



Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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MS-4787: Abba Hillel Silver Papers, 1902-1989.

Series V: Writings, 1909-1963, undated.

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Cleveland Orchestra, 1938.

REMARKS OF DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER MADE AT THE DINNER GIVEN ON FRIDAY EVENING,
SEPTEMBER 30 AT THE MID-DAY CLUB IN BEHALF OF THE CLEVELAND ORCHESTRA.

That our community has been immeasurably stimulated culturally by the establishment of the Cleveland Orchestra is apparent on all sides. I came to Cleveland a year or two before the Cleveland Orchestra was founded and even though a layman, I nevertheless sensed the musical poverty of our city at that time. A few brave souls were struggling hard in those days to give to our community the gift of an occasional concert by a visiting artist. Our city, one of the greatest in the United States, had fewer opportunities for the enjoyment and the teaching of music than a city one-tenth its size in the Old World.

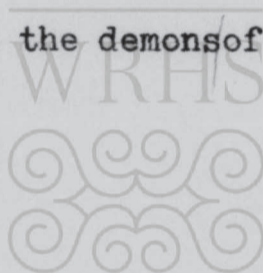
Within the last twenty years, however, there has been a remarkable change. so vital Cleveland is no longer behind in this essential effort/to the cultural life of a community. It is not only that this great orchestra, under an inspiring conductor, is giving our community frequent musical programs of consummate artistry, but it has greatly stimulated and assisted many other musical activities in our city. In one way or another, the Cleveland Orchestra and its patron, the Musical Arts Association, have assisted in the establishment of a department of instrumental music in the public schools of Cleveland as well as music courses at Cleveland College. They have assisted in the development of the Graduate School of Music at Western Reserve University, the Cleveland Institute of Music and the Cleveland Music School Settlement. The splendid artists who are members of the Cleveland Orchestra have given their services most generously to numerous civic organizations, music groups and choruses in our city. The world-renowned musicians whom the Orchestra brings every year as guest artists on its programs have been a source of inspiration to all lovers of music and especially to teachers and students. And beautiful Severance Hall is a by-product of the Cleveland Orchestra.

For all of which we are profoundly grateful. The Cleveland Orchestra, like all other forms of artistic endeavor in our community, both reflects and

and molds our community life. Art which is a social creation has a social function. Music which is the most spiritual of all the arts, helps build for men a world of spiritual reality second only to religion. { Music has always been associated with religion. It is difficult to find a religious ritual without music. The service of religion as I see it is to make the good appear holy. The service of music, as of art generally, is to make the good appear also beautiful.

which is builded upon harmony and order

As the one universal tongue of all mankind, music/may unite us all in a common effort to give to men in these days of strife and bitterness the solace of beauty, and the universal vision of an orderly, harmonious and brotherly world made noble by the pursuit of things eternally beautiful. The music of Orpheus had the power to make the Furies relent. The playing of David drove away the evil spirit from Saul. Science, having failed, perhaps art and religion will *rise* ~~rise~~ in our day to exorcise the demonsof chaos from our world.



Our community has been immeasurably stimulated culturally by the Cleveland Orchestra. This great orchestra, under an inspiring conductor, is not only giving our community frequent musical programs of consummate artistry, but it has greatly stimulated and assisted many other musical activities in our city. In one way or another, the Cleveland Orchestra and its patron, the Musical Arts Association, have assisted in the establishment of a department of instrumental music in the public schools of Cleveland as well as music courses at Cleveland College. They have assisted in the development of the Graduate School of Music at Western Reserve University, the Cleveland Institute of Music and the Cleveland Music School Settlement. The splendid artists who are members of the Cleveland Orchestra have given their services most generously to numerous civic organizations, music groups and choruses in our city. The world-renowned musicians whom the Orchestra brings every year as guest artists on its programs have been a source of inspiration to all lovers of music and especially to teachers and students. And beautiful Severance Hall is a by-product of the Cleveland Orchestra.

For all of which our community should be profoundly grateful. The Cleveland Orchestra, like all other forms of artistic endeavor in our community, both reflects and molds our community life. Art is a social creation and has a social function. Music, which is the most spiritual of all the arts, helps build for men a world of spiritual reality second only to religion.

As the one universal tongue of mankind, music which is builded upon harmony and order, may unite ~~for~~ us all in a common effort to give to men in these days of strife and bitterness the solace of beauty and the vision of an orderly and harmonious world made noble by the pursuit of things eternally beautiful.

Abba Hillel Silver
April 21, 1939

Yielding to the Disaphone -

8/ And I carry away -

man's capacity - for

orderly, cooperative shame -

work - and I pray that

an community ^{may be made} may

model itself upon its

orchestra !

1/ Why invited - 2 Irish men - Understand
not to limit - Enriale - Frisend -

2/ Grateful - appreciation -
that our community - stimulated
when I came -

3/ Within last 20 yrs - no longer behind
It is not only -

Assisted in establish - dept
In our way - helped to develop -

"Gradual School Music" -

"Cl. Inst. of Music"

"Cl. Music Sch. Settlement"

Splendid artist - Wald-renewed -

Beaut. Severance Hall -

4/ For all, which -

Cl. Orch. Art all - reflects - notes

Reveals itself - autobiography -

Art-social creation - social function

Plato - "Mus. innovation full of
danger to State - notes music

Music - most spiritual - helps
second only -
Assoc. with Ret - Ritual -
Prayers - 150 -
Religion - Good - Holy
Art - " Beautiful

5/ As an "Universal tongue" -
built upon harmony -
may serve to unite -

6/ Music of Orpheus - Furies, rebel
David -
Science having failed,
voices - disturb

7/ Sometimes as I sit in Lev.
Hall - An Orchestra!
Many - diverse - 100 Voices
Voices, Unity - Free & True -