

Mark Lomax & The Urban Art Ensemble

Libretto by Tyiesha Radford Shorts and conducted by Dr. Antoine Clark

Reconstruction: An Oratorio

Reconstruction: An Oratorio – A Historic and Timely Musical Work

"Reconstruction: An Oratorio" is a groundbreaking new piece by renowned composer Dr. Mark Lomax, II, premiering in Columbus, Ohio on December 8, 2026 at the historic Lincoln Theatre. Collaborating with librettist Tyiesha Radford Shorts, this powerful work explores themes of America's complex history through the lens of the Reconstruction era.

An Ensemble of Excellence

The oratorio will feature an exceptional ensemble of over 40 artists, including a string orchestra, an improvising septet, three soloists, a chorus, a rapper, a DJ, and a narrator. Conducted by Dr. Antoine Clark, this diverse ensemble promises a transcendent musical experience.

A Call to Reflection and Action

"Reconstruction: An Oratorio" aims to illuminate lessons from America's past to inform contemporary decision-making. By exploring the challenges and triumphs of the Reconstruction era, the work encourages audiences to reflect on the nation's progress and the work still to be done in building a more just, equitable, inclusive, and democratic America.

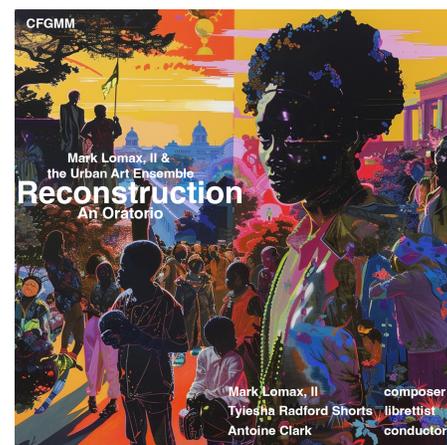
A Historic Premiere Needs Historic Funding

Join with fellow music, art, history and culture champions to bring this vital work to life. Your contribution toward the \$300,000 goal will support three performances, production of documentary and concert films, CD release, curriculum guide development, merchandise, and marketing. Every donation, big or small, is tax deductible and ensures the sharing of this powerful musical expression of Americas past and future with the world.

About Dr. Mark Lomax, II

Dr. Mark Lomax, II is a critically acclaimed composer, drummer, and musicologist known for his groundbreaking approach to music, blending elements of jazz, classical, gospel, and Afrikan rhythms. His compositions, which include the 12-album magnum opus, 400: An Afrikan Epic, have been performed by renowned ensembles and soloists worldwide. Dr. Lomax holds a Doctor of Musical Arts in composition and music theory from The Ohio State University, where he is a professor of African American music history in Columbus, Ohio.

Dr. Lomax is available for speaking engagements and benefit concerts to support the creation of Reconstruction: An Oratorio.



Donate Now

To support Reconstruction: An Oratorio, please send your tax deductible donation to [Streetlight Guild](#) with the word "Oratorio" in the description.

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