

EXPLORING MUSIC with Bill McGlaughlin
Broadcast Schedule – Fall 2017

PROGRAM #: EXP 18-01
RELEASE: Week of September 25, 2017

The Big Five II: The New York Philharmonic, Part 2

We continue to look at the unique history of the New York Philharmonic. Just think about the audiences who were there before you. There was Walt Whitman's "silent sea of faces and the unbared heads" listening to the funeral march from Beethoven's 3rd Symphony as Abraham Lincoln lay in state at City Hall. A century later, the entire country watched the orchestra's televised tribute to JFK led by Leonard Bernstein, and later still, the premiere of the John Adams' *On the Transmigration of Souls*, commissioned by the Philharmonic to remember the victims of September 11, 2001. In celebration and in mourning, the New York Philharmonic has been there.

PROGRAM #: EXP 18-02
RELEASE: Week of October 2, 2017

Nadia Boulanger

Virgil Thomson once said, "In every town in the United States you find a five-and-dime and a Boulanger student," and he wasn't far off. Nadia Boulanger taught and influenced an entire generation of musicians, from Aaron Copland and Astor Piazzolla to Philip Glass and Quincy Jones. This week we'll hear some of her own compositions, works by her talented sister, Lily, and performances of works by prolific students. Bill features Nadia conducting her close friend Igor Stravinsky's composition *Dumbarton Oaks* and ends this retrospective listening to Piazzolla's *Oblivion*.

PROGRAM #: EXP 18-03
RELEASE: Week of October 9, 2017

The Glories of Venice

Exploring Music focuses on sounds of the city, water, and love in Venice. Bill explores the magical city that inspired music of the late Renaissance, Baroque, and the beginning of Italian opera. From Monteverdi and Orlando di Lasso, Bill includes religious and secular music and continues with two major Venetian influences: Adrian Willaert of Dutch descent and the Roman composer Palestrina. Other composers featured in the week are Gabrieli, Vivaldi, Verdi, and more.

PROGRAM #: EXP 18-04
RELEASE: Week of October 16, 2017

Unfinished Symphonies

Schubert wasn't the only composer who passed from this earth with an incomplete symphony on his shelf. Elgar, Mahler, Bruckner, and other symphonists left fantastic but tantalizingly unfinished material that Bill will feature. Varied and unusual stories explain why each one of these works remained unfinished and buried deep in the back of our composers' minds.

PROGRAM #: EXP 18-05
RELEASE: Week of October 23, 2017

TBA

PROGRAM #: EXP 18-06
RELEASE: Week of October 30, 2017

Triple Play

It's trios on Exploring Music! Piano trios, string trios, operatic trios and many others. Trios have their own set of challenges for composers and performers, and this week Bill will demonstrate on the piano pointing out to us through their complex structure of voice harmonies. We will hear Beethoven's Triple Concerto, the trio from Act III of Der Rosenkavalier and, finally Bill will play a wonderful treat from Porgy and Bess performed by the Bill Evans Trio. Join us for a delightful week of music for three, where the odd man is not left out.

PROGRAM #: EXP 18-07
RELEASE: Week of November 6, 2017

The Viola

This week we'll celebrate some of the exquisite music written for this "inner voice". The viola is the middle sister of the stringed instruments, sitting between the violins and the cellos, and playing in a clef written devised just for her. The viola is often misunderstood and mistaken for a "larger violin" or sometimes either forgotten about or made the butt of jokes. But, the viola sings with a dark richness that composers loved! Mozart, Brahms, and Dvorak, to name just a few composers, played the viola, and oh, Hindemith did too. And these composers, plus many more figured out how to let this instrument have her day in the sun with concertos, tone poems, and orchestral solos. Listen and you too will fall in love with this instrument.

PROGRAM #: EXP 18-08
RELEASE: Week of November 13, 2017

Beethoven and That Danged Metronome

The metronome is a device which indicates the exact tempo of a piece of music – it marks time by producing a clicking sound. Beethoven was notorious for marking his scores with metronome timings, and this week we learn the significant role those little numbers played. The tempo and interpretation affect the emotional impact of a composition, thus changing its entire character. We'll also take a brief detour and examine how other composers, like Bach, Handel, and Shostakovich, worked with tempi in their music.

PROGRAM #: EXP 18-09
RELEASE: Week of November 20, 2017

TBA

PROGRAM #: EXP 18-10

RELEASE: **Week of November 27, 2017**

Tudor Music

The House of Tudor reigned from Henry VII through Elizabeth I, and during this time the arts were loved and supported by church and state alike. This support gave rise to a new type of English secular music which was not folk music and didn't belong to the church. Though the Tudor poets are better known than the composers, the composers have left quite a legacy. In this edition of Exploring Music, we'll listen to William Byrd, Thomas Tallis, and to Henry VIII, who himself wrote a number of pieces!

PROGRAM #: **EXP 18-11**

RELEASE: **Week of December 4, 2017**

Tchaikovsky, Part I

Bill launches into the first part of a two part series on the Russian Romantic composer Peter Tchaikovsky. Though shunned by some other Russian composers as sounding "too Western", Tchaikovsky was loved throughout the world as a great Russian composer. Caught between East and West, he created his own sound— a sound that to this day is still treasured and that Russians are proud to call their own. Bill starts with Mikhail Glinka, who broke from the Italian school to create the Russian school of music, and ends with excerpts of Tchaikovsky's Swan Lake. Don't miss this week and next, where we continue with the music of Peter Tchaikovsky.

PROGRAM #: **EXP 18-12**

RELEASE: **Week of December 11, 2017**

Tchaikovsky, Part II

This week, we'll continue our exploration of Peter Tchaikovsky, focusing on the latter part of his life, including his symphonies, ballets, and life at the Moscow Conservatory. Bill picks up in 1876 with Tchaikovsky's Variations on a Rococo Theme, Op.33 for Cello and Orchestra and we close the week with his Symphony No. 6 in b minor, Pathétique, written in 1893 and premiered just days before his death. This week, Bill tells the story of Tchaikovsky's failed marriage and his unusual relationship with his patroness Nadezhda von Meck.

PROGRAM #: **EXP 18-13**

RELEASE: **Week of December 18, 2017**

TBA