

SHOFARSOUNDS SEFIROT

This piece of artwork was created by blowing a set of the 4 basic shofar sounds and running the sounds through software that graphically analyses the sound waves. The resulting image was then used as the foundational structure for this piece.

The 4 basic shofar sounds of *Tekia*, *Shevarim*, *Terua*, and *Tekia Gedola* are depicted starting from the bottom of the piece and progressing upwards.

The sounding of the shofar is discussed in great detail in the Kabbalah. In one of the many *kavanot* (meditations) of the shofar blowing, the sounds of the shofar are associated with aspects of giving, receiving, harmony, and oneness.

These 4 states of consciousness correspond to the 4 letters of the Divine Name ה-ו-ה-י .

The *kavanot* of the shofar blowing breaks down on one simple level into the 4 aspects as follows:

Tekia-----1 long sound-----giving-----י
Shevarim-----3 shorter sounds-----receiving-----ו
Terua-----9 very short sounds-----harmony-----ה
Tekia Gedola----1 extra long sound-----oneness-----י

The long whole sound of the *Tekia* reflects an inner state of joy, overflowing with thankfulness.

The 3 broken cries of the *Shevarim* reflects when we are feeling broken and in a state of lack.

The sound of the *Terua* is so broken that it is whole. The *Terua* is associated with faith and prayer.

It is taught in the Kabbalah that when we reach our truest prayer of the heart, all our brokenness is brought to wholeness in the realization of complete oneness and unconditional love at the root of all creation.

The depiction of the 4 sets of sounds is repeated 10 times horizontally reflecting the 10 *Sefirot* of the Tree of Life. The Kabbalah discusses in great detail the inner workings of these 10 aspects of consciousness and the way in which they describe the interface between our present experience of separation, and our coming to the realization of oneness.

Tzfat Gallery of Mystical Art

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