

A photograph of a man with glasses, wearing a blue dress shirt and a striped tie, playing a double bass. He is looking down and to the left with a focused expression. The background is softly blurred, suggesting an indoor setting with warm lighting.

XAVIER DUBOIS FOLEY: *For Justice and Peace*

From the Composer:

This double concerto, co-commissioned by Carnegie Hall, Sphinx Organization, and the New World Symphony, was created to mark the 400 years of slavery ever since the arrival of the slave ship “White Lion” in Jamestown, Virginia. The work features a chorus at the end, where they sing text inspired by frequent court cases where slaves have asked for their freedom, which was often denied because of the color of their skin.

*“Please your Honor, where’s my freedom?
We shall have equality, with liberty and justice for all!”*

This work also features a gavel, which represents the justice system that slowly took away colored people’s rights as the years passed. The soloists, which features the double bass and violin, represent two principal voices that paint the full picture of what life was like during slavery in what was soon to be considered the United States of America.

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This is an ASO premiere.

Instrumentation: Solo double bass, strings, soprano, alto, tenor, bass