

Facebook Tribute

Michael Tilson Thomas, NYO, and Gilroy

Frank Gagliano

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Carnegie Hall and Gilroy: New American norm. . . .Last evening, Sandy and I did some old fashioned sitting around the radio, listening to a stunning, overwhelming, truly breathtaking live Sunday concert from Carnegie Hall in New York City. Michael Tilson Thomas led the National Youth Orchestra of the United States of America in a performance of Gershwin's Piano Concerto in F Major, with Jean-Yves Thibaudet as soloist — coupled with a sweeping performance of the Sibelius 2nd Symphony.

Want to know lifted spirits! For 90 minutes the recent racist stink from the Trumpian cesspool was blown away and one could breathe some joyous pure air. At least around our radio. For an hour and a half.

And then — just a few hours later — Gilroy, CA!

And more children murdered by military-styled automatic weapons. And my mind shot back to last autumn when Sandy and I were enjoying a coffee break with friends at Panera's and got word that our doctor of 30 years had been murdered by a white, anti-Semitic terrorist with automatic weapons, at a synagogue in Squirrel Hill, here in Pittsburgh.

Gilroy? Sandy and I passed through Gilroy often in the past. Bought a garlic cook book there, back in the 80s. Still use it. (See below) Now there's blood on the garlic. . . .Depressed all day. . . .Then I discover the full NYO of US Gershwin Concerto on YouTube and the spirit is lifted again.

Watch the whole thing and see if your spirit isn't lifted — as the camera and these diverse high school musicians (from ages 11 to 19) deliver a world-class performance of one of the great pieces of American music, from the genius son of Russian Jewish immigrants, George Gershwin. And directed by the world-class musical director, Michael Tilson Thomas — the grandson of noted Yiddish theater stars Boris and Bessie Thomashefsky, who performed in the Yiddish Theater District in Manhattan. . . .We all need a break from this shit.

(Photos: Michael TilsonThomas and Gilroy residents, grieving)

