

**THE VOLUTION QUARTET**  
**LIVE AT EMMIT'S PLACE**  
INFORMATION PAGE

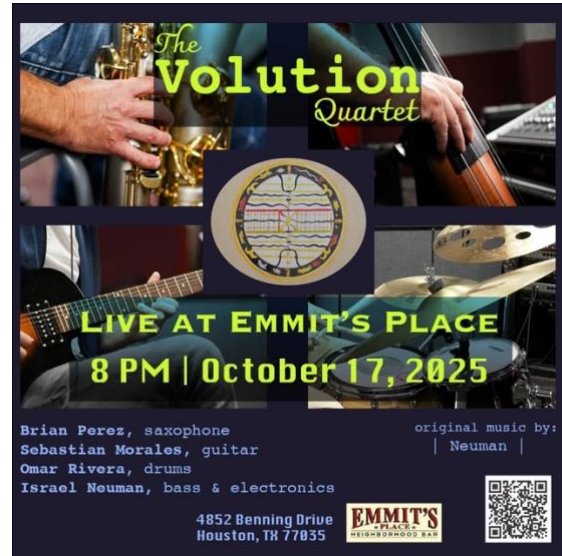
**Featuring:**

Brian Perez, saxophone  
Sebastian Morales, guitar  
Omar Rivera, drums  
Israel Neuman, bass and electronics

**Original Music by Israel Neuman:**

*Kolossim* (Humayun | Freygish)  
*The Wanderer* (Uzzal)  
*Hope* (Nikriz | Mishebeyrach)  
*East Wind* (Saba)  
*Avigayil* (Buselik | Rast)  
*The Weaver* (Lydian)  
*Esav* (Dorian)

Emmit's Place  
4852 Benning Dr, Houston, TX 77035  
October 17, 2025



**VOLUTION QUARTET**

The Volution Quartet explores the rhythmic-melodic intersection of Turkish/Arab maqams with traditional Jewish Klezmer music and ways in which these musical cultures can align with the performance practices of jazz and electroacoustic music. Bassist, composer, and sound artist Israel Neuman joins Houston-based jazz musicians Brian Perez (saxophone), Sebastian Morales (guitar), and Mark Simmons (drums) to present a collection of original compositions, inspired by common musical modalities as well as shared historical, geographical, and cultural references.

**ABOUT THE MUSIC**

***Kolossim* (Humayun | Freygish)**

*Kolossim* is the Hebrew name of the Phrygian city Colossae. Phrygia was an ancient region in the interior of Asia Minor (modern-day Turkey). This composition is written in the Turkish maqam *Humayun*, which is also known in Jewish Klezmer music as *Freygish*. The letter is a reference to the western Phrygian mode, as both scales, as well as the maqam Humayun, start with a minor second. However, in maqam Humayun and the *Freygish* scale, the next interval is augmented second followed by another minor second, creating a tetrachord known as *Hijaz (Hicaz)*.

***The Wanderer* (Uzzal)**

The Turkish maqam *Uzzal*, also of the *Hijaz (Hicaz)* family, is known for a poignant, emotional, and often melancholic character. In the Hebrew Bible, *Uzal* (Hebrew: זל) was a descendant of Shem and the sixth son of Joktan, described as a wanderer and the founder of an Arabian tribe.

***Hope* (Nikriz | Mishebeyrach)**

The *Mi Sheberach* (*Mishebeyrach*) is a traditional Jewish prayer for physical and spiritual healing, asking God to bless the sick with complete restoration. Its name means "the One who blessed." It invokes the blessings given to ancestors to bring healing. In Jewish Klezmer music, *Mishebeyrach* is a scale derived from melodies associated with the prayer in Eastern European traditions. This scale is similar to the Turkish maqam *Nikriz*. The latter is characterized as evoking a range of feelings from joy and excitement to longing and mystique.

### **East Wind (Saba)**

Maqam *Saba* in Turkish music is widely recognized for its intensely emotional, poignant, and somber character. It is often associated with themes of deep sorrow, longing, contemplation, and spiritual reverence. It is frequently used in religious recitations because it evokes a sense of spiritual connection. Nonetheless, the Turkish word *Saba* refers to a "gentle soft breeze" or "early morning breeze", often used in classical poetry to represent a refreshing, light wind.

### **Avigayil (Buselik | Rast)**

This composition is written with reference to the Turkish maqam *Buselik* and the Arabic maqam Rast. The latter means "right" or "rightful." *Avigayil* (the Hebrew for Abigail) was a righteous biblical character who corrected the wrongdoing of her husband, who insulted King David. While the name *Avigayil* is commonly a female name, it is, ironically, a compound joining the two Hebrew words, *Avi* (= father of) and *Gayil* (= joy).

### **The Weaver (Lydian)**

The Lydian mode is the 4th mode of the major scale, characterized by a raised 4th degree (#4), creating a bright, dreamy, and floating sound. The name refers to the ancient kingdom of Lydia in western Asia Minor (modern Turkey), known for its wealth. The ancient Lydian weaving (circa 7th–6th centuries BCE) was a renowned, high-status textile industry, famous for producing luxury garments, vibrant dyes, and intricate woven patterns.

### **Esav (Dorian)**

*Esav* (Esau) is the hairy son of Isaac and Rebecca, who was deceived by his twin brother Jacob to give up his birthright for a bowl of lentil stew. Jacob went on to deceive their blind father, Isaac, into giving him Esau's blessing with the help of their mother Rebecca, by impersonating Esau's fuzziness (hirsuteness) with goatskins.

Ticket Sales: The Volution Quartet Live at Emmit's Place

<https://emmitsplace.com/events/volution-quartet/>

Concert Excerpts Playlist: YouTube

[https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLgc0YWO4eTXvQ2ifcmVfl1rIrZ-6uy\\_MR&si=bv-6KXBR0fINuUg-](https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLgc0YWO4eTXvQ2ifcmVfl1rIrZ-6uy_MR&si=bv-6KXBR0fINuUg-)