

Notes on Today's Music

“Hózhó”

“This piece was inspired by the traditional Diné (Navajo) concept of Hózhó, often translated as ‘balance and beauty.’ This concept permeates Diné life and culture, and reflects the state of harmony that binds all things together in the universe. ... the Diné seek to achieve harmony and beauty in life each day, despite the inevitable times of imbalance.” - Connor Chee

“I Choose Love”

Mark Miller composed this anthem in response to the killing of nine African Americans attending a bible study at the Emmanuel AME Church in Charleston, SC in 2015.

“Walking with the Wind”

“Inspired by the life of John Lewis, and the story found in the prologue of his book.” - Clif Hardin

In his book of the same name, Congressman and activist, John Lewis tells the story of growing up as the son of a sharecropper in Pike County, Alabama. He recalls one afternoon when a severe thunderstorm rolled in and his aunt called him and his fifteen young cousins and siblings into her small house for shelter. As the wind grew stronger, a corner of the small structure threatened to lift from the ground. His Aunt Seneva instructed the small children to hold hands and walk across the floor to the corner to weigh it down. Throughout the storm, the children walked from corner to corner to hold the house in place.

"Children holding hands, walking with the wind. That is America to me - not just the movement for civil rights but the endless struggle to respond with decency, dignity and a sense of brotherhood to all the challenges that face us as a nation, as a whole." -John Lewis

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