



Born May 26, 2000, **Draylen William Mason's** life ended abruptly and horrifically after bringing a plain box left on the family porch into the kitchen of their Austin, Texas home on March 12. It detonated in his hands, also injuring his mother. The bomber had similarly killed a 44 year-old African-American father 10 days earlier, and that same day severely injuring a 75 year-old Hispanic grandma. Changing methods, the bomber succeeded in injuring two young white men on a sidewalk, but no others as he attempted to send more bombs through FedEx. The bomber ended his own life as police closed in to capture him. The police chief eventually declared the bombings acts of "domestic terrorism," which helps us, the living, to face a growing tide of fear and illegal and immoral punishment.

On fire with music, Draylen was by all accounts a remarkable person, wise beyond his years, and hilarious like a standup comic. He was perhaps destined for a major orchestra job or the field of neurosurgery or something else. We will never know. But we can be assured that he led a great life and that had anyone else picked up that one box – had death NOT been brought to their home, whether randomly or intentionally – we would not be discovering Draylen Mason for a few years yet. We should not be saying his name. Since we are, CutTime wishes to make sure everyone discovers him. We have established a tribute page at cuttime.com for Draylen with links to relevant articles, videos and pictures and intend to repeat this program for years to come across the country.

Draylen's mother left the hospital after a month, and repairs to their kitchen and bills for funeral and hospital expenses seem to be successfully covered by the families YouCaring.com crowdfunding campaign. The Hispanic Alliance of Austin, as well as Oberlin College, have established scholarships in his honor. Draylen's Facebook account is active as a memorial page and there is a de facto FB memorial page as well. We encourage you to visit and support them.

Draylen Mason Tribute

Wednesday, May 30, 2018 7:30pm

Jam Handy Building

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| Opening of Symphony No. 25 | Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart |
| Andante Festivo | Jean Sibelius |
| *Opening of Cello Suite No. 5 | Johann Sebastian Bach |
| <i>Martin Luther King from Three Black Kings</i> | Duke and Mercer Ellington |
| First Grief | Rick Robinson |
| Swing Down Sweet Chariot | arr. by David E. Robinson |
| *Serenade from Mighty Love | Rick Robinson |
| *Social Suicide | Rick Robinson |
| ^Cello Concerto No. 1 in C | Franz Josef Haydn |
| Highland Park, MI: City of Trees | Rick Robinson |
| Finale of Serenade for Strings | Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky |

CutTime Simfonica

*Andre Johnson "Kevlar Afrika", poet

^Joshua McClendon, solo cello

Eliot Heaton, violin I

Dan Winnick, violin II

Leah Celebi, viola I

Ran Cheng, viola II

Damon Coleman, violoncello

Rick Robinson, double bass & director

Mike List, percussion

CutTime Productions PO Box 36120 Detroit, MI 48236 313-680-8104 www.cuttime.com

**CutTime wishes to thank our generous donors and corporate sponsor,
The Sphinx Organization.**

Sphinx
Aaron P. Dworkin • Founder

Our donors include:

Barbara VanDusen, Eugene and Lois Miller, Robert and Claire Brown, The Chamber Music Society of Detroit, Dr. Richard Lubera, Joseph Conyers, Jim and Ellen Salkeld, Frank Proto, Keith Shaw, Thomas Gerdom, Larry Hutchinson and Dr. Jane Robinson.

Andre Johnson “Kevlar Afrika” is a slam poet with the Urban Requiem Project. With a broad range of subject matter, he is known best for his political commentary and commanding stage presence. He is a father of one and, an Educator by profession. As a graduate of Northwood University with degrees in business management, marketing, and intercultural communication, he has never lost his love of the arts and spoken word.

Joshua McClendon began studying cello in the metro-Detroit area and has just graduated from Interlochen Arts Academy. He was runner up in the junior division of the Sphinx Competition in 2017 and won a full scholarship to the Juilliard School of Music this Fall. We wish him the best.

CutTime® began within the Detroit Symphony Orchestra (DSO) with two outreach ensembles by bassist-member Rick Robinson (aka Mr. CutTime).

CutTime Players is the mixed octet based on Stravinsky’s *Histoire du Soldat* (*The Soldier’s Tale*), performing a hundred arrangements of lively and familiar symphonic and other classical hits. **CutTime Simfonica** is the sensuous string ensemble, often with light drumming to perform Robinson’s Kresge-winning, funky-romantic compositions. Together these ensembles flip classical, to share, demystify and even Americanize the idealized tradition of symphony concerts with intimate, informative and interactive styles, working great in bars and clubs. A *cut time* is the musical symbol for *two beats per bar*, implying either *fast and lively* or *easy and swinging*. CutTime cuts classical loose with artistic excellence.

Learning of the Classical Revolution movement, CutTime began to insert symphonies into Detroit clubs, pubs and hippy settings during the 6-month DSO strike in 2010. The response to casual classical was so positive, Robinson resigned from DSO in 2012 after 22 years to begin working nationally with all levels of musicians, orchestras, summer festivals, club and home owners, and concert presenters to further develop reasons, methods and appetite for *club classical*. CutTime is adaptive and addictive new musical experiences specifically for communities of new listeners. Many veteran audiences also love the differences.

CutTime is *rhythm ‘n class*. Hear recordings, read the philosophy and support this work at www.cutttime.com.



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