



REMEMBERING: LOTHAR KLEIN DEDICATED HIS COMPOSITION HACHCAVA TO THE MEMORY OF THE MILLIONS OF HOLOCAUST VICTIMS

TWO NEW HOURS

Premiere of *Hachcava: Memorial Meditations* by Lothar Klein

September 27, 9.05 p.m. (9.35 NT), Stereo

SOBERING STRAINS: "It is as black as the depictions of doom in Milton's *Paradise Lost*." This is how Toronto composer Lothar Klein describes *Hachcava: Memorial Meditations*. Written in 1979 and dedicated to the memory of the Holocaust victims, *Hachcava* is a setting of the Sephardic prayers for the deceased. Klein amplifies the solemn nature of the Hebrew text by creating an evocative musical soundscape. The dark sonorities of percussion and the ethereal whisperings of two ancient harps stir the senses and invite spiritual contemplation. The text, excerpts from Psalms 16 and 39, is scored for a basso profundo. The low rumblings of the vocalist add to the emotional intensity of this profoundly sacred work. The Canadian premiere performance of *Hachcava* is featured this month on *Two New Hours*.