

# Banned Music Reborn: The Rediscovery of Two Generations of European Composers with violinist Sheila Reinhold



Enrichment Program  
UNIVERSITY OF DENVER

Two Thursday evening Zoom sessions from 6:30-8:30pm MDT: March 23 and 30, 2023

Course homepage: <https://sheilareinhold.com/banned-composers-at-du>

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## Course Description:

In 1933, the Third Reich began the persecution of all musicians of Jewish ancestry and all musicians suspected of opposition to Nazi culture. By 1945, two generations of European composers had been murdered or had fled into exile. This course is an introduction to the exciting and moving rediscovery of these composers and their music, with performances throughout the world of lost or forgotten compositions. Topics discussed in the sessions will include: the place of these composers in the musical life of pre-war Germany and Europe, the many perils that faced them after the Nazi rise to power, the challenges and consequences of exile for those who survived, the possible reasons – both cultural and political – that until recently so much music was lost, forgotten, or willfully suppressed, and how these discoveries are re-shaping our view of 20th-century music and impacting the international classical music scene.

Each session will include a live performance.

### March 23: Music amidst the culture wars of a changing Europe

- The place of Jews in music of 19th and 20th century Europe.
- Music, musicians, and political/cultural unrest in the years prior to the Nazi rise to power.
- Nazi theories of the unique role of music and musicians, and how these shaped the purge of Jewish and dissident musicians.
- The transformed landscapes facing composers who escaped into exile or otherwise survived.

**Performance** will include the *Sonata for Solo Violin* (composed in 1927) by Erwin Schulhoff, who was born in Prague in 1894 and died in Wülzburg Prison in 1944.

### March 30: Neglect and suppression, discovery and rebirth

- The post-war years and the mixture of political, cultural and economic factors world-wide contributing to the neglect of compositions by composers who had been active pre-war.
- The changes in political, cultural and economic factors which have increasingly created a fertile environment for the discovery of forgotten and/or hidden compositions.
- The impacts on classical music as these “rebirths” continue.

**Performance** will include *Bashrav* for solo violin (composed in 1953) by Abel Ehrlich who was born in Cranz in East Prussia in 1919 and died in Tel Aviv in 2003; and the *Andante* from *Sonata #1 for Solo Violin* (composed in 1964) by Mieczysław Weinberg, who was born in Warsaw in 1919 and died in Moscow in 1996.

### Post-course Holocaust Remembrance Week Concert: Thursday evening April 20, 2023

presented and hosted by Temple Emanuel Denver, curated by Sheila Reinhold

with Yumi Hwang-Williams, violin; Sheila Reinhold, violin and viola; Seoyoen Min, cello

works by Zigmund Schul, Erwin Schulhoff, László Weiner, and Gideon Klein, all killed during the Holocaust

*Sheila Reinhold* first performed as violin soloist with an orchestra at age nine. At fifteen, she joined Jascha Heifetz's master class, where she studied for five years. Her career has included chamber music with Heifetz and cellist Gregor Piatigorsky, appearances as a soloist with major orchestras, freelance work from Broadway to movie scores, and a lifelong dedication to teaching. She is the music director of *Intimate Voices*, a chamber music series in New York City.