

**EXPLORING MUSIC with Bill McGlaughlin**  
Broadcast Schedule – Spring 2020

**PROGRAM #:**       **EXP 20-27**  
**RELEASE:**         **Week of April 6, 2020**

**Wagner's Ring Cycle**

For most operas, a five-hour survey would more than cover every measure, every note – but not this one, Wagner's crowning achievement. Bill helps us understand and enjoy this long and fanciful journey, with richly textured music that continues to grow in complexity as the operas proceed. Wagner spent a quarter of a century writing the libretto and composing the music that follows the dramatic struggles of gods, heroes, and mythical creatures. We will listen to orchestral preludes, arias, and more from *The Rhinegold*, *The Valkyrie*, *Siegfried*, and *Twilight of the Gods*.

**PROGRAM #:**       **EXP 20-28**  
**RELEASE:**         **Week of April 13, 2020**

**Mendelssohn, Schumann & Brahms String Quartets**

This week we focus on one of the most delightful and storied chapters of the string quartet's history, centering around the works of three romantic composers—Mendelssohn, Schumann, and Brahms. After 50 years of fantastic string quartets from Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, and Schubert, the well seemed to be drying up—young composers just weren't writing string quartets. Operas and piano pieces, yes, but not string quartets, and then to save the day steps in Mendelssohn, Schumann, and Brahms! Bill starts the week off with the double quartet (octet) from 16-year-old Felix Mendelssohn. Felix's sister, Fanny Mendelssohn, said she felt that she was lightly carried up in the air with this string octet.

**PROGRAM #:**       **EXP 20- 29**  
**RELEASE:**         **Week of April 20, 2020**

**Music from the Magic Box — An Excess of Pleasure**

What happens when your favorite classical music radio host tackles spring cleaning? We reap the benefits of his discoveries! Bill was digging deep into the back of his hall closet when he spied a mysterious box. He wondered, he reached, he opened, and he found a treasure trove of wonderful recordings: Andras Schiff playing Beethoven Op. 111 and the Diabelli Variations, Martha Argerich playing Mozart Concerti with Claudio Abbado, and many, many more. And we'll get to discover them all, right along with Bill.

**PROGRAM #:**       **EXP 20-30**  
**RELEASE:**         **Week of April 27, 2020**

### **Sergei Prokofiev (1891-1953)**

A look at the life and music of one of Russia's most talented and controversial composers, Sergei Prokofiev. Born in Tsarist Russia, Prokofiev was a brilliant pianist who delighted in shocking the bourgeoisie with his outrageous creations, and he went on to become one of the most beloved composers of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Seven symphonies, great concertos, ballets like Romeo and Juliet and Cinderella, plus more treasures. Come explore the music of Sergei Prokofiev with Bill McGlaughlin.

**PROGRAM #:** EXP 20-31  
**RELEASE:** Week of May 4, 2020

**TBA**

**PROGRAM #:** EXP 20-32  
**RELEASE:** Week of May 11, 2020

### **Maestros, Part I**

The first in a multiple-part series featuring legendary conductors who shaped American music-making in the mid-20th century. With Europe in turmoil, opportunities abounded in the Americas, and many great conductors arrived from abroad and stayed to build orchestras, from the ground up, with their unique voices. This week's conductors are Serge Koussevitzky, Eugene Ormandy, Fritz Reiner, Pierre Monteux, and George Szell. From Boston to San Francisco you can still hear the influence of these five conductors in all of the orchestras that they directed, and their stories are still loved by musicians young and old.

**PROGRAM #:** EXP 20-33  
**RELEASE:** Week of May 18, 2020

### **Maestros, Part II**

The second week in a series highlighting a marvelous group of conductors who came from Europe from the 1930s to the 1970s, and transformed the American musical culture. We will listen to the conducting of Anton Doráti, Dmitry Mitropoulos, Bruno Walter, Maurice Abravanel, William Steinberg, Charles Münch, Erik Leinsdorf, and even the lad from Lawrence, Massachusetts, Leonard Bernstein. All of them had big personalities with a deep understanding of symphony orchestras.

**PROGRAM #:** EXP 20-34  
**RELEASE:** Week of May 25, 2020

**TBA**

**PROGRAM #:** EXP 20-35  
**RELEASE:** Week of June 1, 2020

### **The Viola**

A weeklong celebration 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 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 played the viola; 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. You too will fall in love with the viola.

**PROGRAM #:** EXP 20-36  
**RELEASE:** Week of June 8, 2020

### **The Four Seasons**

“The Four Seasons fill the measure of the year; there are four seasons in the mind of men”  
– John Keats.

Starting with this quote Bill plays many works inspired by summer, fall, winter, and spring. We’ll hear the boundless majesty of the summer sun in Haydn’s *Die Jahreszeiten*, and the frosty and shivering winds of Vivaldi’s *Winter*, and then to spice up this week, we’ll hear Astor Piazzolla’s tango, *Four Seasons of Buenos Aires* (*Cuatro Estaciones Porteñas*) performed by the Trio Solisti. Bill will recite poems that complement the seasonal music, and we’ll listen to Tchaikovsky’s *Seasons* performed by Yefim Bronfman.

**PROGRAM #:** EXP 20-37  
**RELEASE:** Week of June 15, 2020

### **Antonin Dvořák (1841-1904)**

A five-part biography on the life of Bohemia’s most celebrated composer. Bill starts with Dvořák’s early compositions, and music from one of his first influences, Bedřich Smetana, and continues with his travels to America where he helped define our musical identity. Dvořák composed *Symphony From the New World* while living in the U.S. as director of the National Conservatory in New York. During his stay he met African American classical musician Harry T. Burleigh, who sang spirituals to Dvořák that moved him to say it was the authentic music of America, and would deeply influence his future compositions such as *The American Quartet* featured in the fourth episode.

**PROGRAM #:** EXP 20-38  
**RELEASE:** Week of June 22, 2020

**TBA**

**PROGRAM #:**       **EXP 20-39**  
**RELEASE:**         **Week of June 29, 2020**

**Symphony, Part IV**

We start this week featuring the symphonic form at its Romantic apex, with Austrian composers Anton Bruckner and Gustav Mahler, and then cross the English Channel to Britain to listen the music of Edward Elgar. 22 symphonies among the three of them, and all the more remarkable since Bruckner was in his 40s before he composed his first, and Elgar had just turned fifty! Wonderful vivid, colorful orchestral symphonies from the height of the romantic period on this week of Exploring Music.