

**Mack Scocca-Ho**, age 11, was born in Beijing, but has lived in New York most of his life. He has been involved in the VYC program since early 2018. Mack has been composing since he was three years old, when he began printing out blank staff paper and writing down music. He plays viola and studies piano, in addition to composition. His *Ociantrose* evokes life in the capital of an imaginary country, a city whose name refers to its location near water.

**Steven Stucky's** death three years ago was met with an outpouring of sympathy by composers and musicians across the country, including his many students at Cornell University and The Juilliard School. His loss was sorely felt at the New York Philharmonic, where from 2005 to 2009 he hosted the *Hear and Now* series, which presented new and unfamiliar scores through his onstage commentary and conversations with composers.

The *Elegy* is drawn from Stucky's oratorio **August 4, 1964**, commissioned and premiered by the Dallas Symphony Orchestra

(then led by Jaap van Zweden) to mark the centennial of the birth of Texas native President Lyndon Baines Johnson. The oratorio's title alludes to a day in Johnson's administration when two calamities occurred: the discovery of the bodies of three civil-rights workers who had been abducted and slain while in Mississippi encouraging African American citizens to vote, and the Gulf of Tonkin incident, a confrontation (veiled in disputed circumstances) between American and North Vietnamese forces that led to the escalation of the Vietnam War. On that fateful day Stucky was 14 years old and living in Texas, and he later recalled being very close to and conflicted by the events.

The *Elegy* is the seventh of twelve movements in the oratorio. Stucky wrote that the orchestral movement was intended to break up the pacing of the greater work:

It occurs at an emotional point, when the horrific import of some of what [has been] heard begins to add up. It's business as usual at the White House, except that [President Lyndon] Johnson and [Secretary

---

## New Work by Very Young Composer



### **Ociantrose**

### **Mack Scocca-Ho**

**Born:** June 9, 2007, in Beijing, China

**Student at:** Special Music School at the Kaufman Music Center, Manhattan

**World Premiere:** these concerts

Mack says:

Ociantrose is the capital city of Myanolor, one of a group of countries that my friends and I have imagined. This piece celebrates Ociantrose's distinctive identity as a busy but orderly city where order is not imposed by the government, but arises from the residents. The different themes in my piece suggest the variety of people there and the harmony emerging from independence.

# Elegy, from August 4, 1964

## Steven Stucky

**Born:** November 7, 1949, in Hutchinson, Kansas

**Died:** February 3, 2016, in Ithaca, New York

**Work composed:** 2008

**World premiere:** September 18, 2008, in Dallas, Texas, by the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, Jaap van Zweden, conductor

**New York Philharmonic premiere:** January 24, 2019, Jaap van Zweden, conductor

of Defense Robert] McNamara are beginning to talk about bombing. ... The principal motive from the *Elegy* eventually became the main motive of the whole oratorio once I composed the rest of the music.

Although he was born and raised in Massachusetts, **Leonard Bernstein** today is thought of as a quintessential New Yorker. The Philharmonic’s Music Director from 1958 through 1969, he was a Renaissance man of 20th-century music: a stellar

conductor, composer, and pianist, as well as an educator who inspired a generation of music lovers when the Philharmonic Young People’s Concerts that he conducted became a television sensation. His compositions range from symphonies in the concert hall tradition to stage works like his beloved Broadway hit *West Side Story*.

His comic operetta **Candide** preceded that show by a year. A fantasy based on the novella by the 18th-century author Voltaire, it opens with an invigorating **Overture** that foreshadows the operetta’s humor. Voltaire’s tale revolves around the wide-eyed hero, Candide, whose trips to distant points of the globe invariably turn into dismal misadventures, much though he may be assured by his idealistic tutor that everything is for the best. The novella was written as a charming but persuasive rebuttal to the German philosopher Gottfried Wilhelm von Leibnitz’s metaphysical assertion that “All is for the best in the best of all possible worlds.” Voltaire countered that many things have

## Did You Know?

**MISSING CALL FBI**

THE FBI IS SEEKING INFORMATION CONCERNING THE DISAPPEARANCE AT PHILADELPHIA, MISSISSIPPI OF THESE THREE INDIVIDUALS ON JUNE 21, 1964. EXTENSIVE INVESTIGATION IS BEING CONDUCTED TO LOCATE GOODMAN, CHANEY, AND SCHWERNER, WHO ARE DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

ANDREW GOODMAN	JAMES EARL CHANEY	MICHAEL HENRY SCHWERNER
AGE: 24	AGE: 34	AGE: 24
RACE: White	RACE: Black	RACE: White
DOB: November 17, 1940	DOB: May 21, 1930	DOB: November 4, 1940
POB: New York City	POB: Memphis, Tennessee	POB: New York City
HEIGHT: 5'10"	HEIGHT: 5'11"	HEIGHT: 5'7 1/2"
WEIGHT: 150 lbs.	WEIGHT: 175 lbs. (160 lbs. when last seen)	WEIGHT: 135 lbs. (140 lbs. when last seen)
HAIR: Dark Brown wavy	HAIR: Black	HAIR: Brown
EYES: Brown	EYES: Dark	EYES: Light Blue
TEETH: Straight	TEETH: None missing	TEETH: None missing
SCAR(S): None	SCAR(S): None	SCAR(S): None

Should you have or in the future receive any information concerning the whereabouts of these individuals, you are requested to notify me or the nearest office of the FBI. Telephone number is listed below.

DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

- In June 1964, New Yorkers Andrew Goodman and Michael Schwerner traveled to Mississippi for the Freedom Summer initiative, which aimed to register as many African American voters as possible in the state, where voter suppression efforts had kept them from the polls. They, and James Chaney of Mississippi, were abducted and killed by members of the Ku Klux Klan.
- The Gulf of Tonkin incident involved gunfire between the USS Maddox and North Vietnamese torpedo boats on August 2, 1964. Reports of a second incident on August 4 (later proven to be false) led to the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution, which gave President Johnson authority to use military force in Southeast Asia.

FBI missing poster from 1964