

Exploring Music with Bill McGlaughlin
Broadcast Schedule – Spring 2023

PROGRAM #: **EXP 23-27**
RELEASE: **Week of April 3, 2023**

Bach’s Not-So-Minor B Minor Mass

“There’s so much that is mysterious about Bach’s Mass,” Bill says, and this week he attempts to demystify Bach’s grand work by setting its context in history, tracing relevant antecedents: Bach was writing a Latin mass despite his orientation as a Lutheran. Bill surmises that Bach went back to his musical heroes from the Renaissance. “They composed masses in Latin, and so would he.” Bill illustrates relevant influences in Beethoven, Strauss, and Haydn as well as how Bach reformed some of his own work to inform his mass.

PROGRAM #: **EXP 23-28**
RELEASE: **Week of April 10, 2023**

Stormy Weather

We don’t know why there’s no sun up in the sky, but we do know that this week of exploring stormy music will delight us all. We’ll see double rainbows with Antonio Carlos Jobim, hear Debussy's "Footsteps in the Snow" and "Gardens in the Rain," and listen to settings of Shakespeare’s *Tempest*, also we’ll hear Frank Bridge, Benjamin Britten, Richard Wagner, and Percy Grainger each at sea. We’ll take a mule ride into the Grand Canyon with Ferde Grofé and hear about the weather from Handel, Beethoven, Hovhaness, and Harold Arlen. Antonio Vivaldi will show us all the seasons, and we’ll ride a storm with Jim Morrison and The Doors.

PROGRAM #: **EXP 23-29**
RELEASE: **Week of April 17, 2023**

Beethoven at Parnassus, Part I

This is a festival of the late music of Beethoven, music from the last ten years of his life. Parnassus refers to the great mountain in Greece that towers over Delphi and is 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, the last four piano sonatas, *Missa Solemnis*, and his final string quartets. All these compositions still sit at the top of Mt. Parnassus.

PROGRAM #: **EXP 23-30**
RELEASE: **Week of April 24, 2023**

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 in 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 1.

PROGRAM #: EXP 23-31
RELEASE: Week of May 1, 2023

Some of My Best Friends Are Virtuosi

Over the decades that Bill has conducted orchestras and hosted radio programs, he feels very fortunate to have worked with and become friends with many prominent musicians. In this program, Bill will feature some of these virtuosic musicians whom he has watched grow and admired for many years. To highlight this warm spirit of musical friendships, Bill has chosen many works that composers have written for their best friends, who also happen to be virtuosi. Five hours of gorgeous rich tones and great melodies like Beethoven's *Emperor Concerto* played by pianist Leif Ove Andsnes, Brahms' Clarinet Quintet featuring the Pacifica Quartet and their friend Anthony McGill, and Chopin's Cello Sonata with pianist Garrick Ohlsson accompanying cellist Carter Brey.

PROGRAM #: EXP 23-32
RELEASE: Week of May 8, 2023

Strings Plus

"Mozart wrote so beautifully for strings plus, probably better than anyone," Bill says at the beginning of this week. Our listening starts with Mozart's quartets for strings plus oboe and flute, then his quintet for strings plus clarinet. In Tuesday's hour, we will listen to Samuel Barber's *Dover Beach*, written for a string quartet and baritone. Barber sang the baritone part at its premiere in Philadelphia. Bill then adds to our playlist Hindemith, Mahler, and Bartók. Strings Plus is a colorful week of listening that ends with the chamber music of Johannes Brahms, and Joan Tower's *Petroushskates* played by the eighth blackbird ensemble.

PROGRAM #: EXP 23-33
RELEASE: Week of May 15, 2023

Nadia Boulanger

"Every town in the United States had a five-and-dime and a Boulanger student," Virgil Thomson once said, 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, and this week we'll hear some of her compositions and performances alongside those of her prolific students.

PROGRAM #: EXP 23-34
RELEASE: Week of May 22, 2023

Families of Instruments

This week we are exploring the families of instruments within the orchestra, and how they are represented in the orchestral score. The score is a big blueprint that a composer creates and gives to the conductor to supervise the construction of his piece. It has individual instructions for every player and instrument section. For this week's program, we will follow score order - from the top of the score, where the higher woodwinds, violins, and soloists live, down to the double basses and contra-bassoon at the bottom. This week Maestro Bill McGlaughlin wears his conductor's hat!

PROGRAM #: **EXP 23-35**
RELEASE: **Week of May 29, 2023**

Edward Elgar

There's much more to Edward Elgar than graduation marches and the *Enigma Variations*. A composer of equally masterful symphonies, oratorios, chamber music, and concertos, he led a renaissance in 20th-century England that firmly reestablished its musical identity. Don't miss the last installment of the week when Bill features the "English Rose," Jacqueline Du Pre in her legendary performance of Elgar's Cello Concerto.

PROGRAM #: **EXP 23-36**
RELEASE: **Week of June 5, 2023**

American Masters, Part I

The first week in our series exploring great but lesser-known American composers: all born in the last decade of the 19th century. These are composers whose names are not Ellington, Gershwin, Copland, Barber, or Bernstein — Howard Hanson from Wahoo, Nebraska; Walter Piston from Rockland, Maine; William Grant Still born in Woodville, Mississippi; and Ruth Crawford Seeger born in East Liverpool, Ohio. This week of Exploring Music is full of many beautiful works that you will enjoy.

PROGRAM #: **EXP 23-37**
RELEASE: **Week of June 12, 2023**

The Class of 1809: Six composers born over a five-year period 1809 - 1813

Our six extraordinary composers are Felix Mendelssohn, born February 3, 1809; Frederic Chopin, March 3, 1810; Robert Schumann, June 8, 1810; Franz Liszt, October 22, 1811; Richard Wagner, May 22, 1813; and Giuseppe Verdi, October 10, 1813. 1809 also brought the death of Papa Haydn and the birth of Abraham Lincoln, plus Beethoven wrote Les Adieux "Farewell," and the *Emperor Concerto* for his friend and sponsor, Archduke Rudolf. This is the time of the Battle of Wagram, after which the Austrian nobility withdrew to safer realms as Napoleon closed in on Vienna. Starting in 1809, the 19th century opens up, and we'll follow our six composers to Verdi's death in 1901.

PROGRAM #: **EXP 23-38**
RELEASE: **Week of June 19, 2023**

Ned Rorem (1923-2022)

This week Bill invites us to celebrate the music of American Pulitzer Prize winning composer Ned Rorem. For years, the great singers of the world have treasured his art songs, but there is so much more. Rorem composed three symphonies, four piano concertos and other orchestral works, chamber music, ten operas, choral works, ballets and music for the theatre, plus he published sixteen books! His diaries are well known for their candor about his life and loves. And many of his solo piano works were written for his longtime partner James Holmes. At his death, the New York Times wrote, "Over his long career, his reason for actually writing the music itself, he said, was simple: "Because I want to hear it."

PROGRAM #: **EXP 23-39**
RELEASE: **Week of June 26, 2023**

Soundtracks

Since the beginning of cinematography classical music has been there to enhance the narrative and drama of the silver screen. For the next five days, we will listen to the soundtracks composed for the films E.T., Zorba the Greek, and Robin Hood, plus many more film scores composed by illustrious composers of the 20th century.