

CANTOR'S MESSAGE

20TH ANNIVERSARY PERFORMANCE OF *I REMEMBER* AT CANTOR EARL ROGERS TRIBUTE SABBATH

Almost twenty years ago, at the Cantor Earl Rogers Tribute Sabbath, the chamber group Serenata – flute, harp and cello – performed with me a moving piece of music, *I Remember*, based on The Diary of Anne Frank.



This beautiful piece captures the psychological and spiritual journey that Anne made during her time in hiding.

Last year, when I reconnected with the composer, Michael Cohen, and the flutist, Lisa Hansen, who commissioned the work, we decided we should celebrate the inception of the piece with a 20th anniversary performance at the temple.

I Remember had its world premiere at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the death of Anne Frank and the end of the Holocaust. Several months later I performed the piece at the temple with Serenata, as well as at other venues.

Come for Shabbat on Friday, May 1. Come for the music, and come to pay tribute to those whose lives were lost.

Meredith

REVIEWS OF *I REMEMBER*

In the nearly twenty years since, *I Remember* has been recorded by three chamber groups, and performed sixty times, to these reviews:

“Music inspired by the Holocaust isn’t exactly a rare commodity, but *I Remember* is one of the few efforts that work as a remembrance and as a strong individual work. A haunting, moving piece, with moments of real beauty.”

—Lawrence Johnson, Chicago Tribune

“Haunting music, with a touching evocation of Holocaust text.”

—Donald Rosenberg, Cleveland Plain Dealer

“The concert was transfigured by an inspired setting of the words of Anne Frank.”

—Mark Kenny, Pittsburgh Tribune

“A remarkable work.”

—Ted McIrvine, Classical Voice of North Carolina

“A beautiful and deeply touching song cycle.”

—Joseph Stevenson, All Music Guide

“Heartbreaking, uplifting, life-affirming, and spellbinding.”

—Tess A. Miller, The Flute Association Journal

Michael Cohen, composer



Composer Michael Cohen’s diverse career includes works for opera, musical theater, chamber ensemble, and television.

A graduate of the High School of Music and Art, the Dalcroze School of Music, a cum laude graduate and the recipient of the Millender Prize from Brandeis University, Michael studied composition with Harold Shapero and Irving Fine.

He is the composer of three related pieces based on Anne Frank’s diary: *Yours, Anne*; *I Am Anne Frank* and *I Remember*.

Other projects include scoring and arranging *A Passover Seder*, presented by Elie Weisel and broadcast nationally on PBS.

Lisa Hansen, flutist



Flutist Lisa Hansen is a graduate of The Juilliard School, she was featured in the EMMY award-winning CBS TV documentary: “*Juilliard & Beyond - A Life in Music*.”

Formerly principal flutist of the Mexico City Philharmonic, Lisa is an avid champion of Latin American and Spanish music. Her recording of Rodrigo’s *Concierto Pastoral* with the London Royal Philharmonic Orchestra (EMI Classics) won critical acclaim. She performs and records with the GRAMMY nominated North/South Consonance ensemble. Lisa has performed extensively in the United States, Latin America, and Europe. She is Flute Professor and Concert Artist at Kean University.



THE 29TH ANNUAL CANTOR EARL ROGERS TRIBUTE SABBATH

FRIDAY, MAY 1
7:30PM

A 20th Anniversary Performance of
I Remember
(based on The Diary of Anne Frank)



Featuring The Serenata Trio
(*flute, harp, cello*)

with

Cantor Meredith Stone, soprano
Michael Cohen, composer

*I Remember has been described as the
distillation of the psychological and spiritual
journey Anne Frank made during her time
in hiding.*

SACRED STORIES SHABBAT

FRIDAY, MARCH 20
& FRIDAY, MAY 8
7:30PM



The joyful music of our band and the Temple Tones fills this uplifting Shabbat service. We are inspired by the sacred sparks we see in ordinary and extraordinary stories congregants share with us all.

This service inspires as it connects us to each other and our tradition.