welcome back! Thanks for tuning in. I'm Yael Trusch, your host. Music is a big deal in our home. Not so much because of me, but my husband. He is big into music and I have a few kids who have inherited the love of music. My guest today inherited this love and nurtured it from a very early age. I have composer, singer, and performer Franciska on the show. Franciska grew up at Moscow in an observant Jewish family and as you will soon find out in quite an open progressive and supportive family.

Franciska may be young but she has a good handle on the practical aspects of her music career and keeps her feet well on the ground even as she evolves as a female performer and singer. Listen to what she has to say about the creative business and how this aspiration happens for a person like Franciska? Does she really always connect to prayer? Why did Franciska decide to add launching a podcast to her workload? And what does she have to say about women, Orthodox Jewish women coming to the forefront in public life? Here's the sweet and super talented, Franciska.

[Theme Music]

Yael Trusch: Franciska, welcome to Jewish Latin Princess!

Franciska Kay: Thank you! It's so amazing to be here.

Yael Trusch: It is so amazing to be here. I don't get that many performers on the show. I've had Pearl, and of course I've had Leah Gottfried, our mutual friend, and I am just so in awe of what you've achieved with your music in a very short amount of time. You're such a prolific artist, so tell us about your journey? You've already recorded five albums, you have eleven music videos. I think you're working on your sixth album, right? Did I read that right?

Franciska Kay: Yes.

Yael Trusch: Wow! Amazing! So, I want to go back down memory lane a little bit. You grew up in the world of music. You started very, very young and then tell us about it? Tell us about your education, how it all started?

Franciska Kay: Okay. So I started piano when I was six.

Yael Trusch: Mm-hm.

Franciska Kay: And then when I was twelve I joined a children music school in Moscow, in the name of Eguino with guitar and—

Yael Trusch: Okay. Let's stop here right there. You grew up in Moscow?

Franciska Kay: Yes. I grew up in Moscow.

Yael Trusch: But you we're born in America?

Franciska Kay: So my mother came to the States to give birth in like her 8th month.

Yael Trusch: Okay.

Franciska Kay: And I was part of the children's—the girl bands and vocal ensemble, Ilanit and we toured around the world with our two hour set.

Yael Trusch: How old were you?

Franciska Kay: It was probably from the age of ten to fourteen? Fifteen?

Yael Trusch: Wow! So—

Franciska Kay: Performing and singing and dancing were definitely a part of my everyday life.

Yael Trusch: Amazing! Your parents we're okay I guess with the traveling and the performing at such an early age?

Franciska Kay: So we didn't go so many times but that was the span over how many years that happened so we've been for... three or four times Belgium, Israel, the States... and my mother was on the trip, so—

Yael Trusch: Okay.

Franciska Kay: She's just one of the... she's the school Principal and she co-run this ensemble.

Yael Trusch: Uh-huh, okay.

Franciska Kay: And... where else would you like me to go?

Yael Trusch: So—

FRANCISKA KAY: Okay, that's was when I was twelve.

Yael Trusch: Yeah, so at what point did you decide that you're for... okay. So you're involved in this then you... it comes I guess college age, I think you went to Toro at that point you said—did you know that you're going to pursue music professionally as a career?

FRANCISKA KAY: No. I never thought I would do it professionally, and still now I do it professionally, and I do call it my career but I don't... it's definitely not a way to support myself. It actually cost me more than it makes me.

Yael Trusch: Yeah and that's interesting and I do want to get to that, but you did go to Juilliard which is like an unbelievable achievement on all counts so—

FRANCISKA KAY: Thank you. So I actually I attended the classes in the Evening Division and yeah, it was an amazing experience.

Yael Trusch: What was it like as a religious Jewish woman? You were observant? You grew up observant, right?

FRANCISKA KAY: Yes, I grew up observant.

Yael Trusch: So what was that experience about immersed in two worlds? You're in the World of Toro and you're in the world in the evenings of Juilliard?

FRANCISKA KAY: So I've been exposed to that already growing up in Moscow and attending the Children's Music School there.

Yael Trusch: Mm-hm.

FRANCISKA KAY: And basically you have the *Kol Isha* but I didn't have so much issue in that area specifically because I was playing instrument but for my guitar exams they were automatically always scheduled through Shabbat and I always have to ask them to give me a special accommodation and reschedule it for a week day so you have that constant like, I can't come on Shabbat I can't do it Friday night performance, if ... as opposed to non-Jewish people, obviously.

Yael Trusch: Right. So wonderful, the truth is it's just wonderful to be immersed in these situations because we could do so much in being out there in the world and talking to people and just the opportunity to talk to people and show them a beautiful face of Judaism that they might not know, right?

FRANCISKA KAY: For sure.

Yael Trusch: So tell me when did you record your first album because we're already in almost in album six and you're very young?

FRANCISKA KAY: Yeah, so sometimes I joke around and say I didn't get enough solos when I was in the Children's Choir that's why I needed to become my own singer so I'd get all the solos I wanted.

Yael Trusch: Uh-huh!

FRANCISKA KAY: Then I definitely I started recording when I was seventeen. I literally use whatever I can scrape together. I found myself a producer, a studio and I started recording the songs—I have started composing songs already since I was like ten years old.

Yael Trusch: Uh-huh.

FRANCISKA KAY: So I had a ton of music to work with. I was about just producing them and I really love the studio work and I love the production, making the arrangements and finding all the instruments and bringing the right sound to the song.

Yael Trusch: Wow! Do you see an evolution in your work like is there a certain style that's setting in or have you... I'm sure there's... you've seen some maturity in your work? How do you see that?

FRANCISKA KAY: Absolutely! There's definitely... so there's like the longer I do this the more I understand what I'm trying to get. What I have to... how to create the vision I see for the song I learned that the longer I stay in studio, the more I co-produce, and the more I'm involved in the process the more it's going to sound the way I wanted to, and you just learn more about how you want things to sound because the more you do anything the better you get at it so I do think that I'm getting a little better at trying to get to the sound I'm looking to have.

Yael Trusch: With this new... your latest album and the latest video that came out that was directed by Leah Gottfried, I feel like you're really starting to position yourself as a voice for female empowerment for Jewish women and you're one of the pioneers in the women's music space. Has this been intentional or is it something that just like, oh, my gosh! I'm now in this position, you know, like it just happened!

FRANCISKA KAY: Well, thank you so much for calling me a pioneer. And so I definitely am pioneering but I'm not alone. There are a bunch of us doing it together and I feel like the only way we could do this is if we do it together.

Yael Trusch: Yes!

FRANCISKA KAY: And I don't feel like I chose to do this. More like I was writing my songs and people kept telling me, oh it's enhancing my *tefillah* or you know after going to *shul* and hearing *Eicha* they would come back and say you know there was new intention that was added and mindfulness after. Toward the end we we're fasting, I was concentrating and then the song came into my head when they we're reading that passage in *shul*. So that sort of... that's like one step, then the next step is—oh, I really connect to this and this sound or to this *pasuk* can you

read us on to that. So it just became this, I'm going.... It sort of people come to me and ask me to write song to a certain verse and it sort of became my role.

Yael Trusch: Wow. So it's almost like this is really a driving force. Once you see that people are being, like you said, they are to feel other prayers being affected just by the way you are enhancing it with your music, I mean that in and of itself is such a beautiful thing, such a powerful motivator to keep going.

Franciska Kay: Yes. For sure.

Yael Trusch: Amazing.

Franciska Kay: It's definitely just enhances any experience. You want to, you know, in a certain mood in a certain place, music definitely is a huge part of that. So I feel like bringing new, especially more modern sounds and music to the text that are so sacred and everyone knows so many of the texts that I sing to by heart already it brings so much more meaning and so much more visual or context and experience to those words.

Yael Trusch: Franciska, what are some of the challenges of being a performer for a female audience?

Franciska Kay: So it's a question that I least dread because without the negativity in the work that I do and I don't like focusing on that.

Yael Trusch: Mm-hm.

Franciska Kay: But it's definitely worth talking about and discussing. And the reality and fact are that my audience is split in half, and my experience has been that most of the exclusively female events that are hosted are by organizations that don't have budgets for performers like me. So just in the past week I've rejected or said no to three offers, requests to bring me in to perform because they didn't even have a budget to reimburse me for gas and tolls.

Yael Trusch: Wow.

Franciska Kay: And I don't want to sound selfish or cheap and I'm definitely not in the arts for the money, but I invest so much in my work.

Yael Trusch: Absolutely.

Franciska Kay: And so much of it is available on line that I just don't want to travel and invest so much in an actual performance for no cost especially now that I have a little baby.

Yael Trusch: Oh, wow!

Franciska Kay: And... but I love, love performing for live audiences but I also love doing my music videos and working with studio so people who just want me for free, they could click play on my music video—

Yael Trusch: Right.

Franciska Kay: Or on iTunes and listen to my music. If they want me to come and talk about my stories, I have my new show coming out. And how they connect me to the songs and what they represent in my life and for me, that you know—

Yael Trusch: You know it's amazing that you're so mature about this already because it's so true. The truth is you need to get paid for what you do, period. And the minute that you have to leave your family and your children, well, that has a price in and of itself. You don't just get up and go for free, right?

Franciska Kay: Thanks for that . . .

Yael Trusch: Oh, my goodness! Yeah, anytime.

Franciska Kay: No, I feel bad. I would love to just pretend that it's all amazing and maybe it looks like I'm successful but you know, day to day, it's a painful thing. People want you to come and then they don't even—

Yael Trusch: No.

Franciska Kay: Value that you have to spend money on baby sitting or gas to get there.

Yael Trusch: No! No.

Franciska Kay: Forget the time. So it destroys a little part of me but I'm trying not to focus on that.

Yael Trusch: Right. You know it can be challenging. I think for many women in business, you know, we are challenged by that. I'll be honest, we're naturally givers and people who are mission driven like you and I, who feel like we're doing something that helps the world, we feel like I want to reach these many people and I know I could be inspiring and I know I could do so much for them but that also comes with a price and we can't just be doing it for free. Sometimes we could but not definitely the majority of the times. So good for you. You seem to be so practical and I had heard before something that you wrote that seem to negate this whole starving artist approach and it reminded me of that book, Big Magic. Have you ever read that book by Elizabeth Gilbert?

Franciska Kay: Not yet. Not actually.

Yael Trusch: You must read it. You must! You're going to love it. Read it and call me later, but anyway in that book, Gilbert talks about it. She makes it clear that artists should not put so much financial pressure on their art like she really makes a very strong point. Go get yourself a job. Your art should not have this pressure and I think you have talked about this before, that you do other things and don't put that pressure on your art as you're developing, right?

FRANCISKA KAY: So definitely. So if you think about the mainstream music world and the artists that are most successful, what gets them out there? And... they have record labels behind them. They have people shoving thousands, hundreds of thousands of dollars into their art, into their production, into their marketing; so even if you have the most talented person who's investing whatever they have into their music, you literally need tons and tons of money shoved into you to become like mainstream successful, major, major. The people who are bringing in tons of... you know, to be the most successful basically out there.

Yael Trusch: Hm.

FRANCISKA KAY: So take that into our scale, who in their mind, I mean, maybe I don't know. But who... it doesn't make any sense that if I produce an album and then I go on tour that I'll become, that I could... maybe I could pay for some bills or maybe I could pay for its own music, but I don't think it could make me into a millionaire, and I'm not in this to become a millionaire, but I've just looked at it as a practical point from a practical point of view. So if that's how it works in the music professional world, then, so I basically need to find other ways to fund my music and obviously I'm doing that on a tiny scale but that's how it works.

Yael Trusch: Very, very smart. You know what? You got to be smart and practical in life. Talk to me about inspiration because you mentioned that a lot of your work is based on different verses and Torah. So walk us through the process a little bit, where does inspiration come from? And I'm in awe because I don't necessarily connect to those verses to be honest. All that, you know, well, I wish I did! So you seem to—they provide you with inspiration, so I'm just curious about the process of inspiration for you.

FRANCISKA KAY: Okay. So it's an interesting question because first of all, if you ask most people who are in the creative world—

Yael Trusch: Yeah?

FRANCISKA KAY: When you ask someone, oh, how did you write that book? Or how did you, how do you write that symphony or something, they'll be like, they sat down, literally for hours, and worked on it.

Yael Trusch: Mm-hm.

FRANCISKA KAY: Even if you're not—obviously, it doesn't happen from you. You have to, it's a gift from God, so you can't necessarily, I can't take the credit for it, but it's definitely work and also in terms of the psukim, that's really... so for example, I wasn't able to connect to many psukim myself, but in able to make a spiritual experience for myself, I recreate them. I reinterpret them through my music and that's how I'm able to establish a connection with those texts.

Yael Trusch: Wow.

FRANCISKA KAY: So that's literally how—that's the absolute process how it works. I'll take a text that have nothing... sometimes I already have a connection to it but most of the time I feel nothing toward the words. It's super deep and meaningful but it doesn't necessarily bring meaning to me and then once I put music to it and it becomes a part of me then I'm able to connect to it a lot more.

Yael Trusch: Wow. Is your husband also musical like you?

FRANCISKA KAY: Yes, he is. He's super supportive and he's so talented himself but he sacrificed himself so I could focus on the music in our family.

Yael Trusch: Wow! Amazing! So you grew up in Russia and I'm just kind of assuming that your parents' music its... the arts and music is such a big part of culture in Russia. Your parents are also? You come from a family of musicians?

FRANCISKA KAY: So my great grandfather was a Hasan.

Yael Trusch: Uh-huh.

FRANCISKA KAY: He lives in the States and then all the women in my mother's family like my mother, my grandmother, my great grandmother, everyone, my great aunts are all involved somehow in arts and just bearing to beauty, so anything you can make more beautiful, take any Mitzvah, make it more beautiful in whatever way they know how to do it. So I did grow up in an environment where you're just trying to make everything more beautiful so I take—not that I'm making those beautiful texts more like they're already beautiful the way they are but I'm just delivering them in a new package.

Yael Trusch: Yes. Yes. I feel like I could have been best friends with all those women in your family. Franciska, I'm assuming that your parents must be very open-minded. It's not so common to an Orthodox Jewish world to have female musicians, girls who are encouraged to go to school for music, I mean you went to Juilliard as you told us before; now you're a performer, you're recording your own albums, you're making videos, you're doing all these wonderful work, and you said your mother travelled with you. They we're obviously very encouraging but so tell me a little bit about your parents? I'm really intrigued.

FRANCISKA KAY: Thank you. So they moved to Moscow in '89 when the doors opened.

Yael Trusch: Uh-huh.

FRANCISKA KAY: They we're able to leave Russia finally. There weren't many religious or anyone interested with being affiliated with Judaism around so they basically went into a dead zone a little bit, not trying to offend anyone.

Yael Trusch: Mm-hm.

FRANCISKA KAY: And so they built a community from scratch and my mother founded the school and my father took over the shul, you know, ten minute walk from the Kremlin, and they

basically created their community. Their version of what a Jewish community, what they could do and what a Jewish community should look like. Definitely felt like whatever my parents beliefs we're came out through that and they we're definitely encouraging and they brought us up in a way where all our talents and all our—they brought us up to find our unique characteristics and develop them.

Yael Trusch: That is so, so amazing! And it also seems like obviously you had a very open home I'm assuming where people that didn't come obviously from the same background of Torah observances, your parents, their home is open to them. So you got exposed also to see a lot of the world very early on, right?

Franciska Kay: Yes, absolutely. And it was amazing. We're all the same. People are the same. We just have different packages and different beliefs, and different habits, but—

Yael Trusch: Beautiful. How many siblings are you?

Franciska Kay: I have six siblings.

Yael Trusch: Wow! Any other musicians?

Franciska Kay: Well, all of my older siblings were trained in piano also from the age of six but I'm the only one who stuck to it, but my older sister did art and actually she's an entrepreneur. She owns, she's the CEO of an app - ShopDrop.

Yael Trusch: Uh-huh.

Franciska Kay: And my younger sister, made *alyah*, she did dance. She was a dancer, she did ballet and then she made *alyah* now and she's an English teacher.

Yael Trusch: Wow! What a cool family.

Franciska Kay: I know. Our brothers, everyone else is in's brother I'm sorry that's the Russian in me. So I guess they're creative sides are more, are not in the arts so much.

Yael Trusch: Very, very cool. And you know what? You said about your husband, how he's so supportive and he's letting you do the let's just say, be the performer and the musician in the family. You have the more public life, let's just say. I feel like there's a trend going on. For I personally feel it's for the good of more observant Jewish women, coming to the forefront to public life and creative endeavors and in your field in music, like I said, there's a few of you, a few of the trailblazers, I almost feel like it's spiritual. Don't you think? What do you think about this trend?

Franciska Kay: I'm so flattered you're calling me trailblazer. It doesn't feel that I'm there yet, but so I don't think it's a trend, if you'll ask me, I think it's more of a revolution and the only way that it's happening is thanks to online platforms and social media because there was no outlet for all of us to get out there and be together so—

Yael Trusch: Yeah.

Franciska Kay: For example, you had someone in one town, super talented but they had no access to somebody else so they might not pursue their music, or their dancing, or their art; because they don't think they could do it. But now there are all these platforms.

Yael Trusch: Yeah.

Franciska Kay: Facebook, we have exclusively female groups. We have the new spotlight on women radio hour in Israel. All these things that are happening literally, brand new. It's all happening because we were able to just gather all the women together.

Yael Trusch: Yeah.

Franciska Kay: Inspire each other and just get the energy from each other and encourage each other.

Yael Trusch: Yeah. The world of connectivity, it's really amazing how the world has changed for the better. I'm just, I'm actually in awe because like you said, so many people had been able to connect and thrive and develop and support each other through the changes of the internet! That's just it!

Franciska Kay: It's the truth. To all the people against the internet, you know?

Yael Trusch: It is the truth. Like every... listen, everything in life has a positive and has a negative. There's a huge positive. And I—

Franciska Kay: I know.

Yael Trusch: And that's it. This is the perfect segway for me to ask you about your show because you have a new podcast, The Franciska Show, where you are featuring other musicians and you're also lifting them up and encouraging them. So tell me about, The Franciska Show. How... what is it all about and how was it born?

Franciska Kay: Okay so I'm still figuring out the logistics.

Yael Trusch: Mm-hm.

Franciska Kay: It really started because my fans and my audience wanted a way for me to connect with them more and I felt like... I didn't feel like posting on social media of like the process of my work, that's something I'm comfortable doing right now.

Yael Trusch: Mm-hm.

Franciska Kay: I don't like posting when things are unfinished, but with the finished product and when things are edited and professional. So, one of my mentors suggested that I start a podcast because this way I can have a consistent channel to my audience that they can be connected to me. Also I could use this to shine and spot the light unto other women who are in

the market. I also feel like I'm building a data base of all the people on the market so I'm putting everyone on to one page basically.

Yael Trusch: Yeah.

Franciska Kay: With all their information, all their work and all their outstanding talents because we're building this new category that's still so small, the women's market.

Yael Trusch: Right.

Franciska Kay: So I'm sort of organizing it.

Yael Trusch: Well, I think it's brilliant!

Franciska Kay: That's one of the said benefits. I just started it because it was a nice way for me to be there for... other people but not being it about me, without the show being about me basically.

Yael Trusch: I think it's brilliant. I really, really love it. I guess I'm going to reemphasize this again but I'm just such a proponent of collaboration and people lifting each other up specially women and so I think it's brilliant, The Franciska Show, I think I love it. All right, Franciska, let's do a little bit of JLP fill in the blanks and this is the part of the show where I ask you an open-ended question and you finish it or an open ended sentence and you finish it with the first thing that comes to mind. Okay?

Franciska Kay: Okay. Do I explain or just answer?

Yael Trusch: Well, maybe sometimes I'd like to dig a little deeper.

Franciska Kay: Okay.

Yael Trusch: I'm Franciska, and I feel most spiritual when?

Franciska Kay: When I light candles on Friday night.

Yael Trusch: You connect to Shabbat candles. I actually do, too. And I'm surprised that I haven't gotten that answer before which I have been kind of waiting for so I'm glad you brought it up.

Franciska Kay: Well, that was the first thing that's in my mind so...

Yael Trusch: Yeah, it's a very special moment. Do you have a daughter or a son?

Franciska Kay: A daughter.

Yael Trusch: Beautiful. Okay, so it becomes even more special when we have our, as she gets older. Did you have a custom in your home to light with your mother? Or you only lit after you were married? How did it work in your home?

Franciska Kay: Yeah. I only lit after I was married.

Yael Trusch: Mm-hm. But you were still present I'm sure when your mother lit candles?

Franciska Kay: Right. Of course.

Yael Trusch: Beautiful.

Franciska Kay: It's the time where I could daven and it's different from the morning prayers that are usually more rushed. It just feels like a special moment when Shabbat starts cuz there's this very peaceful—

Yael Trusch: It is a special moment. It really, really is. Listen, it says that gates are open, the gates of heaven are open for woman in that time, so and you could really feel it in the physical environment. Alright, my favorite Mitzvah could be something different, my favorite Mitzvah or one that I connect with the most is?

Franciska Kay: This one is terrible. I don't think I have a favorite mitzvah.

Yael Trusch: Oh, wow!

Franciska Kay: I like them all. You know some of them I like the same, I don't know. I don't have a favorite one.

Yael Trusch: Nice, okay. My fondest, sweetest Jewish memory is?

Franciska Kay: Okay. It's the Hanukah place in the school I grew up in and we got donuts for Hanukah. So it was just so nice. There was music and the play and donuts and it was just fun.

Yael Trusch: And this was back in Russia?

Franciska Kay: Yeah.

Yael Trusch: You know it's so amazing that so many of my guests have mentioned Hanukah or something related to Hanukah. I've also gotten Pesach Passover a lot but definitely Hanukah is like the sweet, fun memory from their childhood.

Franciska Kay: Yeah! My favorite!

Yael Trusch: Which is amazing and it kind of reminds me as a parent that, you know, it needs to be fun and sweet, that's what Hanukah is all about and its going to change, I mean our kids lives, it's going to permeate and be with them so, is your family still in Russia?

Franciska Kay: My parents, yes, they're still there.

Yael Trusch: Wow! Do you get to go often?

Franciska Kay: I guess what you call often is relative?

Yael Trusch: Right.

Franciska Kay: But this was sometimes and I'm hoping we're going to be there, I'm going to be there soon. I'm working, so part of my job is taking me to Europe, and I can get back home in time for Shabbat's. So I'm stopping home at my parents.

Yael Trusch: Very, very nice. Well, enjoy your visit. Okay, something I wish I had learned about Judaism growing up is?

Franciska Kay: Okay, how expensive being Jewish is. Everything in numbers and I guess parents, I think it's good that your parents don't talk about how expensive everything is when you're a little kid but then you grow up and you're starting to deal everything yourself and you're like, oh, wow! Jewish is expensive.

Yael Trusch: Yeah! How many years are you married now?

Franciska Kay: Five.

Yael Trusch: Wow! Yeah, that's it! I love that answer because it's true. You know what? Thank God but it is expensive paying for Kosher food and Jewish education and holidays and lunar to fill in and, Oh my goodness! Books!

Franciska Kay: Yeah.

Yael Trusch: Yeah. That's a good answer. Alright, when I give Tzedakah, I like to give to?

Franciska Kay: So, I just give to whoever reaches out to me usually.

Yael Trusch: Mm-hm.

Franciska Kay: Because I don't like to turn people down even if it's just you know little bit so, I feel like I don't get to get to those places I would want to give to, maybe haven't thought about it so much.

Yael Trusch: You know I can relate to that. I end up giving a lot to people who need it, who I know need it so you know very often even if I wanted to give to larger causes I end up not doing it because Barush Hashem tied with other, you know, just individuals that I care about and I know that they need it so I could definitely relate to that. Alright, I'm Franciska and today I am most grateful for?

Franciska Kay: My family and Ha-shem. Everyone in my family. Everyone who just provides this awesome environment and all this love and support. My husband, my baby, my parents, everyone.

Yael Trusch: Everyone.

Franciska Kay: Yeah!

Yael Trusch: Beautiful. Franciska, give us a peek. What's the new album about? How is it different from the latest album?

Franciska Kay: I just started with the writing of the music.

Yael Trusch: Uh-huh.

Franciska Kay: But I'm hoping to have some really dance Caribbean songs like something to use at Bar Mitzvah's and Chagigah, something really danceable and DJ Lo. I'm also adding DJ'ing to my services so I wanted to have some of my songs also in this category.

Yael Trusch: That is so super cool! I love dancing that is super, super cool.

FRANCISKA KAY: That's the usual complaints. Like we can't play your music at the Chagigah or at Bar Mitzvahs because they are more pop and they have slower tempos so I'm trying to figure out this new genre I'm going to work with.

Yael Trusch: Wow! That's so cool. How are you balancing? I wanted to ask you before, how are you balancing everything with the new baby, and work, and composing, and recording?

FRANCISKA KAY: I just heard Ariella Zeitlin say that you could do it all, you just can't do that one.

Yael Trusch: A 100%. I'm with her

FRANCISKA KAY: How am I doing it all? I have no idea! Yeah.

Yael Trusch: We just juggle but I do agree with that concept.

FRANCISKA KAY: But help, help. That's... definitely help. I have help watching my baby.

Yael Trusch: Right.

FRANCISKA KAY: I definitely accept help where I could get it.

Yael Trusch: And good for you. Very, very smart. Yeah, the truth is we need to be better as women to understand that we could get help and we should, in certain areas of our life, get help when it's needed, right? In order to do what we need to do. And in a span of a lifetime we could achieve it all. We can't just achieve it all at the same time. That's all! Which is fine. Franciska, I am so excited that you came to visit us today and I really look forward to the next album especially now that you told me there's going to be a lot of dancing. And, so tell us where we can find you and connect with you?

FRANCISKA KAY: Okay, so I have my Franciska Music website.

Yael Trusch: Oh?

FRANCISKA KAY: Directly from there you can watch my videos there, you can check out the press about me. Also, obviously on iTunes and Google music, all the major on line platforms and I'm available...

Yael Trusch: And The Franciska Show. I'm also going to direct everybody to go listen to Franciska interview other colleagues, right!

FRANCISKA KAY: Yes, absolutely!

Yael Trusch: Amazing! Thank you so much for being on the show.

FRANCISKA KAY: Thank you. It was such an honor and I'm such a fan of your work and everything you're doing and I'm just really taking notes to my podcasts.

Yael Trusch: I'm happy to share my tips.

FRANCISKA KAY: Thank you so much.

[Theme Music]

Yael Trusch: Thanks, Franciska for stopping by. The new album is called Kol Haolam. You can find much of Franciska's music and her music videos on her website, www.franciskamusic.com and you can reach her there to book her for a performance. Seriously, who has a Bar Mitzvah coming up this year? This year, 2018! Everybody, Happy New Year! I guess, I mean, it's not really our New Year but you know, we do live in this world, so 2018, it's here! Anyway, when are we bringing Franciska to Houston? What do I have to do to make that happen? I can't wait for the new album. I already love this one but when Franciska said the next one is a dance album, hey, I'm all over it! And of course you can find, The Franciska Show on iTunes or your favorite podcast app. All of this and more back at www.jewishlatinprincess.com. Thank you for being here. Thank you for all the wonderful reviews. I hope you have a wonderful week

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