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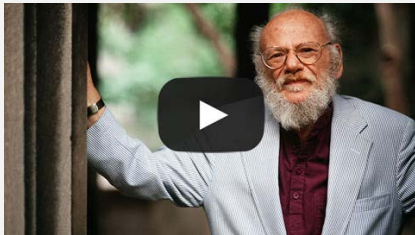
Three New Albums Celebrate American Amplitude

This month, the Milken Archive expands its collection with three new albums spanning various genres and featuring countless artists. Ranging from vocal and choral works to chamber music and liturgical settings, these new albums highlight the amplitude and artistry made possible by the new-found liberties of the new world.

Comprising two extended works, *Volume 17, Album 8: Choose Life and The Covenant*, opens with Samuel Adler's 1986 oratorio, *Choose Life*. Based on Moses's Third Discourse and infused with other texts from the books of

Micah, Isaiah and Psalms, the work, in Adler's words, "tries to capture the excitement of being fully alive—fully part of life: its ecstasy as well as its vicissitudes, its triumphs as well as its defeats." The album continues with an emotionally jarring work by Ralph Shapey, *The Covenant*. Written for Israel's 30th anniversary, it draws upon sacred and secular literary sources to recount four significant incidents or confirmations of faith in Jewish history, beginning with the Sinaitic covenant.

Covenant



Ralph Shapey discusses the personal significance of *The Covenant* in our new **Oral History interview**.

Catharsis



Herman Yablokoff's *Der Dishvasher* is a heart-wrenching lament of an elderly, abandoned man.

Continuity



Craig Taubman's **Jewels of Elul** returns with lessons from the last 10 years and new Musical Gems.

Ernest Bloch's exploration of Jewish life spanned the spectrum from biblical to ephemeral to emotional. The new *Volume 10, Album 8: Chamber Music of Ernest Bloch*, reveals that spectrum through Bloch's Jewish-themed chamber works. It includes the suite *From Jewish Life* performed by cellist Julian Schwarz—featured just last week in our Fathers and Sons series—and *Visions and Prophecies*, performed by pianist David Holzman. It also includes *Meditation Hebraïque*, *Five Jewish Pieces*, *Abodah*, and the masterful 1961 recording of the *Baal Shem Suite* for violin and piano by Isaac Stern and Alexander Zakin.

Taken on its own, the final newly released *Volume 4, Album 9: Liturgical Settings for the Sabbath Day*, might be enough to demonstrate the breadth and prosperity of Jewish culture in America—as evidenced by the multitudinous liturgical music styles in use by the great synagogues of the new world. Featuring the works of Debbie Friedman, Michael Isaacson, Samuel Adler, Ernest Bloch, William Sharlin, and others, combined with the artistry of such cantors as Alberto Mizrahi, Raphael Frieder, Ida Rae Cahana, and Roslyn Jhunever Barak, this album celebrates both the adherence to tradition and the embracing of innovation that have characterized Jewish music in America from its earliest beginnings.

**Liturgical Settings, Vocal Works, and
Chamber Music Comprise Three New Albums**

Now available from the Milken Archive

