Exploring Music
Broadcast Schedule – Fall 2026

PROGRAM #: **EXP 27-01**
RELEASE: **Week of October 05, 2026**

Les Cinq Plus
This week's theme: French composers from the generation before Les Six (Poulenc, Milhaud, Honegger, et al), and we are fondly calling our composers Les Cinq Plus. Like Les Six, our composers did not have a great deal in common, and the way they have been grouped is a historical accident — artists who happened to inhabit a particular locale at a given time. Unlike Les Six, Les Cinq Plus grew up listening to the art songs of the 1800s, and each in their way carried this romantic torch forward: Chabrier, Massenet, Duparc, Chausson, Dukas, and perhaps Satie as "L'Autre."

PROGRAM #: **EXP 27-02**
RELEASE: **Week of October 12, 2026**
Gustav Mahler, Part 1 (1860-1911)
An Austrian composer who thought, "A symphony should be like the world: it must embrace everything." With his ten-plus symphonies, Mahler's world extended horizons beyond anything known to concert audiences. His vision stretched the boundaries of the orchestra, of the symphonic form, and even this radio show! Join us for two full weeks on the symphonies of Gustav Mahler.

PROGRAM #: **EXP 27-03**
RELEASE: **Week of October 19, 2026**
Gustav Mahler, Part 2 (1860-1911)
For a second week, we continue with the life and works of Gustav Mahler. This week features *Kindertotenlieder* sung by Kathleen Ferrier; *Symphony of a Thousand;* and tenor Fritz Wunderlich singing "The Drinking Song of the Earth's Sorrow" from *Das Lied von der Erde.* This is to name just a few highlights- you don't want to miss this week!

PROGRAM #: **EXP 27-04**
RELEASE: **Week of October 26, 2026**

Peter's Picks
It's the beginning of a new adventure. Get to know host Peter van de Graaff this week as he shares a wide range of his own favorites and moments from his musical background. We'll sample music of all stripes from across the continents and the ages, hearing everything from Bach to Bax, Purcell to Piston, and plenty of fascinating lesser-known discoveries along the way.

PROGRAM #: **EXP 27-05**
RELEASE: **Week of November 02, 2026**

A Little Traveling Music, Please
Rivers, boatmen, wanderers, and travelers are always on the go. This week, Bill shares stories about journeys and the music they inspired, featuring works by George Handel, Bedřich Smetana, and Duke Ellington. We'll also hear pieces like Beethoven's *Les Adieux*, Schubert's *Die schöne Müllerin*, and Haydn's *Farewell Symphony*.

PROGRAM #: **EXP 27-06**
RELEASE: **Week of November 09, 2026**

Music in Time of War
In this encore presentation, we hear music inspired by war—whether in support, protest, or reflection. Bill McGlaughlin starts with Joseph Haydn's *Mass in Time of War*, a surprisingly cheerful piece that Haydn hoped would persuade God to halt Napoleon's advance into Austria. Beethoven, who was fascinated by military strategy, used music to paint a battle scene, with the British and French each represented by their own musical themes. We then hear how Russian composers Tchaikovsky and Shostakovich expressed both patriotism and the pain of war. Finally, we end in America with Roy Harris's "When Johnny Comes Marching Home."

PROGRAM #: **EXP 27-07**
RELEASE: **Week of November 16, 2026**

A Keyboard Smorgasbord
It's a lot more than just pianos in this encore presentation with Bill McGlaughlin. We'll follow the story of the musical keyboard, from the ancient Greeks all the way to synthesizers, examining many different types—clavichords, harpsichords, fortepianos, organs, harmoniums, accordions, dulcimers, cimbaloms, melodicas, and mallet instruments from Java to jazz. This is a large and interesting family!

PROGRAM #: **EXP 27-08**
RELEASE: **Week of November 23, 2026**

The Boston Six
At the dawn of the twentieth century, a small circle of New England composers helped forge a distinctly American musical voice. This week introduces the Boston Six: John Knowles Paine, Arthur Foote, George Chadwick, Amy Beach, Edward MacDowell, and Horatio Parker. With host Peter van de Graaff as our guide, we'll explore these composers' training in Boston and Europe and hear how their music shaped what would become "the American Sound."

PROGRAM #: **EXP 27-09**
RELEASE: **Week of November 30, 2026**

John Corigliano (1938-)
Bill McGlaughlin welcomes one of America's foremost composers as Exploring Music's co-host, in this encore presentation. Corigliano, son of a longtime concertmaster of the New York Philharmonic, has written many works that are now considered to be part of the standard repertoire for American violinists, clarinetists, and orchestras. In the context of the 1980s AIDS epidemic, Corigliano expressed profound loss in his Symphony No. 1 with a tarantella that evokes feelings of complete madness.

PROGRAM #: **EXP 27-10**
RELEASE: **Week of December 07, 2026**

Maestros Part I
The first in a multiple-part series, this encore presentation features 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 the orchestras they directed, and their stories are still loved by musicians young and old.

PROGRAM #: **EXP 27-11**
RELEASE: **Week of December 14, 2026**

Maestros Part II
In the second week of this series, we highlight a remarkable group of conductors who came from Europe between the 1930s and 1970s and reshaped American musical culture. We'll hear performances led by Antal Doráti, Dmitry Mitropoulos, Bruno Walter, Maurice Abravanel, William Steinberg, Charles Münch, Erich Leinsdorf, and Lawrence, Massachusetts native Leonard Bernstein. Each brought a distinctive personality and a deep understanding of the symphony orchestra. Founding host Bill McGlaughlin is our guide.

PROGRAM #: **EXP 27-12**
RELEASE: **Week of December 21, 2026**

We Wish You a Merry Christmas
Enjoy the musical magic and wonder of the season this week on Exploring Music. Host Peter van de Graaff invites you into the world of music for the winter holidays. We'll begin in America with Bruce Saylor's *Spiritual Medley*, then travel to Russia for Tchaikovsky's *Waltz of the Snowflakes*. And we'll visit England to hear Gustav Holst's "In the Bleak Midwinter" and Lewis

Carroll's "Christmas Greeting." Sacred and secular holiday favorites abound in this very special week of music.

PROGRAM #: **EXP 27-13**
RELEASE: **Week of December 28, 2026**

The Glories of Venice
Exploring Music focuses on sounds of the city, water, and love in Venice, the magical city that inspired music of the late Renaissance, Baroque, and the beginning of Italian Opera. From Monteverdi and Orlando di Lasso, we hear religious and secular music and continues with two major Venetian influences: Adrian Willaert of Dutch descent and the Roman composer Palestrina. Founding host Bill McGlaughlin hosts in this encore presentation.