

EXPLORING MUSIC with Bill McGlaughlin
Broadcast Schedule – Summer 2020

PROGRAM #: **EXP 20-40**
RELEASE: **Week of July 6, 2020**

Baltic Music

Many of us know and love the work of Sibelius, Finland's greatest musical export, but the countries around the Gulf of Finland have given us a wealth of composers, some better known than others. This week's theme is music from this land of lakes and islands — isolated, self-contained, and full of beauty. Composers like Erkki Melartin, Leevi Madetoja, Heino Eller, and Arvo Pärt, working in the long shadow of Sibelius, created violin concertos, symphonies, tone poems, choral works, and chamber works. So, what is it that fascinates us about this distant northern region? Perhaps we will sum it up best with a fantastic piece by Uuno Klami called *Aurora Borealis*.

PROGRAM #: **EXP 20-41**
RELEASE: **Week of July 13, 2020**

Nadia Boulanger (1887-1979)

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 Ástor 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 her prolific students. Bill features Nadia conducting her close friend Igor Stravinsky's composition *Dumbarton Oaks*, and ends this retrospective of Nadia Boulanger listening to Piazzolla's *Oblivion*.

PROGRAM #: **EXP 20-42**
RELEASE: **Week of July 20, 2020**

American Masters III

Our series celebrating American composers continues with more innovative works from composers born in the first fifteen years of the 20th century. Lou Harrison with his love of Indonesian Gamelan music, George Rochberg's tonal 3rd string quartet performed by the Concord Quartet, then on to Franz Waxman's orchestral music, and Bill ends the week with a full hour of music from the quintessential New Yorker, Morton Gould. Don't miss the treat of the week; Leroy Anderson's *The Typewriter*, performed by the St. Louis Symphony with John Cassica soloing on the typewriter.

PROGRAM #: **EXP 20-43**
RELEASE: **Week of July 27, 2020**

Remembering Old Friends

In “Remembering Old Friends” Bill takes us along to visit some dear colleagues he’s had the pleasure of knowing and working with over the years, and to celebrate the times they spent together and the music they made. Find a comfy spot, lean back and close your eyes, and let us take you to Anner Bylsma, Rudolf Firkusny, Maureen Forrester, Lynn Harrell, Alicia De Larrocha, Jean-Pierre Rampal, Peter Serkin, Oscar Shumsky, Michael Tree, and Barry Tuckwell.

PROGRAM #: EXP 20-44
RELEASE: Week of August 3, 2020

Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov and his Pupils: Glazunov, Stravinsky, Liadov, and Respighi

Rimsky-Korsakov's orchestral genius spun thousands of exotic sounds and colors, much as Scheherazade did in her tales. He left not only his musical mark on the world, but also his creative mark on all his students, by teaching them the fundamentals of orchestration and encouraging them to express their own imaginations. He and his pupils created unique voices, and all are firmly established in the canon of symphonic music.

PROGRAM #: EXP 20-45
RELEASE: Week of August 10, 2020

Beethoven at Parnassus, Part I

This is a festival of the late music of Beethoven, from the last ten years of his life. Parnassus refers to the great mountain that towered over Delphi in Greek legend, and was the home of the Muses. In these years from 1816 to 1826, Beethoven soared to almost mythological heights with some of his greatest works—the Ninth Symphony, last four piano sonatas, *Missa Solemnis*, and his final string quartets. All of these compositions still sit at the top of Mt. Parnassus.

PROGRAM #: EXP 20-46
RELEASE: Week of August 17, 2020

Beethoven at Parnassus, Part II

In the second part of a two-week series, we'll take an in-depth look at this music of a master reaching the pinnacle of his abilities. Bill starts with *Missa Solemnis* and *Consecration of the House* and ends in the rarified atmosphere of Mt. Parnassus as we take on *Opus 135* performed by the Guarneri Quartet. Robert Schumann said, “[Beethoven’s quartets] stand...on the extreme boundary of all that has hitherto been attained by human art and imagination.” In 1977 his quartets were added to the *Time Capsule of Humanity* and sent into space in Voyager I.

PROGRAM #: EXP 20-47
RELEASE: Week of August 24, 2020

Remembering Old Friends II

Bill visits more colleagues he's had the pleasure of knowing and working with over the years. (Bill's been in the music business a long time and has met many fascinating characters.) He wants to take us along to celebrate the times they spent together and the music they made. This week we'll hear performances from Maureen Forrester, Charles Rosen, Franco Gulli, Leonard Rose, Peter Serkin, and Michael Tree. The Exploring Music team has had fun making these programs, and Bill feels they are among the most personal we've ever made.

PROGRAM #: **EXP 20-48**
RELEASE: **Week of August 31, 2020**

The Symphony, Part 11

Join us as we continue our journey exploring the symphonic form. During this week you'll hear familiar pieces from Copland, Prokofiev, Hindemith, and Piston, as well as intriguing works from some of their contemporaries who may have slipped under your radar. Please let us introduce you to American works by Carpenter, Cowell, and Hanson; Finnish symphonies by Madetoja, Melartin, and Merikanto; the Austrian composers Gál, Schmidt, Toch, and Zemlinsky; and other symphonists from England, France, Russia and Spain. We'll even sample some works from the conductors Wilhelm Furtwängler and Otto Klemperer, who wrote 9 symphonies between them.

PROGRAM #: **EXP 20-49**
RELEASE: **Week of September 7, 2020**

Béla Bartók (1881-1945)

This week Bill follows the life and musical development of one of Hungary's greatest composers. A musician's musician, Bartok was supported by many of the great conductors of his time; Paul Sacher, conductor of the Basel Chamber Orchestra commissioned the *Divertimento for Strings*, Serge Koussevitsky and Fritz Reiner commissioned *the Concerto for Orchestra*, and Benny Goodman commissioned his trio *Contrasts* for violin, clarinet and piano.

PROGRAM #: **EXP 20-50**
RELEASE: **Week of September 14, 2020**

Treasure Hunt

EUREKA! This week Bill invites us to come along on a treasure hunt. We will dig deep into that overflowing box of CDs in the back of his front hall closet. He found many real treasures starting with a marvelous young Icelandic pianist, Vikingur Olafsson and a beautiful recording of the Beethoven violin concerto with Leonidas Kavakos. This is a well-rounded week where we are introduced to musicians with fresh new interpretations of works by Beethoven, Debussy, and Brahms, and we end the week crossing the world with works from Lisa Batiashvili's *City Lights*, Susan Palma's *Best of Brazil*, and Howard Wall's *Horn Monologues*.

PROGRAM #: **EXP 20-51**
RELEASE: **Week of September 21, 2020**

Grieg and Sibelius

We'll explore the lives and music of the two Nordic greats: Edvard Grieg and Jean Sibelius. Music spanning almost one hundred years includes a number of chamber works, Grieg's *Peer Gynt*, *Norwegian Dances*, and several Sibelius symphonies. Bill will introduce us to the hardanger fiddle, and we'll listen to Norwegian Leif Ove Andsnes performing on Edvard Grieg's own piano.

PROGRAM #: **EXP 20-52**
RELEASE: **Week of September 28, 2020**

Schubertiade II

The title refers to home music-making among Franz Schubert's wide circle of friends, when in each others' homes they sang his songs and played his piano pieces and chamber music. These were evenings among semi-Bohemians, rich with music and conversations. This week we explore the chamber-music compositions of Schubert. Some of these works are very familiar like the *Trout Quintet*, and others like some of his string quartets are less know but equally as wonderful.