LEON BOTSTEIN conductor

CONCERT TIMELINE

2 hours and 25 minutes

Symphony No. 4 Intermission Five Pieces Four Last Songs

58 min 20 min 17 min 23 min

Brief remarks by Forrest Albano trumpet



Gustav Mahler

Born 7/7/1860 in Kaliště, Bohemia (now Czech Republic) Died 5/18/1911 at age 50 in Vienna

Symphony No. 4

Bedächtig, Nicht eilen (deliberately, do not hurry) 18 min In gemächlicher Bewegung, Ohne Hast (in easy motion, without haste) 10 min Ruhevoll (serene) 21 min Sehr behaglich (very leisurely) 9 min

JANA MCINTYRE soprano

Written 1892 and 1899–1901, in Mahler's 30s and early 40s; rev. 1901–11 Premiered 11/25/1901 in Munich; Kaim Orchestra; Mahler conductor; Margarete Michalek mezzo-soprano

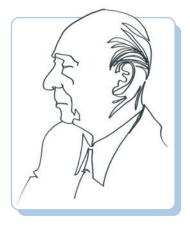
Intermission

MEET & GREET some of the musicians in the lobby SHARE A PHOTO @The Orch Now #The Orch Now REFRESHMENTS available in the lobby

WIFI BardWireless

RESTROOMS located on either side of the lobby

Brief remarks by Lana Auerbach violin



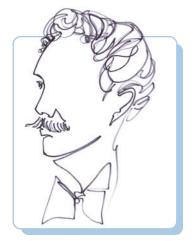


Born 9/13/1874 in Vienna **Died** 7/13/1951 at age 76 in Los Angeles

Five Pieces for Orchestra

Premonitions 2 min
Yesteryears 5 min
Summer Morning by a Lake (Colors) 4 min
Peripetia 2 min
The Obligatory Recitative 4 min

Written 1909, at age 34; rev. 1922, '49 Premiered 9/3/1912 at Queen's Hall in London; Queen's Hall Orchestra; Henry Wood conductor



Richard Strauss

Born 6/11/1864 in Munich Died 9/8/1949 at age 85 in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany

Four Last Songs

Frühling (Spring) 3 min September 5 min Beim Schlafengehen (Going to Sleep) 6 min Im Abendrot (In the Sunset Glow) 9 min

JANA MCINTYRE soprano

Written 1946–1948, in Mahler's early 80s Premiered 5/22/1950 at Royal Albert Hall in London; Philharmonia Orchestra; Wilhelm Furtwängler conductor; Kirsten Flagstad soprano



Our new album, *Exodus*, is now available for pre-order!

Heard in concert in Fall 2023, these works were written by Jewish composers while they were in exile from their homelands during World War II: Josef Tal's Exodus, Walter Kaufmann's Indian Symphony, and Marcel Rubin's Symphony No. 4, Dies irae.

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All timings are approximate.





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The Music

MAHLER'S SYMPHONY NO. 4

Notes by TŌN percussionist Luca Esposito

What better way to begin the 2024–25 TŌN season than with Gustav Mahler's Fourth Symphony? The shortest and most performed of Mahler's symphonies portrays a child's vision of what heaven could look, feel, sound, smell, and even taste like. In order to understand the sentiment behind this playful, gentle, heavily contrapuntal yet "minimally" orchestrated masterpiece, it is important to acknowledge the poetry from which this work derives.

The fourth movement sums up the symphony with a soprano singing "Das himmlische Leben" ("The Heavenly Life"), a song Mahler composed in 1892 based on a poem from *Des Knaben Wunderhorn* (*The Youth's Magic Horn*), a collection of German folk poetry. Some of the text includes descriptive phrases of joyous nature such as:

"Good greens of all sorts grow in heaven's garden!..."
"All live in gentlest peace! We lead angelic lives!..."

The character of the poem perfectly matches the character of the symphony. The very first thing that the listener hears is the jingling of sleigh bells, which foreshadows the dance-like elegance of the movement. The violin plays a key role with its various melodic lines, as well as the winds, trumpets, and a

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cantabile horn solo right before the last "dance" of the first movement.

The second movement is a scherzo that even further highlights the solo violin, this time tuned higher than normal to depict a country fiddler. Clarinets, trumpets, and horns continue to trade melodies as the mood remains calm, gentle, and sweet, with various lines often happening together.

The third movement is a beautiful, patient adagio that gives the celli and lower strings theirtimetoshine. It is slow, simple, and pretty, as heaven likely would be. This movement can be seen as a theme in variations, with special shout-outs to the oboe solo, horn, harp, and timpani sostenutos.

The child's vision of heaven is finished off by the calm singing of the soprano in the final movement, with returning themes and colors from the previous movements.

The Fourth Symphony is perhaps Mahler's most calm and peaceful, as it does not feature any low brass, nor does it use extensively loud dynamics. The premiere was received with mixed interpretations and sentiments, and the symphony gained much more popularity after Mahler's death in 1911.

SCHOENBERG'S FIVE PIECES FOR ORCHESTRA

Notes by TŌN clarinetist Zachary Gassenheimer

Austrian composer Arnold Schoenberg is renowned for pioneering atonality (though he rejected the term) and serialism. A leading figure in the Second Viennese School, Schoenberg, alongside his students Alban Berg and Anton Webern, delved into expressionism, seeking to evoke emotion through musical

distortion. Just after the turn of the 20th century, facing personal turmoil, Schoenberg aimed to break away from traditional tonality, which centers around a specific key. He introduced "total chromaticism," a method where all pitches are of equal importance, eliminating the need fortonal development or resolution. Instead, he used varying textures, tone colors, and rhythmic elements to provide direction and form.

Schoenberg's Five Pieces for Orchestra, premiered by the London Proms Orchestra in 1912, is notable for being one of the first major orchestral works to completely forsake tonality. In a letter to Richard Strauss, Schoenberg described the pieces as short, unrelated works focusing on texture, tone color, and rhythmic repetition to convey extreme musical expression without tonal guidance. Initially, Schoenberg resisted titling the movements, believing that music should express itself independently of written titles.

Originally composed for a large orchestra with extensive wind sections, the work allowed Schoenberg to explore the extremes of orchestral tone colors. The third movement in particular achieves this quite amazingly. This movement is a brilliant example of how Schoenberg utilizes the kaleidoscope of tone colors present through various instruments in the orchestra to develop a set of pitches. Aterm he later called "Klangfarbenmelodie" in his book Harmonielehre, Schoenberg employs this technique rather than expanding upon a singular motivic idea. While later publications of the Five Pieces have a smaller, more accessible instrumentation, the effect described above is still masterfully present through Schoenberg's command of orchestration.

Though not well-received at its premiere, Five Pieces for Orchestra is now considered groundbreaking for its influence on 20th-century composers. Its innovative techniques, such as oscillating woodwind lines paired with harmonically static notes, are reflected in modern movie scores. Gustav Holst's *The Planets*, which TŌN will perform selections from later this season, was inspired by Schoenberg's work. Holst initially intended to title his suite "Seven Pieces for Orchestra", but changed it due to his fascination with astronomy.

R. STRAUSS' FOUR LAST SONGS

Notes by TŌN trumpet player Giulia Rath

As a trumpet player, performing Richard Strauss' music is always an exciting experience. His compositions, most notably his tone poems and operas, often feature dazzling trumpet parts that are challenging yet extremely rewarding. His Vier letz te Lieder (Four Last Songs), however, show a different kind of artistry by the composer. Composed in 1948 as his last completed set of works, these songs, written for soprano and orchestra, are remarkably intimate and can be seen as Strauss' musical farewell to the world.

The cycle, which was not conceived by Strauss as such but rather put together posthumously, begins with "Frühling" ("Spring"), which is Strauss' celebration of

young life. The soprano showcases soaring vocal lines and the flutes evoke birdsong.

The mood shifts in the second song, "September", as the tone of the piece becomes more reflective. Strauss paints a picture of a fading summer garden with his lush harmonies and soaring melodic lines, and the song concludes with a gorgeous horn solo.

The third song of the cycle, "Beim Schlafengehen" ("Going to Sleep"), delves more into the theme of approaching death. The music never fights the inevitability of death, but rather accepts it in a calm and serene manner. One of my favorite moments of the piece, maybe in all of music, comes between the second and third verse of the song where the solo violin portrays the rising of the soul in flight.

The last song of the cycle, "Im Abendrot" ("In the Sunset Glow"), begins with the orchestra depicting a sunset and ends with the soprano's question: "Ist dies etwa der Tod?" ("Is this perhaps death?"). The orchestra responds with a quotation from Strauss' tone poem *Death and Transfiguration*, a piece he wrote 60 years earlier as a young man. As the song fades out, two flutes appear, portraying two larks that we already encountered earlier in the piece. Now the two larks disappear into the distance to close out this musical and personal journey.

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The Artists

LEON BOTSTEIN conductor



Leon Botstein is founder and music director of The Orchestra Now (TŌN), music director and principal conductor of the American Symphony Orchestra (ASO), artistic codirector of Bard SummerScape and the Bard Music Festival, and conductor laureate and principal guest conductor of the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra (JSO), where he served as music director from 2003 to 2011. He has been guest conductor with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Aspen Music Festival, Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra. Mariinsky Theatre, Russian National Orchestra in Moscow, Hessisches Staatstheater Wiesbaden, Taipei Symphony, Simón Bolivar Symphony Orchestra, and Sinfónica Juvenil de Caracas in Venezuela. among others. In 2018, he assumed artistic directorship of Campus Grafenegg and Grafenegg Academy in Austria.

Recordings include acclaimed recordings of Othmar Schoeck's *Lebendig begraben* with TŌN, Hindemith's *The Long Christmas Dinner* with the ASO, a Grammy-nominated recording of Popov's First Symphony with the London Symphony Orchestra, and other various recordings with TŌN, ASO, the London Philharmonic, NDR Orchestra

Hamburg, and JSO, among others. He is editor of The Musical Quarterly and author of numerous articles and books, including The Compleat Brahms (Norton), Jefferson's Children (Doubleday), Judentum und Modernität (Bölau), and Von Beethoven zu Berg (Zsolnay). Honors include Harvard University's prestigious Centennial Award; the American Academy of Arts and Letters award; and Cross of Honor, First Class, from the government of Austria, for his contributions to music. Other distinctions include the Bruckner Society's Julio Kilenyi Medal of Honor for his interpretations of that composer's music, the Leonard Bernstein Award for the Elevation of Music in Society, and Carnegie Foundation's Academic Leadership Award. In 2011, he was inducted into the American Philosophical Society.

JANA MCINTYRE soprano



Soprano Jana McIntyre is a George and Nora London Foundation Competition Award Winner as well as a Finalist in The Metropolitan Opera Eric and Dominique Laffont Competition. In the 2024–25 season she debuts at Opera Theatre of Saint Louis as Tytania in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and returns to Opera Santa Barbara as Marie in *La fille du régiment*. On the concert stage, she debuts with the Los

Angeles Philharmonic as the soprano soloist in Mendelssohn's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* with performances in Los Angeles, New York, and Bogotà.

Ms. McIntyre began last season with a return to Opera Santa Barbara for *La Divina: The Art of Maria Callas*. Additional season engagements included debuts with the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra for *Carmina Burana*, and Sacramento Choral Society and Orchestra for a Rodgers and Hammerstein celebration. Additionally, she joined the roster of the San Francisco Opera for *Die Zauberflöte* and *Innocence*.

In the 2022-23 season, Ms. McIntyre returned to Opera Santa Barbara as Giulia in Rossini's comic one-act La scala di seta, and to Tulsa Opera as Cinderella in Into the Woods. She debuted Carmina Burana with the Santa Barbara Symphony and the Seattle Symphony. Additional concerts included her Carnegie Hall debut with the American Symphony Orchestra as the title role in Richard Strauss' rarely heard Daphne conducted by Music Director Leon Botstein. In 2021–22, she sangthe title role in Semele with Opera Santa Barbara, as well as Aminta in Die Schweigsame Frau in a new production at Bard SummerScape. With The Rally Cat in New York City, she created the role of Marianne in a recording and workshop of Aferidan Stephens and Marella Martin Koch's Elinor and Marianne, based on the Jane Austen novel Sense and Sensibility. She also performed in chamber concerts with Jerod Impichchaachaaha' Tate and Tulsa's Signature Symphony.

THE ORCHESTRA NOW (TŌN)

Founded in 2015 by Bard College and led by Leon Botstein, TŌN is a graduate program that is training the next generation of music professionals, offering a master's degree or an advanced certificate. The members of the orchestra are graduates of the world's leading conservatories, and hail from countries across North and South America, Europe, and Asia. Many have gone onto have successful careers in orchestras around the world

TŌN performs dozens of concerts a year at venues including Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the Fisher Center at Bard. The orchestra has performed with numerous distinguished guest conductors and soloists, including Leonard Slatkin, Gil Shaham, Neeme Järvi, Stephanie Blythe, Fabio Luisi, Vadim Repin, Joseph Young, Peter Serkin, Naomi Woo, and JoAnn Falletta.

Among TŌN's many albums on the Hyperion, Sorel Classics, and AVIE labels are May 2024's *The Lost Generation* and rare recordings of Othmar Schoeck's *Lebendig begraben* and Bristow's *Arcadian* Symphony. Recordings of TŌN's live concerts from the Fisher Center can be heard regularly on Classical WMHT-FM and WWFMThe Classical Network, and the orchestra has appeared over 100 times on *Performance Today*, broadcast nationwide.

More info at ton.bard.edu.

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Caroline Ryan Development Operations Coordinator Jessica Wolf Associate Director of Development

General Management

Shannon Csorny General Manager Jess Webber Producina Operations Manager

Environmental Services

Bill Cavanaugh Environmental Specialist Drita Gjokaj Environmental Specialist

Facilities

Carmine Covelli Facilities Operations and Safety Manager Ray Stegner Building Operations Manager Hazaiah Tompkins '19 Building Operations Coordinator

Marketing and **Audience Services**

David Steffen Director of Marketing and Audience Services Emily Berge-Thielmann Box

Office Supervisor Brittany Brouker Marketina

Manager Maria Giovanetti '23 Box Office

Supervisor Michael Hofmann VAP '15 Audience and Member Services Manager

Asa Kaplan '23 Associate House Manager

Engineer Costumes & Wardrobe Moe Schell Costume Supervisor

> Parker Nelson First Hand Sara Sa Assistant Costume Shop Manaaer

Soph Smith First Hand/Dresser

Dávid Kéringer TŌN '26 Assistant

Elyse Lichtenthal House Manager

Wyland Stephenson '25 Assistant

Courtney Williams Audience and

Member Services Coordinator

President of Communications

Paulina Swierczek VAP '19 Box

Garrett Sager HRA '23 Marketing

House Manager

House Manager

Office Manager

Communications

Publications

Manager

Production

Audio

Production

Mark Primoff Associate Vice

Amy Murray Videographer

Mary Smith Director of

Jenna Obrizok Production

Jared Goldstein Director of

Production Administrator

Lex Morton Audio Supervisor

Duane Lauginiger Head Audio

Dávid Bánóczi-Ruof '22

Publications

Manaaer

Lighting

Josh Foreman Lighting Supervisor Walli Daniels Electrician Nick Hawrylko Head Electrician

Orchestra

Stephen Dean Orchestra Production Manager Grace Anne Orchestra Stage Manager

LJ McCaw Orchestra Stage Manager

Nora Rubenstone '11 Associate Orchestra Production Manager

Scenic

Rick Reiser Technical Director Zoe Barash Carpenter Sam Dickson '19 Carpenter Eric Leary Assistant Technical

Maggie McFarland '21 Props Coordinator

Mike Murphy Carpenter Duane Olson Carpenter Hick Renadette Head Rigger/ Flyperson

Michael Risio Carpenter Sean Walsh Carpenter

Video

Kat Pagsolingan Video Supervisor John Gasper Video Engineer Will Oliva Video Engineer May Pocsy '22 Assistant Video Engineer

Theater & Performance and **Dance Programs**

Jennifer Lown Program Administrator Sabrina Sa Artistic and Administrative Assistant

BARD MUSIC FESTIVAL

Executive Director

Irene Zedlacher

Artistic Directors

Leon Botstein Christopher H. Gibbs

Associate Director

Raissa St. Pierre '87

Scholars in Residence 2024

Francesca Brittan Sarah Hibberd

Program Committee 2024

Byron Adams Leon Botstein Francesca Brittan Christopher H. Gibbs Sarah Hibberd

Richard Wilson Irene Zedlacher

Director of Choruses

James Bagwell

Vocal Casting

Joshua Winograde

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Upcoming Events

SEP 21 at 7 PM & SEP 22 at 2 PM

Fall Benefit: E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial in Concert

James Bagwell conductor

Williams E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial

OCT5 at 7 PM & OCT 6 at 2 PM

Musica Mexicana

(The Night of the Mayas)

Leon Botstein conductor

Manuel Ponce Ferial
Carlos Chávez Suite de Caballos de Vapor
(Horsepower Suite)
Manuel Ponce Chapultepec
Silvestre Revueltas La noche de los Mayas

NOV2 at 7PM & NOV3 at 2PM

A Celebration of Sondheim & Friends

James Bagwell conductor Stephanie Blythe mezzo-soprαno Vocalists from Bard Conservatory's Graduate Vocal Arts Program

Various selections by **Stephen Sondheim** and others

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