

THE SHAOL AND LOUIS POZEZ MEMORIAL CONCERT

A Celebration of Israel at 75



An Interfaith Concert/Event Celebration

All music by Daniel Asia

Performers

Jeremy Huw Williams, baritone

Daniel Linder, piano

Steven Moeckel, violin

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

Holsclaw Hall

7:00 p.m.

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The Pozez Family Fund at the
Jewish Community Foundation
of Southern Arizona



Israel at 75

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

Holsclaw Hall

7:00 p.m.

PROGRAM

All music by Daniel Asia

Welcome
Daniel Asia

Opening Comments
James Harrigan

Why (?) Jacob (1982).....Daniel Linder, piano

Kohanic (Priestly) Blessing
Samuel Cohon, Robert Hanshaw

Remarks
Bruce Ash
Thomas Louchheim
Gil Ribak

The Amichai Songs (2012)..... Jeremy Huw Williams, baritone
Daniel Linder, piano

Remarks
Michael Anderson
Humberto Lopez

Psalm 30 (1986)..... Jeremy Huw Williams, Daniel Linder
Steven Moeckel, violin

Final Comments
Daniel Asia



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Birkat HaKohanim

The LORD bless you and protect you!
The LORD deal kindly and graciously with you!
The LORD bestow His favor upon you and grant you peace!

Amichai Songs

By Yehuda Amichai

I God's Hand in the World

God's hand is in the world
like my mother's hand in the guts of the slaughtered chicken
on Sabbath eve.
What does God see through the window
while his hands reach into the world?
What does my mother see?

My pain is already a grandfather:
it has begotten two generations
of pains that look like it.
My hopes have erected white housing projects
far away from the crowds inside me.
My girlfriend forgot her love on the sidewalk
like a bicycle. All night outside, in the dew.

Children mark the eras of my life
and the eras of Jerusalem
with moon chalk on the street.
God's hand in the world

II

On a roof in the Old City
laundry hanging in the late afternoon sunlight:
the white sheet of a woman who is my enemy,
the towel of a man who is my enemy,
to wipe off the sweat of his brow.

In the sky of the Old City
a kite.
At the other end of the string,
a child

I can't see
because of the wall.

We have put up many flags,
they have put up many flags.
To make us think that they're happy.
To make them think that we're happy.

III Through Two Points Only (*Theorem in geometry*)

A planet once got married to a star,
and inside, voices talked of future war.
I only know what I was told in class:
through two points only one straight line can pass.

A stray dog chased us down an empty street.
I threw a stone; the dog would not retreat.
The king of Babel stooped to eating grass.
Through two points only one straight line can pass.

Your small sob is enough for many pains,
as locomotive-power can pull long trains.
When will we step inside the looking-glass?
Through two points only one straight line can pass.

At times I stands apart, at times it rhymes
with you, at times we's singular, at times
plural, at times I don't know what. Alas,
through two points only one straight line can pass.

Our life of joy turns to a life of tears,
our life eternal to a life of years.
Our life of gold became a life of brass.
Through two points only one straight line can pass.

IV Sonnet from the Voyage (*To V.S., captain of the Rimmon*)

Gulls escorted us. From time to time
one would fly down upon the waves and settle
there, like the rubber ducks when I was little
inside the bathtub of a far-off dream.

Then fog descended, all the winds were stilled,
a buoy danced and its slow ringing raised
memories of another life, effaced.

And then we knew: that we were in the world.

And the world sensed us there, with empathy;
God called to you and called to me again
with the same call, by this time almost banal,

that once addressed the patriarchs in the Bible.
We didn't answer. Even the mild rain
splashed down, as if being wasted, on the sea



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V Almost a Love Poem

If my parents and your parents
Had not immigrated to Israel
In 1936.
We would have met in 1944
On the ramp in Auschwitz.
I at 20.
You at 3.

*Where's mama?
Where's tate?*

What's your name?
Channa'le.

VI A young Soldier; From In a Right Angle:
a Cycle of Quatrains (*three quatrains*)

A young soldier lies in the springtime, cut off from his name.
His body is budding and flowering. From artery and vein
his blood babbles on, uncomprehending and small.
God boils the flesh of the lamb in its mother's pain.

Like torn shirts that my mother couldn't mend,
the dead are strewn about the world. Like them,
we'll never love or know what voices weep
and winds will pass by to say Amen.

In the right angle between a dead man and his mourner I'll
start
living from now on, and wait there as it grows dark.
The woman sits with me, the girl in her fiery cloud
rose into the sky, and into my wide-open heart.

*The translation of "Almost a love poem" is used with the permission
of Benjamin and Barbara Harshav. All other Yehuda Amichai poems
and translations are used with the permission of Chana Amichai and
Stephen Mitchell.*

Psalm 30

(A psalm. A song for dedicating the House of David.)
I shall extol you, *Adonai*, because You raised me up;
You gave my enemies no joy on my account.
Adonai, my God, I cried out to you and you healed me.
Adonai, You raised up my life from *Sheol*,
You revived me from among those going down to the grave.

Sing out to *Adonai*, pious souls, and praise One's Holy
Name.

For One's anger lasts a second, but One's favor lasts a
lifetime.
In the eve you may go to bed weeping, but in the morn
there is joy.

And I, I declared in health: I can never grow feeble!
Adonai when You wished, You made me a mountain of
strength,
but when You hid Your face, I was terrified.
I called out to you, *Adonai*; I pleaded with my Lord:

"What profit will come from my blood, from my descent
into the pit?
Can dust acknowledge you? Can it declare your
faithfulness?"

Hear, *Adonai*, deal graciously with me,
Adonai, be my helper!"

You changed my mourning to an ecstatic dance,
You loosed my sackcloth, and robed me with joy,
that my heart might sing out to You and not be still.
To *Adonai*, my God, I shall always give thanks.

*Translation by Michael Rosenzweig and used with his
permission.*



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About the Artists

DANIEL ASIA has enjoyed grants from Meet the Composer, UK Fulbright Arts Award, Gug-genheim, MacDowell Tanglewood and DAAD Fellowships, ASCAP and BMI prizes, Copland Fund grants, and numerous others. He was recently honored with a Music Academy Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. From 1991-1994 he was Meet-the-Composer Composer- in Residence of the Phoenix Symphony, and from 1977-1991 the co-music Director and Conductor of the New York-based contemporary music ensemble Musical Elements. He is Professor of Composition and Head of the Composition Area at The University of Arizona Fred Fox School of Music and President of The Center for American Culture and Ideas. The recorded works of Daniel Asia may be heard on the labels of Summit, New World, Attacca, Al-bany, Babel, Innova, and Mushkatweek.

The Welsh baritone **JEREMY HUW WILLIAMS** studied at St John's College, Cambridge, at the National Opera Studio, and with April Cantelo. He made his debut with Welsh National Opera as Guglielmo (*Così fan tutte*) and has since appeared in more than 60 operatic roles. He was award-ed an Honorary Fellowship by Glyndŵr University in 2009 for services to music in Wales and re-ceived the honorary degree of Doctor of Music from the University of Aberdeen in 2011.

Violinist **STEVEN MOECKEL** has engaged audiences and critics worldwide with his effortless virtuos-ity, vivid characterization, and uncanny ability to capture the very essence of a work. A graduate of both the famous Hochschule Mozarteum in Salzburg and Indiana University in Bloomington, Steven Moeckel has served as Concertmaster of the Ulm Philharmonic in Germa-ny, the Tucson Symphony Orchestra, The Phoenix Symphony, and the Santa Fe Opera. In 2020 he was awarded a tenured violin professorship at Northern Arizona University.

DANIEL LINDER is Assistant Professor of Piano at the University of Arizona's Fred Fox School of Music. Recent accolades include the Fresno Musical Club Susan Torres Award, and prizes in the James Ramos International Competition, the Se-attle International Piano Competition, and the Los Angeles International Liszt Competition, among others. Daniel is an avid performer of 20th- and 21st-century works. His recordings of solo and duo piano works by Daniel Asia are included on *Ivory II*, released by Summit Records in early 2021.



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