

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN

SYMPHONY NO.4

Beethoven completed the Fourth Symphony, dedicated to Count Oppersdorf, in 1806. Romain Roland wrote about the composition of the B flat major symphony: "In May 1806 he became engaged to Therese von Brunswick. She had loved him for a long time, since the time when she had taken piano lessons from him as a little girl..." Beethoven's attempt here to do justice as much as possible to the generally familiar and popular elements of the traditional form, and thereby to assist his own progress, has rightly been recognised ... Schumann found the "serenity and classical purity" of this work so un-romantic that he described it as "Grecian Symphony".

SYMPHONY NO.5 "FATE"

The Fifth Symphony in C minor op.67 was composed at a time when Beethoven's state of mind was growing more and more dismal as a result of his increasing deafness. The name "Fate" Symphony derives from a remark which Beethoven made to his biographer Schindler in reference to the main theme of the 1st movement: "Thus Fate knocks at the door". On November 16th 1801 he told his friend Wegener that he wanted to "take Fate by the throat." So it would not be incorrect to recognise Beethoven's battle against his threatening deafness in this symphony. The first performance was difficult for the composer and the musicians. Because of the frequent corrections Beethoven made, the orchestra refused to attend further rehearsals. In such circumstances the first performance could not of course do justice to the work. It wasn't until the second performance in the Gewandhaus in Leipzig that the symphony was successful.

Symphony No. 4

in B flat major op. 60 35'12

1. Adagio, Allegro vivace..12'17
2. Adagio9'28
3. Allegro vivace6'14
4. Allegro ma non troppo....6'59

Radio Symphony

Orchestra Ljubljana

Conductor: Anton Nanut

Symphony No. 5

in C minor op. 67 32'41

5. Allegro con brio7'19
6. Andante con molto11'00
7. Allegro.....5'23
8. Allegro.....8'50

Radio Symphony

Orchestra Ljubljana

Conductor: Anton Nanut

Total Running Time: 68'00

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