



Barack Obama Presidential Library

Systematic Scanning Cover Sheet Per Folder

Collection: Calligraphy Office, White House

Series: General Files

Container Number: Legal Hollinger 71035

Folder ID: 49957

Folder Title: Printed Materials - [Program for the White House]
Celebration of Hanukkah, 12/02/2010 [3 copies]

Systematic File Name: t068887811-049957-71035



THE PRESIDENT AND MRS. OBAMA

welcome you to

THE WHITE HOUSE

In celebration of

HANUKKAH

The Festival of Lights



Thursday, December 2, 2010

25 Kislev 5771

THE MENORAH

The menorah for tonight's ceremony is generously loaned from Congregation Beth Israel in New Orleans. It was dedicated to the congregation in 1957 by Mr. and Mrs. Harry Lopp in honor of their 25th wedding anniversary. The Lopps were longtime congregational leaders and supporters.

Located in New Orleans, Congregation Beth Israel was severely impacted by Katrina. The menorah was in the building during the flood and was discovered by cleanup crews covered in mold, filth and sewage. It was restored by a local silversmith and relit for the first time in December of 2007.

The menorah is one of very few items from the congregation that survived the devastation of Katrina. Rabbi Uri Topolosky notes, "It is a powerful symbol for us of bringing light into the darkness that August 29, 2005 brought into our lives. As it shines, it reminds us of warm memories pre-Katrina, and encourages us to continue building our future. The discovery of our menorah feels somewhat akin to the ancient Jews who discovered just a little vase of pure olive oil to rekindle their own menorah in the Temple in the aftermath of its destruction. People here really feel blessed to have at least something from the old synagogue."

Today, Congregation Beth Israel has just broken ground on a new synagogue and they look forward to lighting this menorah as part of the dedication ceremonies next year at Hanukkah.



SUSAN RETIK GER

Susan Retik Ger is the cofounder and president of Beyond the 11th. Her commitment to Afghan widows began with her own journey into widowhood—a journey that began on September 11, 2001, when her husband David was killed. Susan is an inspirational speaker who shares her remarkable story of transforming personal loss into humanitarian outreach, helping others to embrace their own power to make a difference and raising awareness of the struggle of Afghan widows. Susan has received a number of honors, including the 2010 Presidential Citizens Medal. She was born in Philadelphia and received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Colgate University, where she met David Retik. Upon graduating, Susan worked in the field of marketing at Scholastic in New York City until moving to Needham, Massachusetts. Today, Susan continues to champion the cause of Afghan widows. In 2006, Susan married Donald Ger, and in 2008 the couple welcomed a daughter, Rebecca, to their busy family—joining siblings Ben, Molly, and Dina.

PROGRAM

Remarks by
THE PRESIDENT

Lighting of the Menorah
Susan Retik Ger and Family

Special performance by
JOSHUA REDMAN

A Musical Tribute to Jewish-American Composers
U.S. MARINE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA



MA'OZ TZUR
STRONGHOLD OF ROCK
Traditional Hanukkah Song

*Ma'oz Tzur Yeshu'ati,
lekha na'eh leshabe'ah.*

*O mighty stronghold of my
salvation, to praise You is a
delight.*

*Tikon beit tefilati,
vesham toda nezabe'ah.*

*Restore my House of Prayer
and there we will bring a
thanksgiving offering.*

*Le'et takhin matbe'ah
mitzar hamnabe'ah.*

*When You have prepared the
slaughter for the barking foe,*

*Az egmor beshir mizmor
hanukat hamizbe'ah.*

*Then I shall complete with a
song of hymn the dedication
of the Altar.*

JOSHUA REDMAN

Joshua Redman is one of the most acclaimed and charismatic jazz artists to have emerged in the decade of the 1990s. Born in Berkeley, California, he is the son of legendary African-American saxophonist Dewey Redman and Jewish-American dancer Renee Shedroff. In 1991, Redman graduated from Harvard College summa cum laude, and had already been accepted by Yale Law School, but deferred entrance for one year. He moved to New York, and immediately immersed himself in the jazz scene. Five months later, Redman was named the winner of the prestigious Thelonious Monk International Saxophone Competition. Since then, Joshua has worked and played with a vast array of jazz luminaries, released thirteen jazz albums, and been nominated for three Grammy Awards.



U.S. MARINE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

For more than two centuries, the United States Marine Band has been part of the events that have shaped the Nation.

Established by an Act of Congress in 1798, the Marine Band is America's oldest continuously active professional music organization. Its primary mission is unique—to provide music for the President of the United States and the Commandant of the Marine Corps.

Whether in White House performances, public concerts or national tours, the music of the Marine Band is the music of America. In its third century, the Marine Band continues a tradition of excellence that earned it the title, "The President's Own."

FEATURED JEWISH-AMERICAN COMPOSERS

HAROLD ARLEN

(February 15, 1905–April 23, 1986)

Harold Arlen was born in Buffalo, New York, as the child of a Jewish cantor. He was an American composer best known for his compositions in *The Wizard of Oz*. The most famous piece of this production is *Over the Rainbow* for which he won an Academy Award for Best Original Song. In 2000, the Recording Industry Association of America and the National Endowment for the Arts voted *Over the Rainbow* as one of the Songs of the Century. Arlen's compositions are recognized for incorporating blues into the language of the conventional American popular song.

ELMER BERNSTEIN

(April 4, 1922–August 18, 2004)

Elmer Bernstein was an American composer born in New York City to Jewish parents. Bernstein is best known for his scores to *The Ten Commandments*, *The Magnificent Seven*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, and *The Great Escape*. In 1962, he won a Golden Globe for Best Original Score for *To Kill a Mockingbird*. In 1966, he won his second Golden Globe for Best Original Score for *Hawaii*. During his career he was nominated for 14 Academy Awards, and he won for his score to *Thoroughly Modern Millie* in 1967. He was also nominated for five Grammy Awards and two Tony Awards.

LEONARD BERNSTEIN

(August 25, 1918–October 14, 1990)

Leonard Bernstein was born in Lawrence, Massachusetts, to Jewish-Ukrainian parents. He was an American conductor, composer, author, music lecturer, and pianist. He is best remembered for conducting many world-renowned orchestras, including the New York Philharmonic, the Vienna Philharmonic, the Israel Philharmonic, the London Symphony Orchestra, and Rome's Santa Cecilia Academy. Throughout his career, Bernstein composed the music for *On the Town*, *Wonderful Town*, *Candide*, and *West Side Story*. In 1990, *The New York Times* described Bernstein as "one of the most prodigally talented and successful musicians in American History."

JERRY BOCK & SHELDON HARNICK

(November 23, 1928–November 3, 2010) (April 30, 1924)

Jerry Bock, an American composer, and Sheldon Harnick, an American lyricist, are best known for their collaborative work on widely acclaimed musicals such as *Fiddler on the Roof*. In 1960, they won a Pulitzer Prize for Drama and a Tony Award for Best Musical for *Fiorello!*. In 1965, they received a Tony Award for Best Composer and Lyricist and Best Musical for *Fiddler on the Roof*. In 2009, they both received the 18th Annual York Theatre Company's Oscar Hammerstein Award for Lifetime Achievement.

Continued

GEORGE GERSHWIN

(September 26, 1898–July 11, 1937)

George Gershwin was born in Brooklyn, New York, to Jewish-Russian parents. He was an American composer and pianist who mainly composed for Broadway and the classical concert hall. Some of his most widely acclaimed compositions include *Rhapsody in Blue*, *An American in Paris*, and the *Concerto in F*. In 1935, he composed *Porgy and Bess*, which is regarded as the most important American opera of the twentieth century. Much of his work was created in collaboration with his elder brother, Ira Gershwin. The Library of Congress Gershwin Prize for Popular Song is named after the two brothers for their contribution to popular music.

IRA GERSHWIN

(December 6, 1896–August 17, 1983)

Ira Gershwin was born in New York City to Jewish-Russian parents. Ira was an American lyricist who worked with his brother, George Gershwin. Collaboratively they wrote multiple Broadway shows including their hit, *Lady, Be Good!*. Some of their widely known songs include *I Got Rhythm*, *Embraceable You*, *The Man I Love* and *Someone to Watch Over Me*. Three of Gershwin's songs were nominated for an Academy Award for Best Original Song. In 1988, UCLA established The George and Ira Gershwin Lifetime Musical Achievement Award for their contribution to music.

JOHN KANDER & FRED EBB

(March 18, 1927) (April 8, 1928–September 11, 2004)

Kander and Ebb are the duo of composer John Kander and lyricist Fred Ebb. Some of their early collaborative work includes *Flora the Red Menace* and *Go Fly a Kite*. Kander and Ebb are widely known for their collaboration on *Cabaret*, which they won a Tony award for Best Composer and Lyricist and *Chicago*. In 1977, they wrote and composed their widely known song, *New York, New York* for Martin Scorsese's musical drama. Kander and Ebb were recipients at the 1998 Kennedy Center Honors for their accomplishments in theater and music. In 2000, they were awarded the Oscar Hammerstein Award for Lifetime Achievement in musical theatre.

JEROME KERN

(January 27, 1885–November 11, 1945)

Jerome Kern was born in New York City to Jewish-German immigrants. He was an American composer of musical theatre. He is widely known for his classics, *Ol' Man River*, *Can't Help Lovin' Dat Man*, *A Fine Romance*, *Smoke Gets in Your Eyes*, *All the Things You Are*, *Long Ago (and Far Away)*, and *Who*. Throughout his career he was nominated for eight Academy Awards and was the recipient of two for *Lovely to Look At* from *Roberta* and *The Way You Look Tonight* from *Swing Time*. Kern was welcomed into the Songwriters Hall of Fame posthumously in 1970.

Continued

ALAN JAY LERNER & FREDERICK LOEWE

(August 31, 1918–June 14, 1986) (June 10, 1901–February 14, 1988)

Lerner and Loewe are the duo of lyricist and librettist Alan Jay Lerner and composer Frederick Loewe. They are widely known for the music and lyrics of some of Broadway's most successful musical shows, including *Brigadoon*, *My Fair Lady*, and *Camelot*. For their collaborative work, they received two Academy Awards for *Gigi* in 1958 for Best Adapted Screenplay and Best Original Song. In 1957, they received a Tony Award for Best Musical for *My Fair Lady*. In 1967, they received a Golden Globe for Best Original Song for *Camelot* and in 1974, they were awarded another Golden Globe for Best Original Score for *The Little Prince*. Together they were recipients at the 1985 Kennedy Center Honors.

JOHNNY MANDEL

(November 23, 1925)

Johnny Mandel was born in New York City. Mandel's most famous compositions include *Suicide is Painless*, and *A Time for Love*, nominated for an Academy Award. Mandel wrote the lyrics to *The Shadow of Your Smile* from the movie *The Sandpiper* and won the 1965 Academy Award for Best Original Song and the Grammy for Song of the Year in 1966. He also won Grammy Awards for Best Arrangement on an Instrumental Recording for Quincy Jones' song *Velas*, and Best Instrumental Arrangement Accompanying Vocals for Shirley Horn's album *Here's to Life* and for Natalie Cole's *Unforgettable*. Mandel is currently a recipient of the 2011 National Endowment for the Arts Jazz Masters Award.

ALAN MENKEN

(July 22, 1949)

Alan Menken was born in New Rochelle, New York, to a Jewish family. Menken is an American musical theatre and film composer and pianist. He is best known for his numerous film scores produced by Walt Disney Animation Studios: *The Little Mermaid*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Aladdin*, *Pocahontas*, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, and *Hercules*. For his musical contribution to these films, he won four Academy Awards and three Golden Globes. He has been nominated for an Academy Award 18 times for which he was the recipient of 8, more than any other living individual.

DAVID RAKSIN

(August 4, 1912–August 9, 2004)

David Raksin was an American composer born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. With over 100 film scores and 300 television scores to his credit, he became known as the "Grandfather of Film Music." Some of his work on Broadway included co-orchestrating *Parade*, *At Home Abroad*, *New Faces of 1936*, and *Dream*. Some of his other earlier credited work includes the films *Dr. Renault's Secret*, *Something to Shout About*, and *Tampico*. He is widely remembered for his score in the 1944 film noir *Laura* that became one of the most recorded songs of all time.

Continued

PAUL SIMON

(October 13, 1941)

Paul Simon is an American singer and songwriter born to Jewish-Hungarian parents in Newark, New Jersey. Simon is widely known for his three compositions during his days as part of the duo Simon & Garfunkel: *The Sounds of Silence*, *Mrs. Robinson*, and *Bridge Over Troubled Water*. Throughout his career, Simon earned 13 Grammys, including the Lifetime Achievement Award in 2003. He was welcomed into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2001, and in 2006, he was selected as one of the "100 People Who Shaped the World" by *Time* magazine. In 2007, he was selected as the first recipient to the Library of Congress' Gershwin Prize for Popular Song.

EMILE WALDTEUFEL

(December 9, 1837–February 12, 1915)

Emile Waldteufel was born in Strasbourg, France, to a Jewish-Alsatian family of musicians. He was a French composer of dance music. Waldteufel is widely known for waltz compositions in *Mellow*, *Dans Les Champs*, *Teresa Antoinette*, *Entre Nous*, *Le Source*, *Les Patineurs*, and *The Grenadier*.



The food preparation of this evening's event is under the strict rabbinical supervision of Rabbi Levi Shemtov, Lubavitch Center of Washington (Chabad), in cooperation with the Rabbinical Council of Greater Washington.

*All meats are Glatt Kosher—Chassidishe Shechitah,
All baked goods are Pas Yisroel,
All wines are Mevushal,
All foods have been prepared Lemihadrin
with a Mashgiach Temidi.*

