

THE WORLD'S FIRST INTERFAITH SYMPHONY COMPOSED BY
DAVID SHIRE JOHN DEBNEY IHAB DARWISH



THE
**ABRAHAMIC
SYMPHONY**
PEACE | LOVE | TOLERANCE

3 COMPOSERS | 1 ORCHESTRA | 6 CHOIRS | 7 VOCALISTS | 12 SOLOISTS

COMMISSIONED & PRODUCED BY



1. Earth

Composed by **Ihab Darwish**

Lyrics by **Lebo M**

2. Peace

Composed by **David Shire**

Text compiled by: **Rabbi William Cutter**, Phd, and **David Shire**

- i. *And They Shall Beat Their Swords*, Traditional
- ii. *Jerusalem* by **Yehuda Amichai**
- iii. *We Shall Be As Dreamers Again* by **Herbert Levine**
- iv. *My Child Smells of Peace* by **Yehuda Amichai**
- v. *Everlasting Light Violin Concertina*
- vi. *I, May I Rest In Peace* by **Yehuda Amichai**
- vii. *Hinei Ma Tov Variations*, Traditional
- viii. *The Light of Peace* by **David Shire**
- ix. *Everlasting Light* by **Sheldon Harnick**

3. Love

Composed by **John Debney**

Text Traditional

Hymn to The Father, poem by **John Donne**

4. Tolerance

Composed by **Ihab Darwish**

Text compiled by **Mahmoud El-Tohamy**

Wuleda Al Huda Fal Kaenatu Diyaa, poem by **Ahmed Shawqi**

Asbahtu Kabilan Kul Soraten poem by **Mohyi El Deen Bin Arabi**

Lyrics *Iqraa Ya Nabiya Allah* by **Mahmoud El-Tohamy**



THE
**ABRAHAMIC
SYMPHONY**
PEACE | LOVE | TOLERANCE

Artistic Directors
Ihab Darwish & Robert Townson

Commissioned and Produced by **Abu Dhabi Festival**
Produced by **Robert Townson, Ihab Darwish, Zofia Jeziorna, Huda Al-Khamis Kanoo**

Orchestra: **Beethoven Academy Orchestra** with **Elham Al Marzooqi** as special guest artist (cello, UAE)
Conducted by **Diego Navarro**
Recording Engineer: **Dennis Sands**, Sound Waves SB, Santa Barbara.
Location Engineer: **Łukasz Kurzawski**
Recorded at Cavatina Hall, Bielsko-Biała, Poland. March 28, 29 and 30, 2022

Mixed by **Dennis Sands** and **Stoyan Stoyanov**
Edited by **Adam Olmstead**
Mastered by **Scott Sedillo**, Bernie Grundman Mastering

Music Preparation: **Matthew Voogt**, JoAnn Kane Music Services
Business Affairs for Robert Townson Productions: **Lisa Margolis**
Business Affairs for Artwish Music and Events: **Cameron Crawford, Fiona Robertson**

Liner Notes by **Robert Townson**
Art Director: **Ihab Darwish**
Album Cover Design: **Elygraf**
Booklet Design: **Ihab Darwish**
Logo Design: **Hamed Khan Haidari**

Royal Scottish National Orchestra Chorus (80 voices)
Choir Director: **Gregory Batsleer**
Recorded by **Hedd Morfett-Jones**
Recorded at **Scotland's Studio**, Glasgow, Scotland. April 30, 2022

Antonine University Choir, Lebanon (28 voices)
Choir Director: **Toufic Maatouk**
Recorded by **Ralph Sleiman**
Recorded at **Studio Ralph Suleiman**, Beirut, Lebanon. July 19-25, 2022



Composed by **David Shire**
Text compiled by **Rabbi William Cutter, Phd,** and **David Shire**
Orchestrated by **David Shire** and **Martin Erskine**

PEACE MOVEMENT

i. *And They Shall Beat Their Swords*, Traditional

ii. *Jerusalem*, poem by **Yehuda Amichai**

Bass: **Richard Bernstein**, Courtesy of **Metropolitan Opera**

Mezzo Soprano: **Olivia Vote**, Courtesy of **Metropolitan Opera**

Recorded by **M.P. Kuo** at **John Kilgore Sound and Recording**, New York City, April 20, 2022.

Alto Flute: **Sara Andon**

Qanun: **Aytaç Doğan**

Recorded by **Volkan Akyuz** at **Sir Muszik**, Turkey, Sltanbul, April 20, 2022

iii. *We Shall Be As Dreamers Again*, lyrics poem by From “*All in the Family*”
in *Words for Blessing the World* (2017) by **Herbert J. Levine**

Oud: **Sadiq Jaafar**

Recorded by **Stoyan Stoyanov**, at **VST Studio**, Dubai, UAE, May 15, 2022

iv. *My Child Smells of Peace*, poem by **Yehuda Amichai**

Soprano: **Sumi Jo**

Trans. **Chana Bloch** and **Chana Kronfeld**

v. *Everlasting Light Violin Concertina*

Violin: **Melissa White**

Recorded by **Andros Rodriguez** at **Quad Recording Studios**, New York City, August 7, 2022

vi. *I, May I Rest In Peace*, poem by **Yehuda Amichai**

Tenor: **Brenton Ryan**, Courtesy of **Metropolitan Opera**
Recorded by **M.P. Kuo** at **John Kilgore Sound and Recording**. New York City. April 20, 2022.
Trans. **Chana Bloch** and **Chana Kronfeld**

vii. *Hinei Ma Tov Variations*, Traditional

Flute: **Sara Andon**

Violin: **Melissa White**

Harp: **Lavinia Meijer**

Recorded by **Arthur Theunissen** at **Studio Cube**, Rossum, Netherlands

Guitar: **Carlos Piñana**

Recorded by **Pedro Contreras** at **Pedro Contreras Studio**, Murcia, Spain. April 9, 2022.

viii. *The Light of Peace*, lyrics by **David Shire**

Bass: **Richard Bernstein**, Courtesy of **Metropolitan Opera**

ix. *Everlasting Light*, lyrics by **Sheldon Harnick**

Royal Scottish National Orchestra Chorus

Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance Chamber Choir (32 voices)

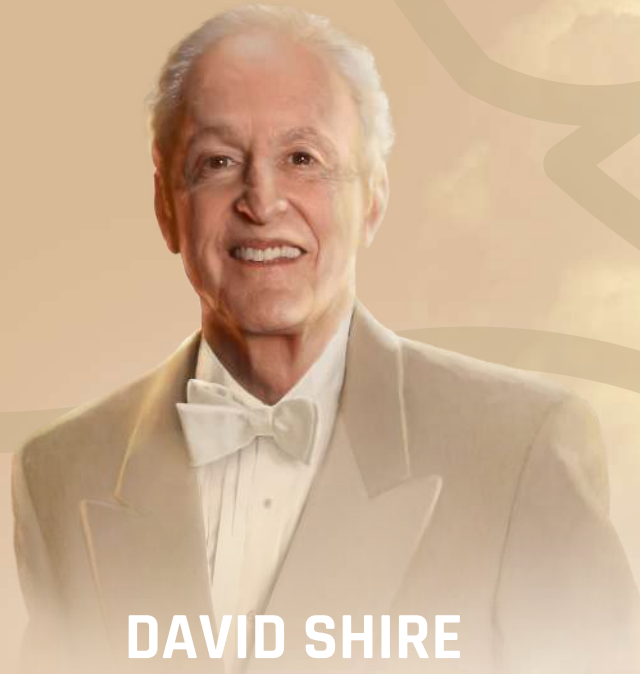
Jerusalem Knights Choir (20 voices)

Choir director: **Micah Handler**

Recorded by **Zvika Hirshler** and **Shifra Jacobs** at **Jerusalem Music Center**, Jerusalem Tolerance Coalition Workspace,
Jerusalem, Israel/Palestine. March 23, May 1, July 26, 27, 31, 2022.

Antonine University Choir

PEACE MOVEMENT



DAVID SHIRE PEACE

(i) They Shall Beat Their Swords 00:00 - 00:57

They shall beat their swords into plowshares
And their spears into pruning hooks.
Nation will no long lift up sword against nation,
And neither shall learn war any more.

Book of Isaiah, 2:4

(ii) Jerusalem 00:58 - 03:01

On a roof in the Old City
laundry hanging in the afternoon sunlight
the white sheet of a woman who is my enemy
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 they're happy,
to make them think we're happy.
Yehuda Amichai

(iii) We Shall Be As Dreamers Again 03:02 - 04:47

We shall be as dreamers again,
we shall be as dreamers.
Then in forty years or so
when we declare our shared state
we shall see its beginning in our decision to teach our children
Arabic and Hebrew,
Hebrew and Arabic.

Adon haShalom (God of peace)
Barchenu bashalom (Bless us with peace)
Allah huma inta al salaam (O God You are peace)
Wa minka al salaam (and peace comes from You)
In the supple and sinuous letters
We have seen the one land we both love.

From "All in the Family" in Words for Blessing the World by Herbert J. Levine.

(iv) My Child Smells of Peace 04:48 - 07:03

My child has the scent of peace,
the fragrance of peace.
When I lean over him
it's not merely the scent of soap.

All the grown-ups were children once,
fragrant with peace.
And all through the land
not a single gristmill still turns.
O, land torn like clothing
that cannot ever be mended.
Fathers hard and lonely,
even in the Cave of the Patriarchs
childless silence.

My child has the scent of peace,
the fragrance of peace.
His mother's womb promised him
that which even God cannot promise us.
Yehuda Amichai

(v) Everlasting Light Violin Concertina 07:04 - 10:07

(vi) I, May I Rest In Peace 10:08 - 12:57

I, may I rest in peace.
I, who am still living say
may I have peace for the rest of my life.

I want peace right now while I'm still alive.
I want the rest of my peace now.
I have lived out my life in wars of every kind,
battles without and within.
Close combat, face-to-face,
the faces always my own,
my lover face, my enemy face,
wars with the old weapons,
sticks and stones, blunt axe, words,
dull ripping knife, love and hate,
and wars with newfangled weapons,
machine gun, missile, words,
land mines exploding, love and hate.
I don't want to fulfill my parents' prophecy that life is war.
I want peace with all my body and all my soul.
Rest me in peace.
Yehuda Amichai

(vii) Hinei Ma Tov Variations 12:58 - 19:30

Hinei ma tov...
How good it is...
uma na'im...
for all humanity...
shevet aheim...
to dwell together...
gam yachad...
in peace and unity.
Traditional

(viii) The Light of Peace 19:31 - 20:54

Must the light of peace be like the sun,
Only shining on any part of the world
A part of the time.

Night and winter reoccur,
Peace like sunlight comes and goes.
And we must bear the cold and darkness
As best we can till morn or spring
Blesses us again with healing brightness.

Must peace
Like sunlight
Always disappear
And leave me longing
For re-illumination
While I shiver
In the darkness.

David Shire

(ix) Everlasting Light 20:55 - 24:02

In our temples over every ark
hangs a candle that is never dark,
our beloved Everlasting Light.

This small fire, burning as we pray,
to we seekers softly seems to say,
seek within you everlasting light.

When flames of freedom die then something rare is lost.
We'll keep each flame alive however high the cost.

So, small candle, may your flame inspire
fading spirits with your vibrant fire.
Ever lead us out of darkness
to a world of everlasting light.

Sheldon Harnick



THE
**ABRAHAMIC
SYMPHONY**
PEACE | LOVE | TOLERANCE

COMMISSIONED & PRODUCED BY



ABU DHABI FESTIVAL

MANAGED & EXECUTED BY



IN COLLABORATION WITH



RELEASED BY



© & © 2022 IHAB DARWISH & ARTWISH MUSIC AND EVENTS UNDER EXCLUSIVE LICENSE TO UNIVERSAL MUSIC MENA

The copyright in this product including without limitation all texts, sound recordings, audio visual recordings, artwork (whether in part or whole) contained in this product, is owned by Ihab Darwish and Artwish Music and Events. Manufactured, Marketed and Distributed by exclusively Universal Music Mena. Unauthorized copying, hiring or re-producing is strictly prohibited. All Rights reserved.