

Violins of Hope

October 25, 2019

Teddy Abrams, conductor

Gabriel Lefkowitz, violin

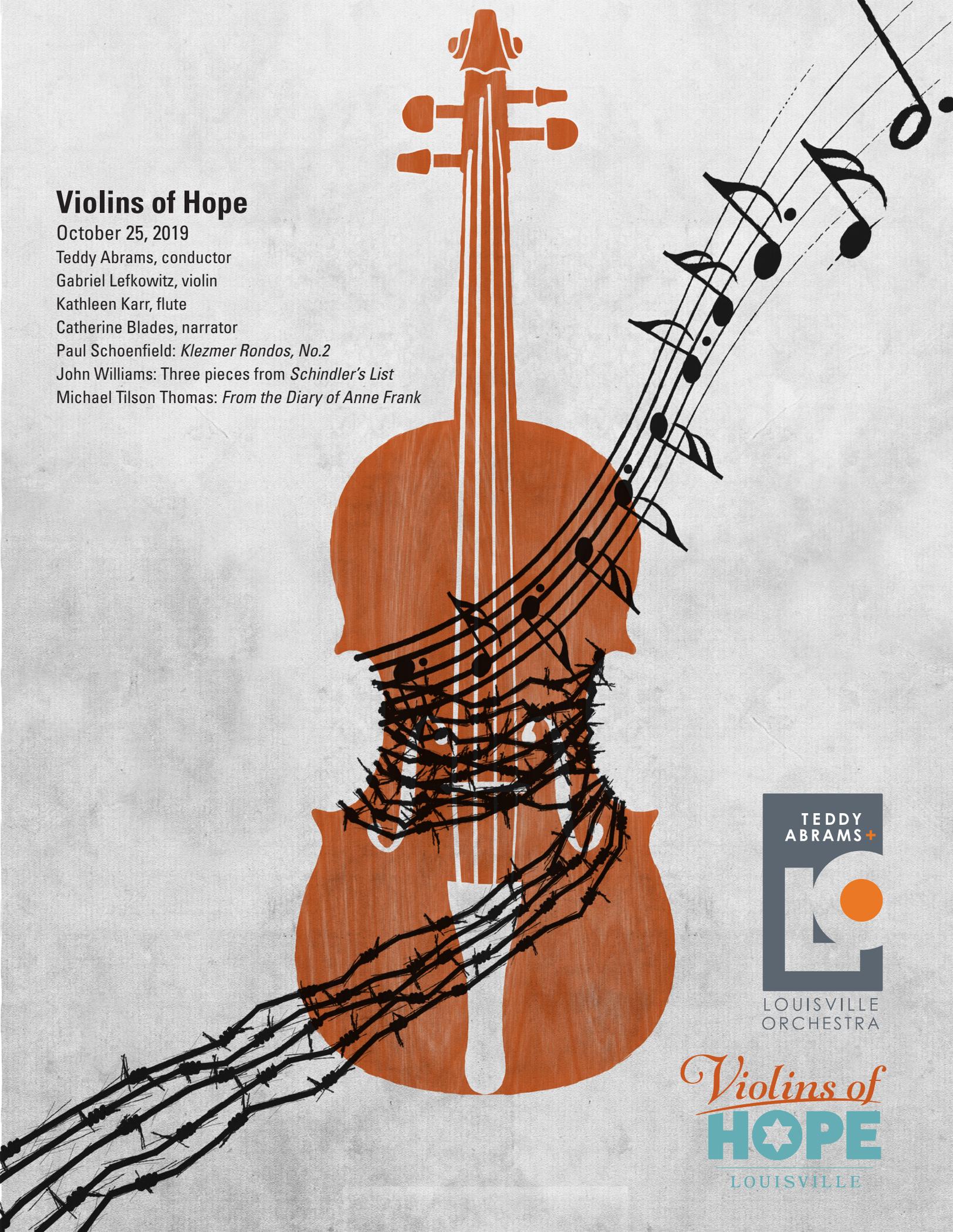
Kathleen Karr, flute

Catherine Blades, narrator

Paul Schoenfield: *Klezmer Rondos, No.2*

John Williams: Three pieces from *Schindler's List*

Michael Tilson Thomas: *From the Diary of Anne Frank*



Violins of
HOPE
LOUISVILLE



THE VIOLINS OF HOPE PROJECT

The Violins of Hope is a collection of instruments that have been restored by violin makers Amnon and Avshalom Weinstein to serve, educate and memorialize the lives of victims of the Holocaust through exhibitions, and projects. The Louisville Orchestra has partnered in a city-wide consortium to bring these violins to our city and hear their voices.

Learning Targets: *Exploring how does context and the manner in which musical compositions are presented influence audience response?*

Composer's Insight

"From The Diary of Anne Frank is a big orchestral piece. It's for narrator and orchestra, [and] it's a big set of symphonic variations inspired by and including text from the Diary of Anne Frank. ... I came to this text because of Audrey Hepburn; Audrey Hepburn was one of the sweetest, most sincere people I've met in my whole life. [She] was as many people know, a real partisan for UNICEF. She said ' You know it's a total accident I became such a star, and I [want] to use my celebrity to really help people.' Imagining a piece with Anne Frank's words with orchestra was something she'd always thought of doing. Through mutual friends at UNICEF, she and I met in Lucerne, I played some of my music for her backstage, she liked it and suddenly we were creating a piece together."

"I now realize that so much of this work is a reflection not only of Anne Frank, but of Audrey Hepburn. Audrey's simplicity, her deeply caring nature, the ingenuous singsong of her voice is all present in the phrase shapes of the orchestra. The work would never have existed without her, and it is dedicated to her"

– Michael Tilson Thomas

Fast Facts:

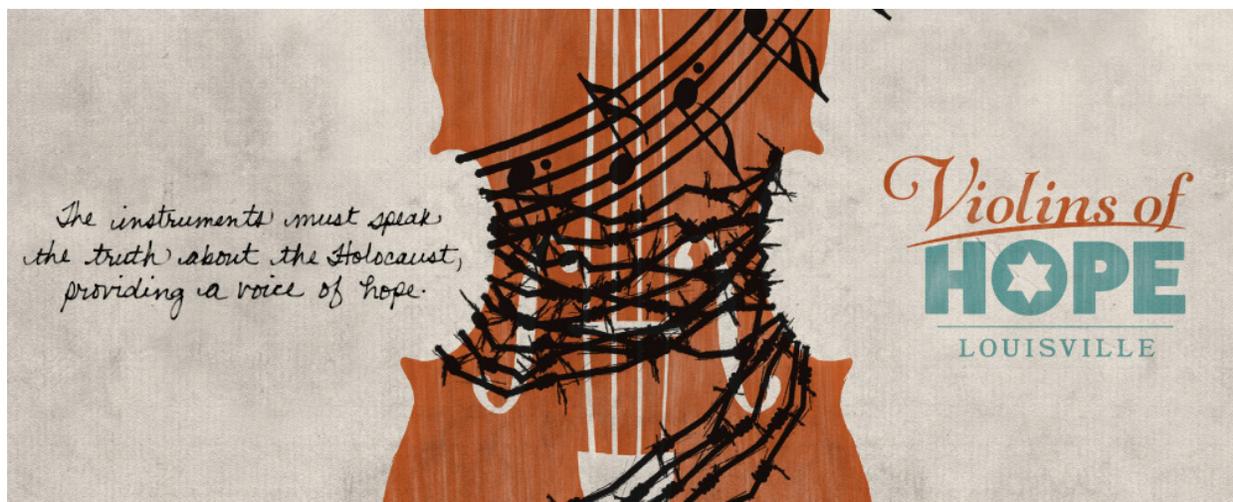
- Audrey Hepburn was born 4 May 1929, just a few weeks older than Anne Frank who was born 12 June 1929. Due to the proximity in their age, Anne Frank's story resonated with Audrey Hepburn deeply. The conception and creation of the piece centers around this connection.
- Audrey Hepburn, born Audrey Kathleen Ruston, 4 May 1929 was a British actress and humanitarian.
- Audrey Hepburn was born in Ixelles, Brussels and spent parts of her childhood in Belgium, England, and in the Netherlands. Exposed to the arts at an early age, Hepburn studied ballet in Amsterdam in 1945 continuing her studies later in London in 1948.
- Her legacy in the entertainment industry is impressive even today as she remains one of only fifteen people who have ever won an Academy, Emmy, Grammy, and Tony Award.

The piece's journey from an idea to the concert stage

- 1989 late Summer Michael Tilson Thomas starts preliminary sketches for the piece
- 1989 late December *From the Diary of Anne Frank* is completed
- 1990 March 19th The world premiere of *From the Diary of Anne Frank* is performed by the New World Symphony, Michael Tilson Thomas, and Audrey Hepburn in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- 1991 May 30th The revised version is completed and performed with Audrey Hepburn, Michael Tilson Thomas and the London Symphony Orchestra.

"We read the diary and we told one another our favorite parts, then she made a cassette tape for me, of her reading those sections of the diary. So at first I got very used to hearing her voice actually reading those words, and the cadences in the music in many cases came out of my being familiar with the way she said the words. But I could not write a piece without having a reflection of my Yiddish heritage in it, and [a piece] that would also reflect the love and knowledge that I have of the big symphonic pieces of Mahler of course. So it's all there, it's a piece with no disguise"

-Michael Tilson Thomas



Diary of Anne Frank in the context of World History

1885	A bank is founded by the Frank family in Frankfurt, Germany
1923 November	Otto Frank (Anne's father) establishes a Dutch branch of his father's bank
1933 January 30	Adolf Hitler comes into power as the leader of the Nazi party
1933 August	Otto Frank moves to Amsterdam
1933 December	Edith Frank (Anne's mother) and Margot (Anne's sister) move to Amsterdam
1934 March	Anne Frank joins her family in Amsterdam
1940 May	Germany invades Western Europe
1942 July 5th	Margot (Anne's sister) receives a deportation notice to report to Westerbork concentration camp
1942 July 6th	Family goes into hiding in annex behind office and warehouse of Otto Frank's company
1944 August 4th	The Frank family with others are betrayed by warehousemen and are found and arrested

Learning Targets:

Identifying the qualities and characteristics of artworks and how it improves one's artistic appreciation and production

Fast FACTS:

- Diary of Anne Frank is commissioned by (UNICEF) United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
- Born 12 June 1929, Anne Frank's birth name is Anneliese Maria Frank
- The Frank family was in hiding a total of 2 years and 30 days in the annex
- Prior to Anne Frank's family going into hiding, she received on her birthday on 12 June 1942, a blank book with a red, brown, and white plaid cover which she used to start her diary. This diary is the catalyst to her routinely entering journal entries that are now considered one of the most important historical firsthand accounts preserved.

ACTIVITY GUIDE

Participant activity

Learning Target and Questions: Interpret and discuss the relationships among human and physical patterns and processes found on individual scales

What people, memories, or objects in your life would inspire you to write a journal entry?

Write a 2-3 sentence journal entry about one of them.

What music would you set your journal entry to? {Beethoven, Beyoncé, Sam Smith, Pharrell Williams, Lizzo, Mozart, John Mayer, you choose!}

1:1 Partner Activity

Analyze and Share: Compare and contrast with a partner the similarities and differences found in comparing journal entry subject matter.

Group Activity

Compare participant's similarities and differences found in music selections set to journal entries.

What to listen for during the concert

First section: Anne Frank's explanation of writing a diary

Second section: Life before and after going into hiding

Third section: Anne's love of nature and her discovery of love

Fourth section: Anne's vision for her future and the world

Paul Schoenfield: Klezmer Rondos, No.2

Paul Schoenfield: b. January 24, 1947

Key Terms: **klezmer music**-music which draws on centuries-old Jewish traditions and incorporates various sounds of music from European and international traditions, including Roma inspired music, Eastern Slavic folk music (particularly Russian music), French Cafe music and early Jazz. In different regions of Eastern and Central Europe, klezmer developed slightly differently, leading to an exciting range of subgenres.

Getting to know John Williams

John Williams: Three pieces from *Schindler's List*

John Williams, born 8 February 1932, is behind the compositions of the most popular films ever projected on the big screen in an impressive career that spans over six decades. His career skyrocketed with his partnership with the acclaimed film director Steven Spielberg. His career blossomed due to his unique skills of writing and pairing music to a wide range of emotions, characters, and landscapes displayed in featured films.

Schindler's List (1993) is based on a novel written about a German industrialist—a member of the Nazi party—who managed to secretly shelter more than a thousand Jews during the Holocaust by employing them in his factories.

Composer's Insight on composing the score to *Schindler's List*

"I had to walk around the room for four or five minutes to catch my breath," Williams reported. "I said to Steven, 'I really think you need a better composer than I am for this film.' And he very sweetly said, 'I know, but they're all dead.'"

Eight score highlights in John Williams' filmography

1959	<i>Daddy-O</i>	2001	<i>A.I.: Artificial Intelligence</i>
1978	<i>Superman</i>	2002	<i>Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets</i>
1982	<i>E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial</i>	2005	<i>Star Wars: Revenge of the Sith</i>
1993	<i>Schindler's List, Jurassic Park</i>	2021	<i>Indiana Jones</i> (upcoming release)

Essential Questions (AS6):

How does time, place, audience, and context affect presenting or performing choices for artworks?

How do forces of cooperation and conflict within and among people, nations and empires influence division and control of earth's surface and resources?

Fact Facts:

- Paul Schoenfield's *Klezmer Rondos, No. 2* is a return to the roots of Klezmer music by showcasing the flute as the prominently featured instrument in the melodic material, diverging from the recent exclusive use of the clarinet.
- Paul Schoenfield known to combining popular, folk, and classical music forms, blends klezmer and classical traditions in *Klezmer Rondos, No. 2*

Anchor Standard 4, Artistic Process: Select, analyze and interpret artistic work for presentation

Anchor Standard 6: Convey meaning through the presentation of artistic work.