Growing up in a two-mom, post-second-wave-feminist household, I was lucky to be surrounded by powerful women as well as the women’s music movement and the sounds of women folk protest artists such as Sweet Honey and the Rock and Holly Near. As a young girl, I was lucky to have had mentors in my life who always prioritized showcasing strong women to me, instilling in me the belief that I was capable of anything that my brothers and other boys were. I remember the joy and glee I felt when I was assigned a piece with a woman’s name on the cover instead of a man’s, the feeling of seeing Midori and Hilary Hahn perform for the first time, and performing my first concert under the baton of a female conductor.

This program of works by women and non-binary composers seeks to celebrate the long, great, and diverse women’s music tradition in classical music, from the Baroque era to the present day, showcasing to the next generation of young women and beyond that though we have lots of work to do, the persistence of those who have come before us has trailblazed a path for great women’s music for years to come.

Chrysanthe Tan: if you lived in your body

Jennifer Higdon: String Poetic
1. Jagged Climb
2. Nocturne
3. Blue Hills of Mist
4. Maze Mechanical
5. Climb Jagged

Jessie Montgomery: Peace

Elisabeth Jacquet de Guerre: Sonata No. 2 in D Major for Violin and Continuo
I. Presto
II. Adagio
III. Presto
IV. Presto

Florence Price: Fantasy for Violin and Piano No. 2

Germaine Taillefaire: Sonata No. 1 for Violin and Piano
I. Modéré sans lenteur
II. Scherzo
III. Assez lent
IV. Final - très vite
I Could Have Danced All Night

The great marriage of song and dance across cultures and time periods represents the best of human joy and felicity. Some of my greatest memories are of nights spent dancing with my friends and family, whether it was the senior prom, a family wedding, more formal occasions, or a night out with my friends.

Classical music sometimes gets a bad reputation for being ‘too serious’. Yet, our tradition of dance and movement-inspired music of all temperaments - from slow and soulful to lively and quick-tempo dates back nearly as far as our written art form itself. I Could Have Danced All Night -- in addition to being one of my favorite songs from My Fair Lady -- invites you to leave your troubles at the door, and asks you to the dance.

Wynton Marsalis: Fiddle Dance Suite
I. Sidestep Reel
II. As the Wind Goes
III. Jones’ Jig
IV. Nicola’s Strathspey
V. Bye-Bye Breakdown

Mozart: Sonata in E minor, k. 304
I. Allegro
II. Tempo di Minuettio

Ysaye: Sonata for Solo Violin Op. 27, no. 5 in G Major
I. L’aurore
II. Danse Rustique

Errolyn Wallen: Woogie Boogie

Bach: Partita No. 1 in B minor, BWV 1002
I. Allemanda – double
II. Corrente – double
III. Sarabanda - double
IV. Tempo di borea - double

Bartok: Romanian Folk Dances
The Jewish Violin

I’ve always had a complex relationship with my own Jewishness. Growing up in southern Indiana with a special-needs brother and two lesbian moms both named “Amy”, my extremely Jewish name and cultural heritage it reflects were further reminder of “being different” to me as well and to my white-picket-fence neighbors and classmates. I further felt uneasy about my identity when my family moved to Jerusalem during my childhood and I experienced a firsthand taste of what the Israeli occupation means for both Israelis and Palestinians. Given historical context, it comes as no surprise to me that composers such as Mendelssohn and Schoenberg felt unsafe in their Jewishness and assimilated away from a connection with their heritage; yet, Jews have contributed immensely to the classical canon and many Jewish composers have composed music not only in spite of their Jewishness, but in celebration of it, too.

E. Korngold: Much Ado About Nothing, Op. 11
I. Dreaming
II. Two Tipsy Night Watchmen
III. Garden Scene
IV. Wedding Celebration

Felix Mendelssohn: Violin Sonata in F Minor, Op. 4
I. Adagio – Allegro Moderato
II. Poco Adagio
III. Allegro agitato

A. Horowitz "How Do You Tell Your Child" (2019) for violin with voice

Intermission


A. Schoenberg: Phantasy, Op. 47

E. Schulhoff: Violin Sonata no. 2
I. Allegro impetuoso
II. Andante
III. Burlesca: Allegretto
IV. Allegro risoluto

Fanny Mendelssohn: Adagio for Violin and Piano