



TEREZÍN MUSIC FOUNDATION

Mark Ludwig, Executive Director

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CELEBRATED PIANIST JONATHAN BISS TO PERFORM AT SYMPHONY HALL BOSTON OCTOBER 16, 2022

SENATOR ED MARKEY AND REAR ADMIRAL SUSAN BLUMENTHAL TO SPEAK AND ACCEPT HONORS AT CONCERT EVENT DINNER.

Program presents works by Viennese masters Berg, Schönberg and Schubert, plus a TMF commission world premiere by Coro Allegro of composer Jeremiah Klarman's choral setting of new poems by Rita Dove and Almog Behar.

Event titled "Where the Beauty of a Work of Art Begins" is produced by scholar, musician and activist Mark Ludwig to benefit Terezín Music Foundation concerts, commissions and Holocaust and genocide education programs worldwide.

Tickets are at tmfgala.org for the 3 PM reception, 4 PM concert and optional benefactors' dinner.

BOSTON MAY 10, 2022 — World renowned pianist **Jonathan Biss** headlines at Boston Symphony Hall October 16 with a program of works by Viennese masters Alban Berg, Arnold Schönberg and Franz Schubert; the concert also presents the world premiere of rising Boston composer **Jeremiah Klarman's** Terezín Music Foundation commission, a setting of TMF-commissioned poems by **Rita Dove** and **Almog Behar**, to be performed by **Coro Allegro** and members of the **Arneis String Quartet**. **Senator Ed Markey** and **Rear Admiral Susan Blumenthal** will accept honors at a dinner at the Hall following the concert. The event, comprising a 3 PM reception, 4 PM concert and optional dinner, is the annual gala benefit of the Terezín Music Foundation and funds this nonprofit's coming year of performances, commissions and Holocaust and genocide education programs around the world. Tickets are available at tmfgala.org and by calling 857-222-8263.

Jonathan Biss and TMF executive director Mark Ludwig selected a concert program inspired by a quote from Arnold Schönberg attesting that “the beauty of a work of art begins” when it makes us miss what we usually conceive of as beauty. Schönberg protégé Viktor Ullmann explored this idea of disruption in the concert critiques he wrote while imprisoned in Terezín. Music by Berg, Schönberg and Schubert infused Ullmann's life and sensibility and also helped sustain the prisoners of Terezín, where a remarkable cultural community arose and persevered amid grave horrors. Ullmann’s critiques are newly translated in Ludwig’s book “[Our Will to Live: The Terezín Music Critiques of Viktor Ullmann](#)” (Steidl 2022). These piano works resonate deeply with Jonathan Biss, who also writes powerfully about the emotional components of music performance. Says Ludwig, “We offer tribute to Ullmann and all artists struggling against oppression, war or genocide.”

Concert Program

[JONATHAN BISS](#), piano.

- **Alban Berg. Sonata for Piano, Op. 1** (1910). Berg was close with Ullmann; they were both protégés of Schönberg and classified within the Second Viennese School.
- **Arnold Schönberg. Six Little Piano Pieces, Op. 19** (1911). Schönberg composed the first five in one day and added a sixth when he learned of the death of Mahler; that last piece is dedicated to him.
- **Franz Schubert. Piano Sonata in B-flat Major, D. 960** (1828). Schubert was a leading pioneer of the Romantic style and a composer of the First Viennese School.

[CORO ALLEGRO](#), directed by David Hodgkins.

[ARNEIS STRING QUARTET](#) members.

- **Jeremiah Klarman, “Sketch for Terezín/Does Grace” for choir, piano, and string trio.** World premiere of a TMF commission, a setting of TMF-commissioned [LiberArte poems by Rita Dove and Almog Behar](#). Dedicated to 2021 Terezín Legacy Award recipient **Dr. Rochelle Walensky** in honor of her healing work as director of the CDC.

About Jonathan Biss

Jonathan Biss is an acclaimed, world-renowned pianist who channels his deep musical curiosity into performances and projects in the concert hall and beyond. In addition to performing with today’s leading orchestras, he continues to expand his reputation as a teacher, musical thinker, and one of the great Beethoven interpreters of our time. He is Co-Artistic Director alongside Mitsuko Uchida at the Marlboro Music Festival, where he has spent 14 summers. He also led a massive open online course (MOOC) via Coursera, which has reached more than 150,000 people from nearly every country in the world. He has written extensively about the music he plays and has authored four audio- and e-books, including “UNQUIET: My Life with Beethoven” (2020), the first Audible Original by a classical musician. More at <http://www.jonathanbiss.com/biography>

About Senator Ed Markey, Rear Admiral Susan Blumenthal and the Terezín Legacy Award

Edward J. Markey has served as U.S. Senator from Massachusetts since 2013 and has amassed legislative achievements in areas from climate change and energy policy (his main focus) to internet freedom and antitrust regulation, childcare, LGBTQ rights, Covid-19 vaccine equity, internet privacy, disaster relief, drug policy, housing, immigration and more. He receives the Terezín legacy for these achievements and also for his significant work to reveal and deter genocide in Burma and to acknowledge the Armenian genocide. More at markey.senate.gov/about.

Rear Admiral Susan Blumenthal is a leading national and global health expert who has served as U.S. Assistant Surgeon General and First Deputy Assistant Secretary for Women's Health. She is public health editor at HuffPost; senior policy and medical advisor at AmfAR, The Foundation for AIDS Research; and a clinical professor at Tufts Medical Center and the Georgetown University School of Medicine. She is also a senior fellow in health policy at New America, where she directs the SNAP to Health initiative that promotes nutrition and obesity prevention in Federal Food Assistance Programs and explores ways to apply information technology to advance health. The 2022 Terezín Legacy Award recognizes her contributions towards equity and wellbeing.

The Terezín Legacy Award honors individuals who have made outstanding contributions to Holocaust remembrance and/or improving lives through cultural understanding, law, medicine, education, and the arts. It is bestowed at the annual Terezín Music Foundation Symphony Hall Gala. The award itself is a glass sculpture created by eminent artist Alex Gabriel Bernstein or a TMF Commission composed in the recipient's honor.

Previous recipients:

2021: CDC Director Rochelle Walensky and survivor and musician Simon Gronowski

2020: Secretary Madeleine Albright, and psychiatrist and survivor Anna Ornstein

2019: Norman L. Eisen, former U.S. Ambassador to the Czech Republic

2018: Barbara and Steve Grossman

2017: Khizr Khan, civil rights advocate and Gold Star Parent

2016: Bernie and Sue Pucker

2015: Carol and Joe Reich

2014: "Monuments Man" Harry Ettlinger

2013: Massachusetts Governor Deval L. Patrick

2012: Painter Samuel Bak

2011: Edith and Löt Velmans

2010: Dr. Robert J. Mayer

About Jeremiah Klarman

Jeremiah Klarman is gaining national recognition as an accomplished multi-instrumentalist, composer and arranger. He is a 2016 graduate of The New England Conservatory of Music, where he was a composition major under instruction of Michael Gandolfi and Hankus Netsky. His works have been performed by The Boston Modern Orchestra Project, The Landmark Symphony, The Longwood Symphony, and New England

Conservatory (NEC) Youth Orchestras with conductors Gil Rose, the late Charles Ansbacher, Jonathan McPhee, and Benjamin Zander.

Klarman won the 2007 American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers (ASCAP) Foundation Morton Gould Young Composer Award for his orchestral piece “Dance Suite,” as well as the ASCAP Honorable Mention in 2009 for his orchestral piece “Festive Dance.” In June 2010, The Boston Pops performed a work of his on his second appearance on NPR’s radio show “From the Top.” He has appeared on the show in 2006, 2010 and as an alum in 2015. He has also composed Jewish-themed choral, pop and liturgical music since 2008. Josh Jacobson, director of Boston’s Zamir Chorale, commissioned him to write “Hallel, Shir V’or” in 2009. “Jewish Ideas Daily” (now known as “Mosaic Magazine”) said Klarman’s music culminated “in a room-rocking, soul-lifting Halleluyah!” Klarman was the first recipient of the Generation-to-Generation Award in 2010 and in 2018 he won second place in the Ben Steinberg Young Composer’s Award, both from the Guild of Temple Musicians. More at jeremiahklarman.com.

About Coro Allegro

Coro Allegro, directed by David Hodgkins, is Boston's award-winning LGBTQ+ and allied classical chorus, critically acclaimed for its programming, performances and recordings of works by diverse classical and contemporary composers. In 2019, Coro Allegro won the Chorus America/ASCAP Award for Adventurous Programming — a prestigious honor recognizing its commitment to fostering and promoting new music. Since its founding in 1991, it has performed 22 world premieres, including 13 commissions, by diverse composers, and has earned praise from “Gramophone” for recordings bringing “meaningful additions to the choral repertoire.”

Coro Allegro has released four critically acclaimed commercial recordings: “In Paradisum” and “Awakenings” on the Navona Records label, and “In the Clearing” and “somewhere I have never traveled.” Coro Allegro’s latest album, “We Are Here,” features new works by American composers bearing witness to the importance of international human rights. More at <https://www.coroallegro.org>

About Arneis Quartet

The [acclaimed](#) Boston-based Arneis Quartet has brought their energetic approach and adventurous programming to traditional concert venues as well as salon-style concerts and community engagement events since 2009. Members are Heather Braun, violin; Rose Drucker, violin; Daniel Doña, viola; and Agnes Kim, cello. More at arneisquartet.com.

About the Terezín Music Foundation-commissioned LiberArte poems

[The two poems](#) supplying the text of Klarman’s piece, “Sketch for Terezín” by American poet Rita Dove and “Does Grace” by Arab/Israeli poet Almog Behar, are contributions to the TMF anthology “Liberation: New Works on Freedom by Internationally Renowned Poets” (Beacon 2015). This book unites 82 commissioned poems by 63 major poets from 25 countries and was published to honor the 75th

anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi camps. Many of these poems have become texts for TMF music commissions by rising composers. More at liberarte.org/composers.

About Mark Ludwig and “Our Will to Live”

Mark Ludwig, the concert event’s producer and director, is an internationally recognized scholar of music under the Third Reich, violist emeritus of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, founder and director of the Terezín Music Foundation, and an activist supporting artistic voices struggling against genocide, oppression, and war.

His is author of “Our Will to Live: The Terezín Music Critiques of Viktor Ullmann” (Steidl 2022), called “exhilarating in life-affirming ways” and “monumental” by the Philadelphia Inquirer. The book, 30 years in the making, casts new light on the cultural life inside the Terezín concentration camp, with the first English translation of the concert critiques written there by composer Viktor Ullmann, 200+ rarely seen artworks by imprisoned artists, and vintage and modern recordings of music written and/or performed by survivors and contemporary masters, including Yo-Yo Ma. “Our Will to Live” is the most complete portrait to date of the cultural community that persevered in Terezín until nearly all its artists were murdered at Auschwitz in 1944. More at our-will-to-live.org and markludwig.org.

About Terezín Music Foundation and the concert event

Terezín Music Foundation is a Boston-based nonprofit dedicated to amplifying the musical legacy of the artists imprisoned in Terezín and lost in the Holocaust, with concerts, commissions, publications and Holocaust and genocide education programs around the world. Now in its 31st year, TMF has commissioned more than 40 new works by rising composers; these commissions help fulfill the silenced artists’ unrealized roles as artists and mentors, and they serve as a living memorial to them. Commission composers include André Previn, Sivan Eldar, Pablo Ortiz, and many others including Nico Muhly, who said, “TMF commissions are a radical answer to the silence.”

In 2022 TMF published “Our Will to Live: The Terezín Music Critiques of Viktor Ullmann” with Steidl Verlag and launched a series of concert events and lectures bringing its findings to international audiences. The October 16, 2022, Symphony Hall concert event with pianist Jonathan Biss offers a program informed in part by Ullmann’s sensibilities and is TMF’s [annual gala](#). It is the organization’s sole annual fundraising event. Previous TMF gala artists include Yo-Yo Ma, Garrick Ohlsson, Simone Dinnerstein, Dawn Upshaw and Leon Fleisher. More at terezinmusic.org.

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