

WALLS

are tumbling down

a peace project by Ibrahim Quraishi & Eunice Martins



Composition:

Eunice Martins (DE/BE/PT) / Ibrahim Quraishi (KE/US/FR/DE)

Conductor: Sara Isabel Grajales Tamayo (CO/AT)

Video-Installation: Ibrahim Quraishi

Concept development: Gabriel Smeets (NL)

Arrangement: Hiroyo Masumura (JP/AT)

Musicians/Ensemble:

Yara Abou Fakher (SYR/DE) - Violin, Diana Bikbaev (UA) - Viola, Danielle Akta (IL/DE) - Cello, Katrin Meingast (DE) - Violoncello, Avery Gosfield (US/IT) - Shofar, Tenor recorder, Isabell Warm (DE) - Flute, Estelle Akta (IL/DE) - oboe, Elisabeth Becker (DE) - Oboe, Eduardo Mota (BR/DE) - Percussion - Marimba, Georg Wieland Wagner (DE) - Marimba - vibraphon, Samuel Dietze (DE) - Percussion, Shimon Friedberg (IL) - Shofar, David Limburger (IL) - Shofar, Dorothea Wagner (DE) - Soprano, Leon Glauning (DE) - Baritone, Komi Togbonou (DE/TG) - actor, Khalid Abubakar (SO/LU) - actor, Synagogue Choir of The Jewish Community Dresden and The Young Choir of der Singakademie Dresden directed by Michael Käßler (DE).

Spacial architecture: Luka Murovec (DE/SE)

*Interactive/sound architecture: Steffen Armbruster, Uli Dziallas
USOMO.de*

Video/edit/camera: Andreas Ulrich (DE), Rubén González Escudero (ES/DE)


Walls Are Tumbling Down **a cantata as a musical protest**

"We are often seen as people who cannot get along, yet it is our very differences that make us stronger. Together, we create music, celebrate diversity, and discover profound friendships within it." – I. Quraishi

Public dress rehearsal

On February 10, 2025, Dresden will be the center of a special artistic event: Eunice Martins and Ibrahim Quraishi will make a powerful statement against exclusion, hatred and prejudice with their experimental cantata *WALLS Are Tumbling Down*. Inspired by the story of the fall of Jericho, shofar, percussion, electronics, vocals and rebellious sounds merge into an impressive message - a passionate appeal for solidarity, resistance and change.

Since June 2024, Martins and Quraishi have been collaborating to assemble a temporary ensemble of over 20 musicians while composing the cantata through an equally inclusive and participatory process. The ensemble primarily features artists based in Dresden, bringing together Jewish, Muslim, Arab, Afro-German, and Saxon voices in Hebrew, Arabic, Yiddish, German & English. This unique work sends a clear and resounding message against anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, hatred, and all forms of racism.



The rehearsals were held in highly symbolic locations that highlight the challenges faced by marginalized communities in Germany. The dress rehearsal will be featured as part of the Staatsschauspiel Dresden's Montagscafés (Monday Café), a transcultural meeting space where migration and culture come alive as dynamic, evolving processes. In this context, the cantata transforms into a dialogue about social cohesion and a celebration of the shared values that unite us despite our differences.

During the rehearsal period, the music metaphorically brought down the historic Carola Bridge in the heart of Dresden. Like the walls of Jericho, the bridge seemed to collapse as if responding to the sheer power of the sound. Was it a warning? Perhaps, against the dangers of false promises. Yet one message rings clear: the cantata calls for the dismantling of false bridges—those built on intolerance, hatred, and injustice. The collapse serves as a reminder that it is time to forge new and better connections that foster genuine understanding and solidarity. Though the bridge may have fallen, its message endures: together, we can dismantle walls, overcome barriers, and unite in defiance of all odds.



Participants: The ensemble consists of more than 20 musicians from different backgrounds, including members of the Synagoge Choir of the Jewish Community of Dresden and the Youth Chamber Choir of the Dresden Singakademie.

Join us as the walls crumble and art rebuilds the bridges that unite humanity.

WALLS are Tumbling Down - Temporary Ensemble

The temporary ensemble comprises over 20 musicians from diverse backgrounds, including individuals of Jewish faith, Arabs, Afro-Germans, and local artists, reflecting a rich tapestry of different cultural identities.

The narrative voices within the cantata are sung/spoken by Dorothea Wagner (DE), Leon Glauning (DE), Komi Togbonou (DE/TG), Khalid Abubakar (YE/SD) in German, Arabic, Hebrew and Yiddish. Some rehearsals were held in public and at symbolic locations that highlight the challenges faced by marginalized communities in Germany.

Public dress rehearsal:

Date: 10. February 2025

Time: 20:00 Uhr

Location: Kleines Haus, Staatsschauspiel Dresden

Glacisstraße 28, 01099 Dresden

Duration: ca. 40 Minuten

Entrance: free

Projectsite: <https://t-m-a.de/projekte/walls-are-tumbling-down>

Contact:

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Interview requests, project information

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