

Celebration Ensemble

Ensemble members: African Fiddles & Violins- John Blake .jr. and Diane Monroe, Fiddle & Poetry Charlotte Blake-Alston, Piano-Sumi Tonooka, Bass-Boris Koslov, Drums- Johnathan Blake and Percussion- Dr. Gibbs

Title of the commissioned work: "A Celebration of Fiddle Music from Africa to America"

Instrumentation:

3-African Fiddles doubling on Violins, Piano, Bass, Drums and Percussion

Composer's Statement:

This work features the influence of West African fiddle playing and early African-American fiddle styles and their role in other musical forms such as; Spirituals, Work Songs, Blues and modern Jazz. The composition reflects an anthology in the significance of the violin in African and Afro-American music history.

Length of the work: 1 hr.

Recording: VHS

Stated Technical Requirements:

Tuned grand piano, 3 contact mics for African fiddles, drum set, 5 monitors, 3 stand mics for 2 violins & 1vocal

Contact Information:

Composer:	John Blake Jr.
Booking contact person:	Melvyn Roundtree
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