

QUESTIONS for students about David Katz's one-man play, MUSE of FIRE



1. Although there is only one actor in MUSE of FIRE, David Katz, plays many characters, including the two main ones. How does he make it clear who is who?
2. The subtitle of the play is "The Sorcerer's Apprentice." After seeing the play, can you explain why? What is a sorcerer? An apprentice?
3. The color of the set is black and white. As a music student, can you guess why?
4. How many composers whose names start with the letter "B" are mentioned in the play? Can you remember any of them? Can you name the "big three" (the three most famous ones)?
5. Many people think Maestro Bruck was one of the world's greatest teachers of conducting. Do you understand what made him great, despite everything about him?
6. Would you have liked to study music with Maestro Bruck? Why or why not?
7. Maestro Bruck has an encounter with Charles DeGaulle, the President of France, in ACT II. What happened? Why do you think it affected him so deeply?
8. What moment in the play touched you the most? Which made you laugh?
9. Here's a tough one. In ACT II, using music, Maestro Bruck helps teach a lesson about the Holocaust during World War II. At the climax of the scene, after telling us how many people were exterminated in the gas chambers, he says that "it means nothing." Is he lying? Why do you think he says that?
10. During the "Fireworks Music" in ACT II, the Apprentice says that he saw fireworks coming from the Sorcerer's bedroom window. What does he mean by that? Why does he say it?
11. Maestro Bruck teaches that the art of conducting is not about waving your arms around. After seeing the play, do you understand what he means? Please explain.
12. Would you like to be a conductor? Why or why not?

For more information, please visit:

www.museoffiretheplay.org