

Musical Witness and Holocaust Representation

This is the first musicological study entirely devoted to a comprehensive analysis of musical Holocaust representations in the Western art music tradition. Through a series of chronological case studies grounded in primary source analysis, Amy Lynn Wlodarski analyzes the compositional processes and conceptual frameworks that provide key pieces with their unique representational structures and critical receptions. The study examines works composed in a variety of musical languages – from Arnold Schoenberg’s dodecaphonic *A Survivor from Warsaw* to Steve Reich’s minimalist *Different Trains* – and situates them within interdisciplinary discussions about the aesthetics and ethics of artistic witness. At the heart of this book are important questions about how music interacts with language and history, memory and trauma, politics and mourning. Wlodarski’s detailed musical and cultural analyses provide new models for the assessment of the genre, illustrating the benefits and consequences of musical Holocaust representation in the second half of the twentieth century.

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Amy Lynn Wlodarski

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Cambridge University Press & Assessment
 978-1-107-11647-4 — Musical Witness and Holocaust Representation
 Amy Lynn Wlodarski
 Frontmatter
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CAMBRIDGE
 UNIVERSITY PRESS

Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8EA, United Kingdom

One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA

477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia

314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre, New Delhi – 110025, India

103 Penang Road, #05–06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

Cambridge University Press is part of Cambridge University Press & Assessment, a department of the University of Cambridge.

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Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781107116474

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First published 2015

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication data

Wlodarski, Amy.

Musical witness and Holocaust representation / Amy Lynn Wlodarski.

pages cm

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 978-1-107-11647-4 (Hardback : alk. paper) – ISBN 978-1-107-53884-9 (pbk. : alk. paper)

1. Holocaust, Jewish (1939–1945), in music. 2. Schoenberg, Arnold, 1874–1951. Survivor from Warsaw. 3. Adorno, Theodor W., 1903–1969 – Criticism and interpretation.

4. Eisler, Hanns, 1898–1962. *Nuit et brouillard*. 5. *Jüdische Chronik*. 6. Reich, Steve, 1936– Different trains. I. Title.

ML392L6J83W56 2015

781.5'9–dc23 2015009557

ISBN 978-1-107-11647-4 Hardback

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For Mitchel and Wanda Korzenko – my past
For Benjamin and Eleanor – my future

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Acknowledgments

I am greatly indebted to the support and guidance of my initial mentors for this project, which was hatched during my time as a graduate student at the Eastman School of Music. Kim Kowalke and Ralph Locke have continually offered their time and expertise from the earliest stages of this project. I cannot express the depth of my gratitude for their guidance – they have helped shape me as a musicological thinker. Celia Applegate was an early reader of the project, providing essential insight into German cultural and political life. Over the years, I have also benefited from rigorous – and always generous – conversations about my work with colleagues both within and without the field. In particular, Joy Calico, Elaine Kelly, Sabine Feisst, Ronit Seter, Berthold Hoeckner, Gabriela Currie, Bob Fink, Sandra Alfes, Andrea Lieber, Elise Bartosik-Velez, Elizabeth Lee, and Victoria Sams all provided essential feedback at critical stages of the project – whether they knew it at the time or not. I also wish to acknowledge two of my earliest teachers from Middlebury College, Marjorie Lamberti and Greg Vitercik, who laid the groundwork for this project in ways immeasurable.

I am also grateful for the generous financial and institutional support this project has received, which allowed for travel to archives and the opportunity to share my work within various communities of inquiry. An initial Fulbright research grant to Germany (2003–2004) allowed me to access a wealth of archival sources. Dickinson College – my academic home for the past nine years – provided essential research grants to Yale University (2006), Berlin (2007), and Basel (2012), as well as two full-year research leaves, during which the manuscript was written and revised. The Dickinson College Research and Development Committee also provided necessary subvention funding and travel support to share these ideas at scholarly conferences. The National Endowment for the Humanities (2009) provided an opportunity to relocate to beautiful Stanford University for six weeks, where conversations with Russell Berman and my summer seminar colleagues encouraged and developed my reading of Adorno's critiques of post-Holocaust music. My year spent in residence at Harvard University as a Harry Starr Fellow in Judaica (2012–2013) was a game-changer for this project; the intellectual community that I found among my "fellow fellows" provoked these ideas and shaped them in ways I could not

have anticipated. Many thanks to Kay Kaufmann Shelemay, Evan Rapport, Judah Cohen, Maureen Jackson, Edwin Seroussi, and Stacy Wolf for their guidance, questions, and encouragement.

Archival work was central to *Musical Witness*, and I am thankful to the following institutions and individuals for their help in locating materials: Stiftung Archiv of the Akademie der Künste in Berlin (Werner Grünzweig and Daniela Reinhold); Fortunoff Video Archive for Holocaust Testimony (Joanne Rudolf); Paul Sacher Foundation (Matthias Kassel and Tina Kilvio Tüscher); Arnold Schoenberg Center; SAPMO Bundesarchiv in Berlin; New York Public Library, Dorot Division; and the Library of Congress, Music Division. My thanks also to Kirk Doran of the Dickinson College Library, whose help with certain bibliographic rabbit holes made all the difference in several cases.

Every good-faith effort was made to secure the necessary permissions for archival documents. Special thanks to Maxim Dessau, who provided permission to reprint unpublished letters from the Paul Dessau Collection (AdK); Daniel Pozner, for permission to reprint select correspondence from the Hanns Eisler Collection (AdK); and Larry Schoenberg, who provided permission to reprint unpublished materials by Arnold Schoenberg, which appear in this book by permission of Belmont Music Publishers. I am also thankful to the Fortunoff Archive for helping me secure permissions for the Holocaust testimonies referenced in Chapter 5.

I am also grateful for the professional skills and talents of those who helped me to ready the book for publication. The manuscript benefited immensely from the comments of my anonymous reviewer and series editor Arnold Whittall. Thanks also to Vicki Cooper for believing in the book and to Fleur Jones for her assistance in preparing the final materials. David Glasgow generated all of the musical examples for the book, and Ann Fogler provided bibliographic support. Portions of this book also benefited from the review process of earlier published portions. A version of Chapter 1 appeared as “‘An Idea Can Never Perish’: Memory, the Musical Idea, and Schoenberg’s *A Survivor from Warsaw* (1947)” in the *Journal of Musicology* 24/4 (2007): 581–608, (c) 2007 by the American Musicological Society and published by the University of California Press. An early version of Chapter 3 appeared as “Excavating Eisler: Relocating the Memorial Voice in *Nuit et Brouillard* (1956)” in *Eisler-Studien – Beiträge zu einer kritischen Musikwissenschaft*, Vol. 3: Composing for the Films, edited by Peter Schweinhardt, 163–184 (Weisbaden: Breitkopf und Härtel, 2008). A select portion of Chapter 4 appeared as “National Identity after National Socialism: German Receptions of the Holocaust Cantata, *Jüdische Chronik* (1960/61)” in *Music, Geopolitics, and Violence*, edited by

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And then there is the personal support. My thanks to my parents, Fred and Teresa Wlodarski, for their continual love and support. I am also so blessed to have such a caring network of friends (you know who you are), who listened when the work became difficult both academically and personally. And then there is my husband, Jeremy Ball, who is the most selfless and generous love I have ever known. You make all things possible, least of all this book.

Abbreviations

AdK	Akademie der Künste (Academy of the Arts), Berlin, Germany
ASC	Arnold Schoenberg Center, Vienna, Austria
BArch	Bundesarchiv (Federal Archives), Berlin, Germany
FRG	Bundesrepublik Deutschland (Federal Republic of Germany, or West Germany)
FVAHT	Fortunoff Video Archive for Holocaust Testimonies, Yale University, New Haven, CT
GDR	Deutsche Demokratische Republik (German Democratic Republic, or East Germany)
GMS	Gedanke Manuscripts (Schoenberg)
LOC	Library of Congress, Washington, DC
NYPL	New York Public Library, New York, NY
PSS-SSR	Steve Reich Sammlung, Paul Sacher Stiftung, Basel, Switzerland
SAPMO	Stiftung Archiv der Parteien und Massenorganisationen im Bundesarchiv (Foundation Archives of Parties and Mass Organizations of the GDR in the Federal Archives), Berlin, Germany
SBZ	Sowjetische Besatzungszone (Soviet Occupation Zone)
SED	Sozialistische Einheitspartei Deutschlands (Socialist Unity Party of Germany)