



Cantor Heather Batchelor

Cantor Heather Batchelor is currently completing a masters' thesis on Hasidic dance as embodied spiritual practice, and is the leader of the Ruelle Shul, a grassroots davening community that has been meeting in the back-alleys of Montreal's NDG neighborhood throughout the pandemic. She is a graduate of the Jewish Theological Seminary's cantorial school and has held pulpits in Canada and across the United States. Originally from Minneapolis, Cantor Heather graduated summa cum laude from the University of Minnesota with a combined degree in Jewish Studies, Slavic Languages and Literatures, and East European History, completing her thesis research in the re-emergent Jewish community of post-communist Poland. She began studying dance at the age of seven and graduated high school from a performing arts conservatory. Since moving to Montreal, she has been a regular performer with the Dora Wasserman Yiddish Theatre, and KlezKanada's religious services coordinator since 2015. Cantor Heather lives with her husband, Steven Winkelman, and son, Benny.