

Exploring Music with Bill McGlaughlin
Broadcast Schedule – Summer 2023

PROGRAM #: EXP 23-40
RELEASE: Week of July 3, 2023

William Schuman (1910-1992)

Leonard Bernstein said the human qualities of American composer William Schuman's work were "compassion, fidelity, insight, and total honesty." In the 1960s, the New York Times called William Schuman the most powerful figure in art music. Born in 1910, Schuman wrote eight symphonies, concerti, and even a baseball opera, *Casey at the Bat*. Winner of the 1943 Pulitzer Prize for Music, he taught at Sarah Lawrence College, and was President of The Juilliard School from 1945 to 1961. Schuman was responsible for founding the Juilliard String Quartet, shaping the creation of Lincoln Center, and he was everyone's best friend! This 4th of July week of Exploring Music is guided by Joseph Polisi's book "American Muse: The Life and Times of William Schuman."

PROGRAM #: EXP 23-41
RELEASE: Week of July 10, 2023

Beethoven and the Piano

Ludwig van Beethoven wrote five piano concertos during his lifetime - the first at the age of 13, and the last at 39. These concertos are majestic, daring, and considered part of the classical piano canon to this day. One can see Beethoven's transition from a Classical to a Romantic style when they are heard side by side. In fact, side by side is exactly how we will be listening to these wonderful concerti. Join us for one Beethoven piano concerto a day, plus some of his more intimate works for the instrument, played by the likes of Leon Fleisher, Murray Perahia, and Martha Argerich.

PROGRAM #: EXP 23-42
RELEASE: Week of July 17, 2023

Five Great Conductors, Part 1

Welcome to the first installment in a two-week celebration of the artistry of five conductors born between 1927 and 1930 — German Kurt Masur, Dutch Bernard Haitink, Italian Claudio Abbado, American Lorin Maazel, and Hungarian István Kertész. Their recordings define a great era in orchestral music making. Bill opens the week by featuring Kurt Masur with Mendelssohn's own orchestra, the Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra, and our playlist will continue with Bernard Haitink, conducting the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra. The inspiration for this program came from a listener at the University of Illinois, in Champaign-Urbana.

PROGRAM #: EXP 23-43
RELEASE: Week of July 24, 2023

Five Great Conductors, Part 2

This week we continue our celebration of great conductors by featuring Maestro Claudio Abbado and two wonderful artists that vied for Maestro George Szell's podium when he retired from the Cleveland Orchestra. Hungarian Maestro István Kertész, a musician's musician from the same heritage as George Szell, and American conductor and violinist Lorin Maazel. Bill says about Lorin Maazel and István

Kertész, “no one can deny Maazel’s position among the significant conductors of this time. For Kertész, by contrast, I felt an immediate puppy love the first time I played for him in Philly — his reading of *The Miraculous Mandarin* sealed the deal.”

PROGRAM #: EXP 23-44
RELEASE: Week of July 31, 2023

Music from the Magic Box — An Excess of Pleasure

We've borrowed the title from one of our favorite albums from the Palladian Ensemble, playing consort music of the Elizabethan and Restoration periods. However, the true inspiration comes from a time when Bill was digging deep into the back of his hall closet, and he came upon a mysterious box. This is what happens when your favorite classical music radio host tackles spring-cleaning, we reap the benefits of his discoveries. He wondered, he reached, he opened, and he found a treasure trove of wonderful recordings: András Schiff playing Beethoven Op. 111 and the Diabelli Variations, Martha Argerich playing Mozart Concerti with Claudio Abbado, and many more. We will get to discover them all, right along with Bill. Truly an excess of pleasure!

PROGRAM #: EXP 23-45
RELEASE: Week of August 7, 2023

Clowning Around

This week's focus is musical buffoonery! Music is a language, and like all others, it has its jokes, witticisms, and puns. For composers, clowning around with music takes the same skills as writing a great symphony. And these fun, charming works show the genius of the composers who have written them. We will hear musical clowning around from Mozart, Puccini, Haydn, and PDQ Bach.

PROGRAM #: EXP 23-46
RELEASE: Week of August 14, 2023

A Little Traveling Music, Please

Wanderers, farewells, and sightseeing; people are always on the go. This week, Bill calls up, “A Little Traveling Music, Please” from the pens of Handel, Smetana, Duke Ellington, plus others. Reflections from such travels infuse themselves into their works, as we will discover throughout the week. We will hear selections from Beethoven’s *Les Adieux*, Schubert’s *Die Schöne Mullerin* and Haydn’s Farewell Symphony.

PROGRAM #: EXP 23-47
RELEASE: Week of August 21, 2023

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. The week continues with Dvořák traveling to America where he helped define our musical identity. Dvořák composed his Symphony No. 9, *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 him. Dvořák said that these spirituals were the authentic music of America, and they would deeply influence his future compositions such as *The American Quartet* featured in the fourth episode.

PROGRAM #: EXP 23-48
RELEASE: Week of August 28, 2023

Emotion and Meaning in Music

Is music merely a collection of ordered pitches and vibrations in the air, or is there inherent and universal meaning contained within? Does music convey anger, longing, desire, or humor? This week Bill delves into one of the most mysterious and fundamental qualities of music: its ability to convey emotion to the listener. Starting with Gil Shaham's performance of Samuel Barber's Violin Concerto with the New York Philharmonic, we'll also listen to Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring* and end the week with a Bach Toccata. Bill asks us to listen and ask ourselves, "What do we feel when we listen to this music and why?"

PROGRAM #: EXP 23-49
RELEASE: Week of September 4, 2023

Water Music

In the 5th Century BC, water was classified as one of the four essential elements and over the centuries, artists, poets, philosophers, and composers have returned repeatedly to the mysteries of water for inspiration. This week, we will focus on Water Music with works by Vaughan Williams, Mahler, Debussy, and (of course) Handel. Bill starts in the American Southwest with a traditional song, *Bound for the Rio Grande* performed by the Robert Shaw Chorale.

PROGRAM #: EXP 23-50
RELEASE: Week of September 11, 2023

The Big Five I: The Chicago Symphony Orchestra

The Chicago Symphony Orchestra was founded in 1891 as part of the local burghers' relentless pursuit of international recognition. For a city that was growing faster than any in history, the attention was bolstered by the World's Fair Columbian Exposition in 1893, where America was introduced to Indonesia's gamelan orchestra. The CSO is among the many cultural institutions founded during this time that continue today. Bill brings together the music of the composers, conductors, and musicians and tells stories of the hall and its patrons who participated in the making of the CSO.

PROGRAM #: EXP 23-51
RELEASE: Week of September 18, 2023

Beethoven Symphonies: New Recordings Side by Side with Classic Performances, Part 1

Bill says in a letter to a dear friend, "Right now, I'm engaged in an interesting project. The conductor Yannick Nezet-Seguin, who continues as Music Director of the Philadelphia Orchestra and has recently become Music Director of the Metropolitan Opera, has found time to go to London to record the entire set of nine Beethoven Symphonies with another distinguished ensemble, The Chamber Orchestra of Europe." Over the next ten episodes, Bill will put these newly recorded performances in context, side-by-side, with famous recordings all the way back to Wilhelm Furtwängler. Starting with the first symphony, this week will conclude on Friday with Beethoven's Fifth Symphony.

PROGRAM #:

EXP 23-52

RELEASE:

Week of September 25, 2023

Beethoven Symphonies: New Recordings Side by Side with Classic Performances, Part 2

Welcome to the second week of a big Beethoven festival, starting with Beethoven's sixth symphony. By Friday of this week, we will have heard every single note of the Beethoven symphonies conducted by Yannick Nezet-Seguin in his new set of the nine Beethoven Symphonies with The Chamber Orchestra of Europe. Bill will also continue to share this new recording side-by-side with the recorded history of celebrated performances.