

**THE
TWO WORLDS**



**OF
SEYMOUR**

SCHWARTZMAN

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RECORDS
HAL - 111/2

SIDE 1:

1. *Quando Il Ruoto* Scarlatti
"Triumph of Honor"
2. *Nachklang* Brahms
Auf dem Kirchhofe Brahms
Kein Haus, keine Heimat Brahms
3. *Ah Piu Forte Sapore* Puccini
(Act II Tosca)
4. *Chanson Romantique* Ravel
Chanson a Boire Ravel
5. *A Lady Sweet and Kind* Dello-Joio
6. *Chartless* Freed
Dickenson
7. *I Passed By* Brahe

SIDE 2:

1. *A Gebet* Weiner
2. *Shtill Main Harts* Abrahamson
3. *Al Perach Sheniktaf* Abrahamson
4. *Moishelach Shloimelach* Alter
5. *Reb Dovid'l* Zilberts
6. *A Gesang Tzu Yisroel* Hans
7. *Kurtz Iz Dos Leben* Hans

BE STILL MY HEART (Shtill Main Harts)

Yocheved Sheinfrucht
Antwerp 1939

A. Abrahamson

Written in a refugee camp escaping the Nazis.

Be still my heart
don't stir, don't yearn,
don't brood, don't beat,
oh cease.
Anger not, nor shiver so
be quiet heart, find peace.
Don't pine, don't weep,
nor sadness feel, just sleep.
I gently rock you, sway sleep well
my heart.
You're weary, slumber keep
and sleep like my song
Sleep well my heart, sleep, sleep.

AL PERACH SHENIKTAF

J. Fichman

A. Abrahamson

This song is dedicated to the ninety-three girls who sacrificed their lives rather than give up their purity to Nazi soldiers.

Little flower so chaste and pure
I grieve your death, I can't endure.
Sheltered from the wind so cold
in garden's corner I was told
You drank the sun's warm rays by day
while dew at night gave strength and stay.
But lo there came a wicked man
who plucked you out with careless hand.
Little flower so chaste and pure
I grieve your death, I can't endure.

A SONG TO ISRAEL (A Gesang Tzu Yisroel) Edith Frey Hans

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Oh Israel, Israel
stronger than iron
Such strength you have seen
in the people of Zion.

Oh Israel, our pride,
we hold you so dear.
With all your burdens
your strength without end.
While looking in terror
so great is the danger
that is so near.

Our enemy waits for us
hatefully planning to
bring us more sorrow.
Yet with a powerful hand
we'll bring peace unto the
people of our land.

The blood of our young men
is wastefully shed.
Our Father in heaven,
look well at our dead.

The people defend thy
holy name,
Bring those who harm us
destruction and shame.

And still so amazing
the land is reborn in our sight.
With thanks to our God,
to our warriors and heroes,
To Chalutzim and kinsmen alike.

After centuries of longing
for the land of our fathers
For Jerusalem the City of God.

LIFE IS SHORT (Kurtz Iz Dos Leben)

Edith Frey Hans

Heaven, earth and starlight
shall my witness be,
The truth I tell you gladly
and truth is what you see.

Life is just a dream (dear)
even if you thought
Some happiness and peace
to us it could have brought.

Don't you e'er forget it,
learn this lesson well.
Keep your heart for pining,
tears that fall will tell.

Oh, how in a lifetime
years do hurry by,
God gave them so gladly
don't waste them, they do fly.

Take joy in every moment
in whatever comes your way.
Years like waves go tossing,
they pass us by each day.

Try to use them wisely,
fill your every need.
Life is short, I tell you,
this lesson you must heed.

LISTEN AND ENJOY!

Timings:

Side 1: 2:55/4:15/1:40/3:45/3:25/1:40/1:45-19:30

Side 2: 1:30/2:00/1:55/3:15/1:55/4:45/3:10-18:00

It is very seldom that one finds an artist who can easily bridge the diverse worlds of secular and sacred music. In order to accomplish this extraordinary achievement, the artist must possess, in addition to a superlative voice, a prodigious musical knowledge and extensive experience in each of these worlds to be able to meet their particular demands. Seymour Schwartzman, one of the outstanding performers in today's musical world, has the rare ability to blend the liturgical music of the synagogue and the worldly music of the operatic stage.

Seymour Schwartzman was born in Brooklyn, New York. His father, himself a distinguished cantor, recognized his son's talent early, and began to train the boy to succeed him. When he was only sixteen years of age, his remarkable ability enabled the young Schwartzman to ascend the pulpit of a congregation in Concord, New Hampshire, as a cantor in his own right.

Upon completing his service in the Armed Forces, he was admitted to the school of Sacred Music of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion. His colleagues in the Cantor's Assembly and the American Conference of Cantors recognized his outstanding achievements, and honored Seymour Schwartzman by electing him to high official positions in these organizations on both the regional and national levels.

Cantor Schwartzman has held pulpits in Teaneck, New Jersey, Providence, Rhode Island, and in 1956 was elected cantor of Beth Sholom Synagogue in Elkins Park, Pennsylvania. He is the former cantor of Congregation Keneseth Israel, Elkins Park, one of the largest and oldest congregations in the United States. He presently holds the distinguished position of cantor at Congregation Beth Jacob-Beth Israel in Merchantville, New Jersey, where his adventurous and stimulating musical spirit and exquisite baritone voice brings to his congregation a new appreciation and awareness of Jewish music.

The world of opera opened for Seymour Schwartzman only twelve years ago when he was awarded a full scholarship to study at the Academy of Vocal Arts in Philadelphia. As a student of Dorothy Discalla, he devoted his time to the study of opera, and made his debut with the Philadelphia Opera Company singing the role of "Sonora" in *Fanciulla del West*. Shortly thereafter, he won First Prize in two of the country's most prestigious operatic competitions, "The American Opera Auditions," and the Chicago WGN/Illinois Opera Guild "Auditions of the Air". Music critics the world over have acclaimed Schwartzman for his performances of more than thirty operatic roles, which he has sung with the New York City Opera Company, the Pittsburgh Symphony and Opera, the San Francisco Spring Opera, the Teatro Nuovo in Milan, the Israel Music Festival, the Portland Symphony, the Palacio de Belles Artes in Mexico City, and the Grand Theatre in Geneva, Switzerland, to mention but a few.

As Tevya, in the world renowned musical, "Fiddler on the Roof," the critics say, ". . . he does not play the role of Tevya. He IS Tevya. He makes the play." ". . . [his] forte is a fine singing voice, rich and well controlled . . . matched with top acting skill and a fine sense of timing."

Many years of training and experience have enriched Schwartzman's lyric baritone voice and musicianship, which enables him to perform a wide variety of songs. From the vast international repertoire of the recital stage and the flowing melodies of opera, he gracefully crosses the bridge to the world of Jewish music in cantorial liturgy and Yiddish folk songs. His wide experience in both worlds has made him adventurous and curious. He will investigate new music, and will not hesitate to bring to the attention of the public the work of a new composer if he feels it should be heard.

On this record you will hear new works by Arie Abrahamson of Israel and Edith Frey Hans of Mexico. These warm, heart-felt melodies are not only beautifully expressed, but magnificently demonstrate the intensity of feeling, the flexibility, power and emotion that Schwartzman brings to every performance.

Another aspect of this fine artist's sensitivity to his fellow man is the fact that this album was originally conceived as a contribution by Seymour Schwartzman to the blind of the world who love good music. While compiling this album, its exceptional beauty made us feel it was something music lovers everywhere would enjoy.

The selections on this record are from "on location" recordings made at his many recitals on the concert stages of the world. We have had the pleasure of recording "Sy" at the Festival of Jewish Music in Fairfield, Connecticut, where he appeared as guest soloist for the American Conference of Cantors.

Seymour Schwartzman, a big man with a golden baritone voice, a kind and gentle man who recognizes his gifts and the demands his profession makes on him, and yet has the heart and feeling to take the time to prepare this album for the visually handicapped of the world. The perfect expression that exemplifies Seymour Schwartzman is, "AN ARTIST AND A MENTCH."

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