

A NOTE FROM *Johnstone-Music*

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SHORT FEATURE ON ANITA LASKER-WALLFISCH

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Birth: 17th July 1926 - Breslau, Germany - today Wrocław, Poland {mother of cellist Raphael Wallfisch}

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Anita is a cellist, and a surviving member of the Women's Orchestra in Auschwitz. She became an outspoken peace advocate relatively late in life. In 2018, she gave a commemorative speech in the German parliament to mark the 73rd anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz. But for decades, she had refused to talk about her childhood in Germany or her years in detention at Auschwitz and Bergen-Belsen - even to her own children. Then, in the early 1990s, she wrote her memoirs, 'Inherit the Truth', and began regularly visiting Germany, a country she had long refused to set foot in, often telling her story to schools. It is a story of flight, imprisonment, forced labour, making music under the most trying circumstances, emigration and, finally, a career in music.

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In 1946, Anita and Renate moved to Great Britain with the help of Marianne. She married the pianist Peter Wallfisch and is mother to two children. She was a co-founder of the English Chamber Orchestra (ECO), performing as both a member and as a solo artist with them, and toured regularly internationally. After nearly 50 years away from Germany, she finally returned there on tour with the ECO in 1994. In 2011, she received an Honorary degree as Doctor of Divinity from Cambridge University.

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In her words:

"Racism hasn't died out, unfortunately, but as members of the human race we are responsible for one another. Nobody entered the world wearing the label 'superhuman' or 'subhuman.' We are the ones who invented these labels."

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'documenting the cello'

Please do see other original works for many different instruments and groupings, and also special transcriptions for cellists, and cellists with other instruments on the ***Johnstone-Music*** web page

Also both general musical and cello based articles, directories of famous historical cellists, and many other items of interest

DOWNLOADS - Many downloads on ***Johnstone-Music*** are now available, for those that are interested, at a *symbolic* payment, which is to help cover the costs of this web site. Some scores/parts are presented in musical edition programmes but generally they are found here in a most "clear" hand-written manuscript copy (the majority to almost a professional copyist standard) and transferred to a PDF file.

As far as ***Johnstone-Music*** is concerned you are welcome to publicly perform or record any work or piece found in the web; however you DO need to make mention of the name of the composer and the arranger on any printed information (hand programmes, disc covers etc.).

FREE PUBLICITY - If you care to inform us of any public performance (no matter how formal or informal the event is), recording or other uses of the original music or arrangements of David Johnstone or of other musical colleagues included in this web, we are happy to give your event free publicity on the ***Johnstone-Music*** web.

To take advantage of this, try to write to us three weeks or more in advance with any information. Last-minute entries are certainly better than not writing at all - however, understandably, once we have past the calendar month of the event it is not usually possible to add old items to the calendar. It is very interesting for the promoters of ***Johnstone-Music*** to have knowledge of your activity - and so in return for your information you will be entitled to a free gift of a work/s for every diary addition you tell us about. To find out more about this, please visit the "***Cello Club***" section in the web!