

## Celebration Ensemble

**Ensemble members:** African Fiddles & Violins- John Blake .jr. and Diane Monroe, Fiddle & Poetry Charlotte Blake-Alston, Piano-Sumi Tonooka, Bass-Boris Koslov, Drums- Johnathan Blake and Percussion- Dr. Gibbs

**Title of the commissioned work:** "A Celebration of Fiddle Music from Africa to America"

**Instrumentation:**

3-African Fiddles doubling on Violins, Piano, Bass, Drums and Percussion

**Composer's Statement:**

This work features the influence of West African fiddle playing and early African-American fiddle styles and their role in other musical forms such as; Spirituals, Work Songs, Blues and modern Jazz. The composition reflects an anthology in the significance of the violin in African and Afro-American music history.

**Length of the work:** 1 hr.

**Recording:** VHS

**Stated Technical Requirements:**

Tuned grand piano, 3 contact mics for African fiddles, drum set, 5 monitors, 3 stand mics for 2 violins & 1vocal

**Contact Information:**

Composer:	John Blake Jr.
Booking contact person:	Melvyn Roundtree
Phone:	856-728-8906
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