Exploring Music with Bill McGlaughlin
Broadcast Schedule – Summer Quarter 2022

PROGRAM #: EXP 22-40
RELEASE: Week of July 4, 2022

Arias and Barcarolles
Taking a cue from President Eisenhower’s famous remark to Leonard Bernstein, “… I like music with a theme, not all them arias and barcarolles.” This week is a sampling of arias, overtures, barcarolles, and other melodic delights that deserve more time on the airwaves. Bill will spin tunes like Lawrence Welk’s “Bubbles in the Wine” and Fred Waring and his Pennsylvanians performing Jerome Kern’s “Smoke Gets in Your Eyes.” This is a week to just sit back and enjoy.

PROGRAM #: EXP 22-41
RELEASE: Week of July 11, 2022

I Lost It at the Movies
Music for (silent) film started in France when Saint-Saëns composed an original score for The Assassination of the Duke of Guise (L’Assassinat du duc de Guise, 1908) and Hollywood took it from there. Bill recalls some of his favorite original and arranged scores for many great films: Bernard Herrmann’s work for Citizen Kane and several Hitchcock films; Elmer Bernstein for To Kill a Mockingbird; Henri Mancini’s work on The Pink Panther; Ennio Morricone for various Westerns; and even some singing from Charlie Chaplin. Grab the popcorn and listen!

PROGRAM #: EXP 22-42
RELEASE: Week of July 18, 2022

Respighi, Ottorino
There’s much more to Ottorino Respighi than The Pines of Rome and The Fountains of Rome. This week we’ll hear his connections with the music of Brazil, touch on his experiences in war-torn Europe, and see how this violinist, musicologist, and composer artfully moved Italian music into the 20th century. We will hear The Birds (Gli Uccelli) where several birds are characterized by Respighi. Bill samples the “cuckoo” sound heard within this suite. In Friday’s episode, we meet an American woman, Elizabeth Coolidge, who in 1927 lands Respighi a commission to write Botticelli Triptych (Trittico Botticelliano).

PROGRAM #: EXP 22-43
RELEASE: Week of July 25, 2022

Symphony, Part IV
We start this week featuring the symphonic form at its Romantic apex, with Austrian composers Anton Bruckner and Gustav Mahler, then we cross the English Channel to Britain to listen to the music of Edward Elgar. 22 symphonies among the three of them, and 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.
PROGRAM #:        EXP 22-44
RELEASE:           Week of August 1, 2022

TBA

PROGRAM #:        EXP 22-45
RELEASE:           Week of August 8, 2022

Clash of the Titans
Titans in Greek Mythology were great divine beings that descended from the Gods, hence someone who dominates his field. This week Bill McGlaughlin examines the lives and music-making of two such divine beings, Leopold Stokowski and Arturo Toscanini, who both captured the minds and hearts of us at a crucial part in our country’s development.

PROGRAM #:        EXP 22-46
RELEASE:           Week of August 15, 2022

The Game of Pairs, Part I
Haydn and Beethoven, Schumann and Brahms, Copland and Bernstein — these are just a few of the legendary artistic partnerships that have influenced the course of musical history. Bill explores the ways in which composers learn from the musicians who came before them. We’ll hear music from Vivaldi and how he influenced a young JS Bach, including in the Brandenburg Concerti. The first week of the Game of Pairs ends with Bill pointing out the influences of Schumann in Brahms’s third symphony.

PROGRAM #:        EXP 22-47
RELEASE:           Week of August 22, 2022

The Game of Pairs, Part II
Our two-week series focusing on legendary partnerships between composers continues. This week starts in Paris with French impressionist composers Claude Debussy and Maurice Ravel, focusing on their respective quartets. Bill then explores the friendship between Béla Bartók and Zoltan Kodály, in particular their love of Hungarian folk music. In the middle of the week, Bill tips his hat to the title of our theme by playing the second movement of Bartók’s Concerto for Orchestra, “Giuoco delle coppie” or “The Game of Pairs”. We close this week with Leonard Bernstein conducting the New York Philharmonic in a performance of his longtime friend Aaron Copland’s third symphony.

PROGRAM #:        EXP 22-48
RELEASE:           Week of August 29, 2022

A Green and Pleasant Land
With William Blake’s famous words as a stepping-off point, we’re traversing the pastoral musical landscapes of the British Isles. Bill opens with a reading of Hilaire Belloc’s idyllic essay, “The Mowing of a Field.” We continue with a piece written by Patrick Hadley on the occasion of Ralph Vaughan Williams’s 70th birthday, as well as one of Vaughan Williams’s folk-influenced works. Then Bill turns his focus to 16th century lute music from William Byrd, and to Felix Mendelssohn’s Hebrides Overture, inspired by a visit to Fingal’s Cave in Scotland. We also enjoy music from the friendship of Vaughan Williams and Gustav Holst.
Distant Neighbors
Though we share a very long border with Latin America, we live in two very different worlds. Their history is thousands of years old, and ours is younger. Come on this journey with us to the deep and rich musical history of our neighbors to the south. Mexico’s early history of many indigenous cultures and its colonization by Spain in the early 16th century make for a fascinating evolution of its classical music. This week we travel through the centuries of Latin American music, from an Incan flute song, a waltz from Mexico City, Over the Waves (Sobre las Olas) by Juventino Rosas (and until recently attributed to Johann Strauss II), and Bill finds Mexican mazurkas by Manuel Ponce.

String Quartets from Fibich to Sibelius
This week Bill broadens his considerations of the string quartet with an emphasis on lesser-known, late-19th century composers. He begins with Poème for violin and piano by Czech composer Zdeněk Fibich. Bill says “the music is familiar but the composer maybe not so familiar”: Poème was the score for one of the first ballets choreographed by George Balanchine. Fibich was among the European composers born in the 1850s and 1860s such as Hugo Wolf, Vincent d’Indy, and Ernest Chausson. And Bill adds another contemporary of this group, American (New England) composer Amy Beach.

George Gershwin