

December 4, 2013

## Leonard Bernstein: More Jewish Than You Might Think

It would be hard to dispute that Leonard Bernstein was one of the greatest American composers of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. But how much being Jewish mattered to Bernstein and how deeply it affected his music may surprise some people; even Gerard Schwarz, who studied, worked with and had a personal friendship with Bernstein had to do some research to realize the extent of the influence.

In [Episode 5 of American Jewish Music from the Milken Archive with Leonard Nimoy](#), Gerard Schwarz and Milken Archive Artistic Director Neil Levin

discuss Bernstein's Jewish identity—from culture to religion to his relationship with Israel—and its revelations, both obvious and subtle, in his music. Of course, no discussion would be sufficient if it wasn't accompanied by some of the masterpieces from the master himself.



### Spin Longer



Extend your holiday with *The Chanukkah Story* by *The Western Wind*.

### Mix it Up



Jewish and Latin music in 20th-century America intersect in this **new release**.

### Don't Miss



A rare performance of Shulamit Ran's "*Moon Songs*" by Dolce Suono Ensemble.

With works like his first surviving complete composition (a setting of *Psalm 148* as an art song for piano and voice written in his teens), choral and orchestral masterpieces such as the *Kaddish Symphony* and *Chichester Psalms*, and delightfully simple piano character pieces, this episode features world premiere recordings created by the Milken Archive, as well as historic works that are often overlooked in the Bernstein canon.

Listen now to

**American Jewish Music from the Milken Archive with Leonard Nimoy**

**Episode 5: Leonard Bernstein, Part 1**

