



## *Barack Obama Presidential Library*

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THE PRESIDENT AND MRS. OBAMA

*welcome you to*

THE WHITE HOUSE

*In celebration of*

HANUKKAH

*The Festival of Lights*



*Thursday afternoon, December 5, 2013*

*2 Tevet 5774*



## THE MENORAH

### *Statue of Liberty Centennial Menorah*

Manfred Anson (1922–2012)

Brass

National Museum of American Jewish History  
Philadelphia, PA

Manfred Anson's Statue of Liberty Centennial Menorah pays tribute to the promise of America for Jews who have emigrated here to find new opportunity and, in many cases, rebuild their lives. Anson's road to America was anything but easy. Born in Germany in 1922, he fled Nazi Germany in 1939, one of 20 boys sent to Australia by the Jewish Welfare Guardian Society of Australia. His parents were deported to Threisenstadt and survived the war, his younger brother was murdered at Maidenak, and his sister was liberated from Bergen-Belsen. After the war, his sister, not knowing how to reach her brother, wrote him a letter while recovering at a rehabilitation hospital in Sweden, addressing it to "Manfred Anson, Australia." Incredibly, he received the letter and eventually moved to New York in 1963 to be reunited with her.

In his new home, Anson became an avid collector of souvenir Americana from landmarks such as the Statue of Liberty and the Liberty Bell. In 1986, to celebrate the centennial of the Statue of Liberty, he created the Statue of Liberty Centennial Menorah, taking the design of a century-old Polish seven-branched menorah and adapting it for Hanukkah. He used a Statue of Liberty statuette for each branch of the menorah, transforming Lady Liberty's torch of freedom into the candleholder for each night of Hanukkah and for the service candle. Also, he inscribed important events in Jewish history—from the Exodus from Egypt to the Holocaust and the establishment of the State of Israel—onto the base of each statuette and crowned the menorah with the American bald eagle.

In subsequent years, Anson cast a limited number of additional Statue of Liberty Centennial Menorahs, which now reside in the permanent collections of the nation's leading Jewish museums, as well as in the Library of Congress and the National Museum of American History. The Statue of Liberty Centennial Menorah being used this year at the White House was cast from the original mold in 2011 at the request of Dr. Aaron Feingold, who donated it to the National Museum of American Jewish History.



## PROGRAM

*Remarks by*

**THE PRESIDENT**

*Ceremonial Lighting of the Menorah*

*Selections by*

**ZEMER CHAI**

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



## ZEMER CHAI

Zemer Chai, "living song", is a choir of 30 singers dedicated to sharing the rich and diverse musical heritage of the Jewish people. Founded in 1976 by conductor and artistic director Eleanor Epstein, the choir sings the full range of the Jewish repertoire: the beautiful late Renaissance compositions of Salomone Rossi, the great European liturgical classics of the 19th century, the works of the great modern Jewish composers, the ever-growing and exciting work of Israeli composers, as well as Jewish folk music from all over the world. As one of the premier Jewish choirs in the United States, Zemer Chai has also performed both nationally and internationally. The choir has appeared in New York and Boston, and throughout the Mid-Atlantic. Additionally, Zemer Chai has made three trips to Israel, singing all over the country as part of the Zimriyah, Israel's International Choral Festival.

## 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."

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