



DEBBIE FRIEDMAN  
SCHOOL OF  
SACRED MUSIC

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**Danielle Rodnizki & Robby Wittner**

3rd Year Practicum – DFSSM Class of 2020

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# Yom HaShoah Commemoration

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*Featuring:*

Pedro d'Aquino, piano

## Program Outline

Theme	Title	Setting	Source*
Thread of Memory	♪ <i>Niggun – Wiegala</i>	Ilse Weber	<u><i>Ich wandre durch Theresienstadt</i></u>
	I Have Taken An Oath	Teddy Klaus	Unpublished manuscript
Songs of Loss & Faith	<i>Bar Mitzve</i>	Frederick Picket, words by a boy becoming Bar Mitzvah at a DP camp in liberated Germany	"Three Songs of Faith"
	<i>Shifrele's Portret</i>	M. Rauch, words by M. Gebirtig (Krakow, 1938)	Unpublished manuscript
	<i>Yisrolik</i>	Misha Veksler, words by Lev Rozenthal	<u><i>We Are Here: Songs of the Holocaust</i></u>
	<i>Ani Ma'amin</i>	Israel Alter; words based on Maimonides	" <i>Shirei Yisrael</i> ," OOP
	♪ <i>Ani Ma'amin</i>	Melody from Warsaw Ghetto, arr. R. Neumann; words based on Maimonides	<u><i>Great Songs of Israel</i></u>
Thread of Memory	I Have Taken An Oath	Teddy Klaus	Unpublished manuscript
Songs of Testimony	<i>Shema</i>	Simon A. Sargon, words by Primo Levi	" <i>Shemà</i> ," TMP
	The Butterfly	Charles Davidson, words by Pavel Friedman (died in Terezín at age 14)	<u><i>I Never Saw Another Butterfly</i></u>
	In Spite of Everything	Peter Nero, words by Anne Frank	Unpublished manuscript
	<i>Ashrei HaGafrur</i>	Max Helfman, words by Hannah Szenesh	"Two Hannah Szenesh Poems," TMP
	♪ <i>Wiegala</i>	Ilse Weber, a songwriter in Prague who was sent to Terezín & eventually perished at a death camp in 1943	<u><i>Ich wandre durch Theresienstadt</i></u>
Songs of Memorial	<i>Hazkarah Likdoshim (Eil Malei Rachamim)</i>	Israel Alter, arr. J. Jacobson	Unpublished manuscript
	Reb Levi Yitzchok's <i>Kaddish</i>	Music by J. Engel, words by Reb Levi Yitzchok of Berditchev	<u><i>Heritage of Music</i></u>
Thread of Memory	I Have Taken An Oath	Teddy Klaus	Unpublished manuscript

♪ = Please join us in singing!

**\*Sources:**

- *Ich wandre durch Theresienstadt: Lieder für Singstimme und Klavier*, Boosey & Hawkes · Bote & Bock, 2008, Berlin
- "Three Songs of Faith," Horizon Music Publications, 1970, Flushing, NY
- *We Are Here: Songs of the Holocaust*, Edu. Department of the Workmen's Circle, 1983, New York
- "*Shirei Yisrael*," Eagle Press, 1952, Johannesburg, South Africa — Out of print
- *Great Songs of Israel*, Tara Publications, 1975, Cedarhurst, NY
- "Shemà/Hear: Five Poems of Primo Levi for Soprano, Flute, Clarinet, Cello and Piano," Simon A. Sargon, Transcontinental Music Publications, 1994, New York, NY
- *I Never Saw Another Butterfly*, Ashbourne Music Publications, 1971, Elkins Park, PA
- "Two Hannah Szenesh Poems," Max Helfman, Transcon. Music Publications, 1964, New York, NY
- *Heritage of Music: The Music of the Jewish People*, Judith Kaplan Eisenstein, Union of American Hebrew Congregations (UAHC), 1972, New York, NY



**Thank you for your generous support and guidance:**

Cantor Jacob Mendelson

Cantor Joshua Breitzer

Cantor Robert Abelson

Cantor Benjie Ellen Schiller

Hazzan Natasha Hirschhorn

Cantor Richard Cohn

Cantor Faith Steinsnyder

Cantor Ellen Dreskin

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DFSSM Class of 2020

Andy Estevez

Harriet Lewis, Elio Cruz, and the HUC-JIR/NY Maintenance Team

Cantor Daniel Singer, Rabbis Ammiel Hirsch, Diana Fersko,

Samantha Natov, & Rena Rifkin, and the entire Stephen Wise community

Rabbi Jeffrey Gale, Ralph Selig, and the entire Hebrew Tabernacle community

Danielle's parents, Irene & Jorge Rodnizki

Robby's wife, Alex Wittner, and parents, Amy & Steven Wittner

## **I Have Taken An Oath**

Music and words: Teddy Klaus

I have taken an oath to remember it all,  
to remember to forget nothing at all.



## **Bar Mitzve**

Music: Frederick Piket

Words: Spoken by a boy becoming Bar Mitzvah at a DP camp in liberated Germany

Translation: Joyce Rosenzweig

Ikh bet as der tate un di mame  
Shoyn arunter fun himl  
Un zen az ir zun vert Bar Mitzve haynt  
Un zoln zey visn az mayn shvester un ikh  
Zaynen geblibn gute yidn di gantze yorn  
Un mir vern imer azoy blaybn

I pray that my father and my mother  
Are looking down from heaven,  
And seeing that their son is becoming Bar Mitzvah today.  
And they should know that my sister and I  
Have remained good Jews all these years  
And that we will always remain so.



## **Shifrele's Portret**

Music: M. Rauch

Words: M. Gebirtig (Krakow, 1938)

Af der vant links fun mayn bet  
Henkt mayn tochter, Shifrele's portret  
Oft mol in der mit der nakht  
Ven ikh benk nokh ir un trakht...  
Ze ikh vi zi kukt af mir.  
Her ikh vi zi ret:

On the wall over my bed  
Hangs the portrait of my daughter, Shifrele  
Often in the middle of the night  
When I'm lonesome for her I think...  
I see that she is looking at me.  
I hear her talking to me:

"Tateshi, ikh veys s'iz dir bang  
S'vet der krig shoyn nit gedoyern lang –  
Kumen vel ikh bald tzu dir;  
Sklapt der friling shoyn in tir.  
Kumen vel ikh bald tzu dir;  
Sklapt der friling shoyn in tir."

"Father, I know it pains you  
The war will not last long –  
I'll come to you soon;  
Spring is already knocking at the door.  
I'll come to you soon;  
Spring is already knocking at the door."

Shmeychlt lib tzu mir un ret...  
Shifrele's portret.

Lovingly, it talks to me...  
Shifrele's portrait.

## Yisrolik

Music: Misha Veksler

Words: Lev Rozenhal

Translation: Cantor Robert Abelson

So come and buy some cigarettes  
Some candies, and some cake  
These goods were never cheaper than today  
My life is worth a penny  
That's all I ever make  
This ghetto here is where I earn my pay

I'm called Yisrolik, a kid from the ghetto  
I'm called Yisrolik, I'm tough and I am strong  
Though I'm left here in this ghetto,  
I can give you a whistle and a song!

A coat without a collar  
I've pants made from a sack  
I have galoshes, but I'm out of shoes  
Whoever starts complaining, whoever starts to laugh  
You just be careful – I'll show you what I'll do!

I'm called Yisrolik...

Don't think that I was born here,  
this miserable street  
I had a mother and a father too  
But now I have no family  
Don't think that it's a joke  
I'm wandering 'round like winds and gypsies do

I'm called Yisrolik, and when no one sees me  
Secretly I wipe away a tear  
I've had troubles; let's not talk about it  
Why remember? It makes me feel so sad.

.....

## Ani Ma'amin #1

Music: Cantor Israel Alter

Words: Based on Maimonides

Source: Habakkuk 3:2

Translation: *Mishkan T'filah*, p. 675

Ani ma'amin  
B'emunah sh'leimah b'vi'at haMashi'ach.  
V'af al pi sheyitmameiha,  
Im kol-zeh ani ma'amin.  
Im kol-zeh achakeh lo b'chol-yom sheyavo.

## Ani Ma'amin #2

Music: Melody from the Warsaw Ghetto, arr. R. Neumann

Words: Based on Maimonides

Source: Habakkuk 3:2

Translation: *Mishkan T'filah*, p. 675

אני מאמין  
באמונה שלמה בביאת המשיח.  
ואף על פי שיתמהמה,  
עם כל-זה אני מאמין.  
עם כל-זה אחכה לו בכל-יום שיבוא.

I believe with a perfect faith in the Messiah's coming.  
And even if the Messiah is delayed, I will wait day by day.

## Shema

Music: Simon A. Sargon

Words: Primo Levi

Voi che vivete sicuri  
Nelle vostre tiepide case,  
Voi che trovate tornando a sera  
Il cibo caldo e visi amici:

Considerate se questo è un uomo,  
Che lavora nel fango  
Che non conosce pace  
Che lotta per mezzo pane  
Che muore per un "sì" o per un "no."  
Considerate se questa è una donna,  
Senza capelli e senza nome  
Senza più forza di ricordare  
Vuoti gli occhi e freddo il grembo  
Come una rana, una rana d'inverno.

Meditate che questo è stato:  
Vi comando queste parole.  
Scolpitele nel vostro cuore  
Stando in casa, andando per via:  
Coricandovi, alzandovi  
Ripetetele ai vostri figli.

O vi si sfaccia la casa,  
La malattia vi impedisca,  
I vostri nati torcano il viso da voi.

You who dwell securely  
In your warm houses,  
You who find hot food & friendly faces awaiting you  
When you return home in the evening:

Consider whether this is a man,  
Who works in the mud  
Who knows no peace  
Who struggles for a crust of bread  
Who dies at a "yes" or a "no."  
Consider if this is a woman,  
Without hair and nameless  
Without the strength to remember  
With eyes that are empty & a womb that is cold  
Like a frog, a frog in the winter.

Meditate on the fact that this has taken place:  
I commend these words to you.  
Engrave them on your heart  
When you are home, when you walk on your way:  
Lying down, rising up  
Repeat them to your children.

Or may your house disintegrate,  
May disease make you powerless,  
May your children turn their faces away from you.

## The Butterfly

Music: Charles Davidson

Words: Pavel Friedman, who died in Terezín at age 14

Only I never saw another butterfly...

The last, the very last, so richly, brightly, dazzlingly yellow.

Perhaps if the sun's tears would sing against a white stone,  
Such a yellow is carried lightly way up high.  
It went away, it went away, I'm sure  
Because it looked to kiss the world goodbye.

For seven weeks I've lived in here, penned up inside this ghetto,  
But I have found my people here, the dandelions care for me  
And the white chestnut candles in the court.

Only I never saw another butterfly...



## In Spite of Everything

Music: Peter Nero

Words: Anne Frank

It's really a wonder that I haven't lost all my ideals  
Because they seem so absurd and impossible... to carry out  
And yet I keep them because in spite of everything...  
I still believe that people are really good at heart...



## Ashrei HaGafur

Music: Max Helfman

Words: Hannah Szenesh

Translation: *Mishkan T'filah*, p. 675

Ashrei hagamfrur shenisraf v'hitzit l'havot.  
Ashrei hal'havah sheba'arah b'sit'rei l'avot.  
Ashrei hal'avot sheyad'u lachadol b'chavod, b'chavod.  
Ashrei hagamfrur shenisraf v'hitzit l'havot. Ashrei!

אשרי הגפרור שנשרף והצית להבות.  
אשרי הלהבה שבערה בסתרי לבבות.  
אשרי הלבבות שידעו לחדול בכבוד, בכבוד.  
אשרי הגפרור שנשרף והצית להבות. אשרי!

Blessed is the match consumed in kindling of flame.  
Blessed is the flame that burns in the secret fastness of the heart.  
Blessed is the heart with the strength to stop its beating for honor's sake.  
Blessed is the match consumed in kindling of flame.

## Wiegala

Music & words: Ilse Weber, a singer-songwriter in Prague who was sent to Terezín, where she taught the children and wrote more songs, eventually perishing at a death camp in 1943  
Translation: Marco Valdo, adapted by Hazzan Natasha Hirschhorn

♪ *Wiegala, wiegala weier*, the wind plays on a lyre  
It sweetly plays in reeds so green  
The nightingale, his song will sing  
*Wiegala, wiegala weier*, the wind plays on a lyre

♪ *Wiegala, wiegala werne*, the moon is like a lantern  
Above it stands in darkness cold  
And gazes down upon this world  
*Wiegala, wiegala werne*, the moon is like a lantern

*Wiegala, wiegala wille*, the world's so silent and still  
No sound disturbs its peace and calm  
So sleep, my baby, little one  
*Wiegala, wiegala wille*, the world's so silent and still

## Wiegala

English translation by Marco Valdo,  
adapted by Hazzan Natasha Hirschhorn

Ilse Weber,  
arr. Hazzan Natasha Hirschhorn

9      Wie ga-la, wie - ga-la, wei - er, the wind plays on — a ly - re. It  
    Wie - ga-la, wie - ga-la, wer - ne, the moon is like — a lan - tern. A -

16      sweet - ly plays in reeds so green. The night - in - gale, his song will  
    bove it stands in dark - ness cold and ga - zes down u - pon this

    sing.      Wie - ga-la, wie - ga-la, wei - er, the wind plays on — a ly - re.  
    world.      Wie - ga-la, wie - ga-la, wer - ne, the moon is like — a lan - tern.



## Hazkarah Likdoshim (Eil Malei Rachamim)

Music: Cantor Israel Alter, arr. J. Jacobson for Cantor Jacob Mendelson & the Boston Zamir Chorale  
for the commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the Shoah at the United Nations

Words: Liturgy, with some additions for the Shoah

Eil malei rachamim,	אל מלא רחמים,
shochein bam'romim.	שוכן במרומים.
Ham'tze m'nuchah n'chonah b'tzeil kanfei haSh'chinah,	המצא מנוחה נכונה בצל כנפי השכינה,
B'ma'alot k'doshim ut'horim,	במעלות קדושים וטהורים,
k'zohar haraki'a me'irim umazhirim,	כזוהר הרקיע מאירים ומזהירים,
et nishmot acheinu v'achyoteinu	את נשמות אחינו ואחיותינו
shenehergu, v'shenishchatu, v'shenisrfu chayim	שנהרגו, ושנשחטו, ושנשרפו חיים
al kiddush haShem	על קידוש השם
b'Auschwitz, Majdanek, Treblinka, Bergen Belsen,	באושוויץ, מיידנק, טרבלינקה, ברגן-בלזן,
v'chol m'komot hashmad b'Eiropah.	וכל מקומות השמד באירופה.
Ba'avur shekulanu kol b'nai Yisrael	בעבור שכולנו כל בני ישראל
mityachadim im zichram hakadosh	מתייחדים עם זכרם הקדוש
umitpal'lim b'ad aliyat nishmoteihem.	ומתפללים בעד עליית נשמותיהם.
B'gan Eden t'hei m'nuchatham.	בגן עדן תהי מנוחתם.
Lachein ba'al harachamim yastireim	לכן בעל הרחמים יסתירם
b'seiter k'nafav l'olamim,	בסתר כנפיו לעולמים,
V'yitzror bitzror hachayim et nishmoteihem.	ויצרור בצרור החיים את נשמותיהם.
Eretz, al t'chasi damam!	ארץ, אל תכסי דמם!
V'yanuchu v'shalom al mishk'voteihem,	וינוחו בשלום על משכבותיהם,
v'nomar: Amen.	ונאמר: אמן.

God full of mercy,  
who dwells on high,  
Grant proper rest in the shadow of the wings of the Shechinah,  
In the heights of the holy and pure,  
who illuminate and shine like the glow of the heavens –  
The souls of our brothers and sisters  
who were murdered, slaughtered, and burned alive for the sanctification of God's name  
in Auschwitz, Majdanek, Treblinka, Bergen Belsen, and all the places of destruction in Europe.  
Since all of us, all the Children of Israel join together with their sacred memory,  
and we pray for the elevation of their spirits.  
May their resting place be in the Garden of Eden.  
Therefore the Master of mercy shall shelter them in the shelter of God's wings for eternity,  
And God will bind their souls in the bond of life.  
Earth, do not cover up their blood!  
Let them rest in peace where they lie, and let us say: Amen.

## **Reb Levi Yitzchok's Kaddish**

Music: J. Engel

Words: Reb Levi Yitzchok of Berditchev, adapted for Paul Robeson

Sung according to Paul Robeson's rendition

A good day to the Lord God Almighty!

I, Levi Isaac son of Sarah from Berditchev,

Here am I before Thee with a grave and earnest plea from us, Thy people Israel.

What hast Thou done to us, Thy people Israel?

Why hast Thou so oppressed us, Thy people Israel?

Wherever sorrows follow the sons of the oppressed,

Whoever suffers, all of the sons of the oppressed,

Whate'er be tried, there is spite against the sons of the oppressed,

The sons of the oppressed of God on high.

On this Earth, how many nations?

The Romans, the Persians, the Babylonians, the Germans,

What boast they?

Our ruler is above all rulers.

The Germans what boast they?

Our kingdom is above all kingdoms.

But I, Levi Isaac son of Sarah from Berditchev, declare:

Yisgadal v'yiskadash sh'mei raboh!

But I, Levi Isaac son of Sarah from Berditchev, declare:

Yisgadal v'yiskadash sh'mei raboh!

From my place, I will not move.

I will not move from my place.

And an end let there be to all this sorrow and suffering.

Yisgadal v'yiskadash sh'mei raboh!

## Kaddish Yatom

Text: Liturgy

Translation: *Mishkan T'filah*, p. 598

Yitgadal v'yitkadesh sh'mei raba.  
B'alma di v'ra chirutei,  
V'yamlich malchutei,  
B'chayeichon uv'yomeichon  
Uv'chayei d'chol beit Yisrael,  
Ba'agala uvizman kariv. V'imru: Amen.

יתגדל ויתקדש שמה רבא.  
בעלמא די ברא כרעותה,  
וימליך מלכותה,  
בחייכון וביומיכון  
ובחיי דכל בית ישראל,  
בעגלא ובזמן קריב. ואמרו: אמן.

Y'hei sh'mei raba m'varach  
L'alam ul'almei almaya.

יהא שמה רבא מברך  
לעלם ולעלמי עלמיא.

Yitbarach v'yishtabach, v'yitpa'ar  
V'yitromam v'yitnasei,  
V'yithadar v'yit'aleh v'yithalal  
Sh'mei d'kudsha b'rich Hu,  
L'eila min kol birchata v'shirata,  
Tushb'chata v'nechemata,  
Da'amiran b'alma. V'imru: Amen.  
Y'hei sh'lama raba min sh'maya,  
V'chayim aleinu v'al kol Yisrael.  
V'imru: Amen.

יתברך וישתבח, ויתפאר  
ויתרומם ויתנשא,  
ויתהדר ויתעלה ויתהלל  
שמה דקודשא בריך הוא,  
לעלא מן כל ברכתא ושירתא,  
תשבחתא ונחמתא,  
דאמירן בעלמא. ואמרו: אמן.  
יהא שלמא רבא מן שמיא,  
וחיים עלינו ועל כל ישראל.  
ואמרו: אמן.

Oseh shalom bimromav,  
Hu ya'aseh shalom aleinu,  
V'al kol Yisrael. V'imru: Amen.

עשה שלום במרומיו,  
הוא יעשה שלום עלינו,  
ועל כל ישראל. ואמרו: אמן.

Exalted and hallowed be God's great name  
In the world which God created, according to plan.  
May God's majesty be revealed in the days of our lifetime  
And the life of all Israel – speedily, imminently, to which we say: Amen.

Blessed be God's great name to all eternity.

Blessed, praised, honored, exalted, extolled, glorified, adored, and lauded  
Be the name of the Holy Blessed One, beyond all earthly words and songs of blessing,  
Praise, and comfort. To which we say: Amen.

May there be abundant peace from heaven, and life, for us and all Israel.  
To which we say: Amen.

May the One who creates harmony on high, bring peace to us and to all Israel.  
To which we say: Amen.