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Summary

Max Dauber discusses the Dauber “clan” being involved in music for over 200 years. For many years, the family was based in Mainz, Germany. He grew up in Wischnitz, Poland, and worked for a time in Hungary. At fourteen, he was in Czernowitz, Ukraine.

Max spoke of Robert Stoltz, who was a composer who was killed in 1942.

Max was in Max Brot’s (sp) orchestra, where he played the saxophone. His mother was a clarinetist with a woman’s orchestra. He arrived in Israel in an illegal aliyah.

He talks about his cousin, Robert Dauber, and his violin playing and performing from a young age. Adolf (Wolf) Dauber was Robert’s father. Robert was born in Marienbad, Czechoslovakia, and lived in Prague until he was seven. The family then moved to Vienna. Max’s mother taught Robert when he was young. He says that Robert had perfect pitch. Later, Robert excelled in playing the cello. Robert performed, with other family members, Gershwin’s Rhapsody in Blue for the first time in Europe, with Gershwin as a guest at the performance.

Robert was transported to Theresienstadt, where he performed in one of the cafés. He played and wrote “light” or “easy” music in Theresienstadt. He sent postcards talking about a work that he was writing. He was taken in the last transport from Theresienstadt.

He knew Steiner, who also knew Robert Dauber. Steiner said that they performed for the SS. Steiner said that Wagner’s best friend was HaLevy, who conducted some of Wagner’s works.

In the Anschluss, his uncle, Adolf Dauber, was in Vienna. Many recordings of his performances were sold, for example playing Dvorak. He worked with Puccini, as well. His orchestra was called Tango Band and they had a premiere in Prague. Fritz Greenbo or Greenberg (sp) was a well-known comic in Vienna. He specialized in philosophical humor. He wrote a type of skit that his uncle wrote the music, which was premiered in 1938 or 1939.

Max says that Kol Israel has recordings of his family members. They would go to Marienbad every year, where they performed.