

# Joy H. Calico

Vanderbilt University / German Studies Association

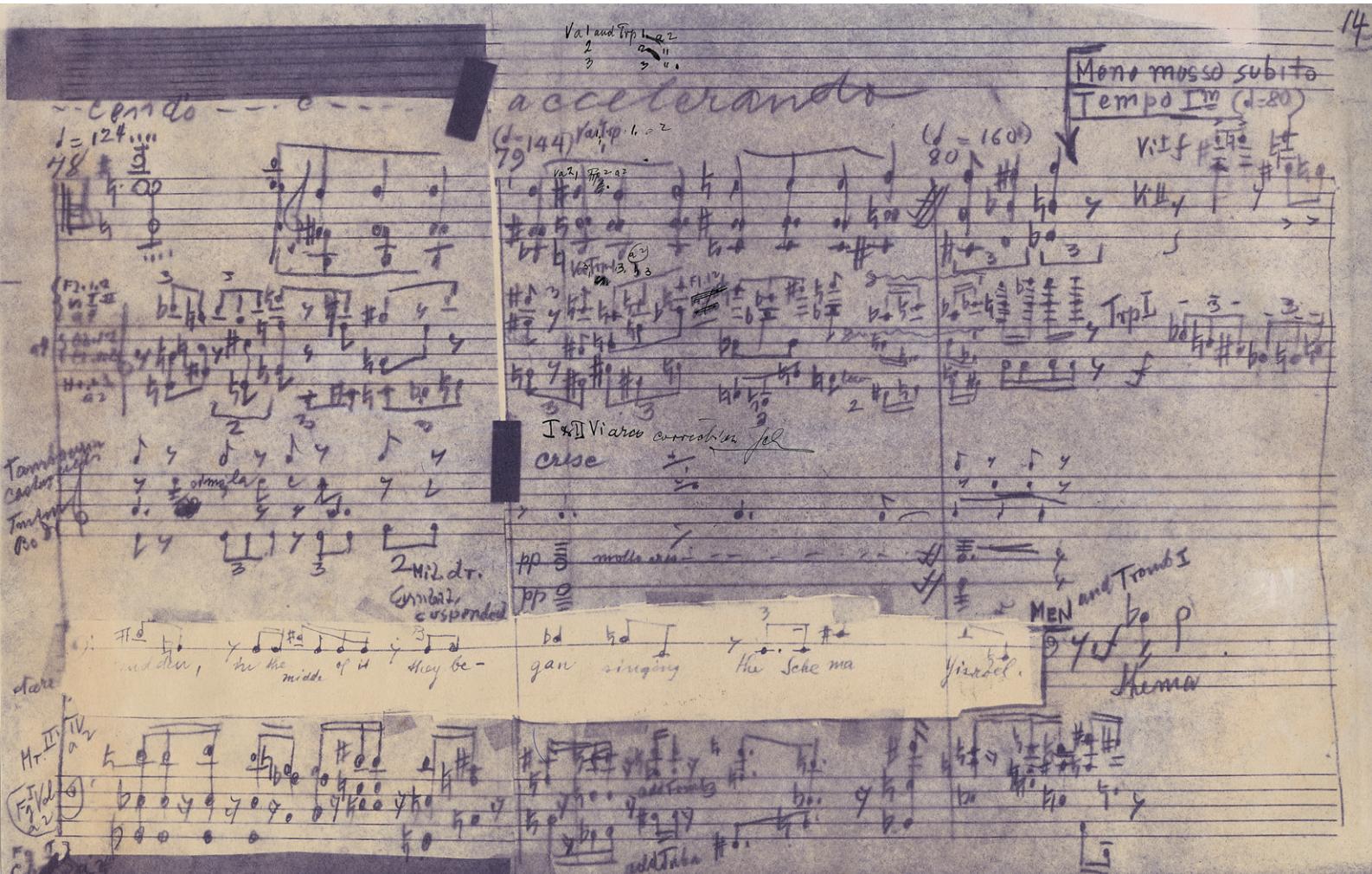
## Arnold Schoenberg's *A Survivor from Warsaw* in Postwar Europe: Musical Remigration and Holocaust Commemoration in the Germanys

Tuesday | June 30, 2015 | 6–8pm

Freie Universität Berlin

Seminarzentrum | Room L115

Otto-von-Simson-Str. 26 | 14195 Berlin



The image shows a handwritten musical score for Arnold Schoenberg's composition "A Survivor from Warsaw". The score is written on multiple staves using a complex system of pitch notation. The music includes various dynamics such as *ff*, *ff*, *pp*, and *p*. There are also markings for *accellerando* and *tempo I*. The score is annotated with lyrics in Yiddish, such as "gan singen the sche ma yizel", and includes directions for performers like "Vi. and Tr. I". The score is dated "14" at the top right.

## Berlin Program GSA Distinguished Lecture 2015

Joy H. Calico

### Arnold Schoenberg's *A Survivor from Warsaw* in Postwar Europe: Musical Remigration and Holocaust Commemoration in the Germanys

Joy H. Calico examines the cultural history of postwar Europe through the lens of the performance and reception of Arnold Schoenberg's *A Survivor from Warsaw*—a short but powerful work that irritated every exposed nerve in postwar Europe. Schoenberg, an Austrian Jewish composer whose oeuvre had been the Nazis' prime exemplar of degenerate music, immigrated to the United States and became an American citizen. Both admired and reviled as a pioneer of modernist music, he wrote this twelve-tone piece about the Holocaust in three languages for an American audience. This talk investigates the meanings attached to the work as it circulated through Europe during the early Cold War in a kind of symbolic musical remigration, focusing particularly on micro-histories in West and East Germany. Each is informed by unique geopolitical concerns, but this analysis also reveals common themes in anxieties about musical modernism, Holocaust memory and culpability, the coexistence of Jews and former Nazis, anti-Semitism, dislocation, and the presence of occupying forces on both sides of the Cold War divide.

Joy Calico is Professor of Musicology and Director of the Max Kade Center for European and German Studies at Vanderbilt University and the author of *Arnold Schoenberg's 'A Survivor from Warsaw' in Postwar Europe* (2014) and *Brecht at the Opera* (2008), both from University of California Press, as well as numerous other publications on German opera and on Cold-War cultural politics. Her research has been supported by the ACLS, the American Academy in Berlin, the DAAD, the Howard Foundation, the NEH and the Berlin Program where she held a fellowship between 1997 and 1998. She is a board member of the German Studies Association (GSA), the largest professional organization of scholars in German, Austrian, and Swiss history, literature, art, cultural studies, political science, and economics in North America and the Berlin Program's partner organization.

The lecture will be followed by a commentary by Matthias Pasdzierny, Universität der Künste and a discussion. The event will be moderated by Paul Nolte, Freie Universität Berlin.

TIME: June 30, 2015, 18-20 h (c.t.) followed by a reception 20-21 h

LOCATION: Freie Universität Berlin

Seminarzentrum Room L 115, Otto-von-Simson-Str. 26, 14195 Berlin

LANGUAGE: The lecture and discussion will be held in English.

#### COVER ILLUSTRATION

Original manuscript page from *A Survivor from Warsaw* by Arnold Schoenberg, mm. 78-80

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Digital Design: Daniel Calzada

Otto-von-Simon-Straße 26

Ristorante Galileo

