**Songs of Collective Memory**

Music serves as a powerful lens through which to understand societal impact and perspectives. It is also an impactful tool of expression and processing both personal and national events, be it joyful or traumatic. That has also been the case throughout the history of Israel, and October 7th is no different. In this resource, we will attempt to explore some of these songs.

[Winter of 73 - חורף 73](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1aw3NvAspHbX04omYuVmKZNG1q8e-x8de_cp-JL2-OBE/edit)

Winter of ‘73 (חורף 73) is a song originally performed by the Education Corp Band . The song is a poignant tribute to the Yom Kippur War, which took place in October 1973. The lyrics reflect the deep emotions and lasting impact of the war on those who lived through it, focusing specifically on the perspective of the children born in the winter of 73, after the war. The song was written in 1994, around the time of the Oslo Accords, with mixed emotions of sadness for bloody wars, and hope for a future of peace.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=epRXQoGwbVY>

Winter of 23 - חורף 23

One of the first songs to come out post October 7th, this refers to Winter of 73 not only by name, but by lyrics as well, echoing the experience of being children of trauma. The song also lends itself to hip-hop and rap, filling two important roles - using a musical style that feel more appropriate to represent the current generation - the young generation that is currently in the army and fighting the war, the generation that is facing its own trauma of the current time, as well as utilizing rap to portray the feelings of anger and loss, giving ample space to the words and expecting the melody support those, and not the other way around

[**Ein Lach Ma Le'Da'og:**](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1PooUmaSx5FCW9tl-gfaZCRp6ER5pOU4W3ZfG-fnddXs/edit)

"The song "Ein Lach Ma Le'Da'og," also known as "Shilchi Li Tachtonim VeGufiyot" (its first words of the chorus), is an Israeli song that depicts the lives of IDF soldiers on the front lines during the Yom Kippur War and the battles that ensued afterward. Upon its release, the song achieved great success, ranking fifth in Kol Israel's annual Hebrew song chart for the year 1974. Uzi Fox frequently performed the song at events with other artists in front of soldiers on the battlefield. The song became associated with the memory of the war, and decades later, it is still occasionally heard on radio stations.

During the Iron Sword War in October 2023, Esther Reda recorded a new cover version of the song in the feminine form, for example: "Nelachamot Kmo Leviot" instead of "Nelachamim Kmo Aryot" as part of a campaign by the "Miluimiot" community (women serving in the reserves) that highlights the contribution of female soldiers, police officers, and fighters on the front lines."

Original version:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pmFpjBUhPA4>

Ester Rada version:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VXLnEAJ1hVs>