

“Brundibár” is a children’s opera filled with creativity and hope, demonstrating strength through spiritual resistance

“Brundibár” is a parable of hope and justice based on a folk tale in which two children try to raise money to buy milk to help their sick mother. In the town square, they see people throwing coins into the hat of the organ-grinder, Brundibár who is performing. The children decide to sing but no one listens to them. When they make more noise, Brundibár chases them away. A dog, a cat and a sparrow help the children by rounding up all the children in town to make a large chorus. People throw coins to the children. Brundibár grabs the cap and tries to run away. But he doesn’t have a chance because he is only one against many. The children celebrate their victory of good over evil. The young performers and the audience were aware that Brundibár stood for Hitler.

“Brundibár” was performed in the ghetto/ concentration camp, Theresienstadt (Terezin, Czechoslovakia) 55 times. A special performance was staged for representatives of the Red Cross who came to inspect the conditions at the camp.

Almost all of the youth who performed in “Brundibár” were transported to Auschwitz and only a handful survived. Ela Weissberger was one of them. (See her story on the back panel.)

The opera has been performed all over the world to sold out audiences and featured on Bill Moyers’ PBS program *NOW* and on *60 Minutes* www.cbsnews.com/stories/2007/02/23/60minutes/main2508458.shtml.



Brundibár

A Tribute to the Human Spirit

Hatikvah Patron Package

The following events are included in the Hatikvah Patron Package ticket price:

Orientation Workshops:

Sunday March 16 -11:30 am

National Yiddish Book Center - Amherst, MA

Tuesday March 25 -7:00 pm

Hatikvah Holocaust Education Center

Film Screening:

“As Seen Through their Eyes”

Sunday March 30 - 1:00-2:00 pm

Springfield Museum of Fine Arts

Private reception with Ela Weissberger

Sunday March 30 - 2:30-4:00 pm

Elms College - Chicopee, MA

refreshments will be served

BRUNDIBÁR - Reserved seating

Sunday March 30 - 4:00 pm

Veritas Auditorium, Elms College

This production is made possible by the Jewish Arts & Culture Initiative of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation, the Community Foundation and individual donors. It is presented in a special partnership with the Commonwealth Opera and Hatikvah Holocaust Education Center.

*Music by Hans Krasa
Libretto by Adolf Hoffmeister
With new English adaptation by Tony Kushner
Stage direction by Jimmy Smith
Set design by Maggie Duford
Costumes by Corina Swartz*



Hatikvah Holocaust Education Center

Order Tickets for the Hatikvah Patron Program Now!

Hatikvah Patron Package:

Adults \$25Qty. _____ \$ _____

Students \$15Qty. _____ \$ _____

Total enclosed \$ _____

(Ticket price includes a donation to Hatikvah Holocaust Education Center)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ email _____

Check enclosed _____
Payable to Hatikvah Holocaust Education Center

Credit card: (MC or VISA) _____
Exp. date _____
Number _____
Name on card _____

I cannot attend “Brundibár” but would like to make a contribution to Hatikvah in the amount of \$ _____

Call in your order anytime (413) 734-7700
(up to March 21, 2008)

Mail order to:
Hatikvah Holocaust Education Center
1160 Dickinson Street, Springfield, MA 01108

For more information about other performance dates not included in the Hatikvah Patron Package please visit

www.commonwealthopera.org
or www.hatikvah-center.org