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VOLUME II

THE CLASSIC 100 SYMPHONY

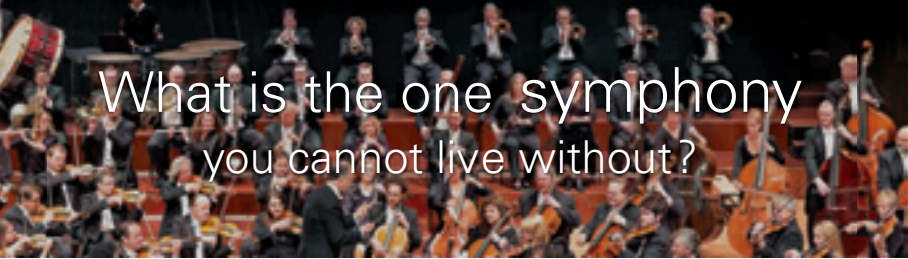
The top ten symphonies complete, plus highlights
selected from Australia's favourite symphonies,
as voted by listeners to ABC Classic FM



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What is the one symphony you cannot live without?

The Classic 100 Symphony

Symphony – the very word conjures up a whole world of instrumental colour and a concert experience that can transport us to new dimensions of listening pleasure. For as long as orchestras have been a jewel in music’s crown, composers have dedicated the very best of their talent and skill to the symphony. Music lovers across Australia have affirmed this by sending in a record number of votes to the Classic 100 Symphony survey.

Like all the Classic 100 surveys, the Classic 100 Symphony has demonstrated the remarkable musical knowledge shared by ABC Classic FM listeners. Household names like Beethoven, Tchaikovsky and Mahler, of course, figure prominently in the results, but listeners have also spoken up for composers and works rarely heard in the concert hall – Olivier Messiaen, César Franck and Carl Nielsen, for example. Perhaps in a single hearing, perhaps by means of a treasured recording, these symphonies too have entered people’s lives and refused to leave! Three Australian composers have also been included in the top 100: Ross Edwards, Philip Bračanin and Sean O’Boyle. We are delighted to be able to represent all three in this selection.

More than any other kind of concert music, the symphony has traditionally been a large-scale work. While not every symphony tops an hour like Beethoven’s Ninth, it’s not uncommon for a symphony to be 40 minutes or longer, and for individual movements to pass 15 or 20 minutes. The Top Ten in this Classic 100 are all grand works in the Romantic vein, and it seemed fitting to present them in their entirety.

This of course means that there hasn’t been room to accommodate all 100 symphonies in these eight discs. Instead, this boxed set offers a selection of symphonic highlights: representative movements chosen to give a flavour of the full Classic 100 Symphony, from the brilliant energy of Mozart and Haydn to the lush orchestral colours of Rachmaninoff and Elgar, the bold drama of Berlioz and the transcendent beauty of Górecki. And as always, the full Classic 100 Symphony list is included in this booklet, with details of all one hundred of Australia’s favourite symphonies to explore at your leisure.

All 100 symphonies were played in their entirety on ABC Classic FM in the course of the Classic 100 Symphony countdown, and you can look out the performances chosen there by logging on to www.abc.net.au/classic. Or you could go to your favourite record store to listen to another interpretation and engage in a discussion about other performances which are recommended or famous or controversial. By starting here, with this set and using the full list as a guide, the ABC hopes you might expand your love and knowledge of the symphony.



John Crawford

Live Music Director, ABC Classic FM
September 2009

TRACK RANK **VOL. II CD1**

[76'46]

PYOTR ILYICH TCHAIKOVSKY 1840-1893

- 7 **Symphony No. 6 in B minor, Op. 74 'Pathétique'** [43'22]
- 1 I. Adagio – Allegro non troppo – Andante – Moderato mosso – Andante – Moderato assai – Allegro vivo – Andante come prima – Andante mosso 16'57
- 2 II. Allegro con grazia 7'39
- 3 III. Allegro molto vivace 9'11
- 4 IV. Finale: Adagio lamentoso – Andante 9'25
- Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, Oleg Caetani *conductor* LIVE RECORDING

SERGEI RACHMANINOFF 1873-1943

- 5 16 **Symphony No. 2 in E minor, Op. 27:** III. Adagio 13'43
- Sydney Symphony Orchestra, Edo de Waart *conductor* LIVE RECORDING

HENRYK MIKOŁAJ GÓRECKI b. 1933

- 6 17 **Symphony No. 3, Op. 36 'Symphony of Sorrowful Songs':** II. Lento e largo: Tranquillissimo – Cantabilissimo – Dolcissimo – Legatissimo 8'48
- Words: Helena Wanda Błażusiakówna
- Yvonne Kenny *soprano*, Adelaide Symphony Orchestra, Takuo Yuasa *conductor*

OLIVIER MESSIAEN 1908-1992

- 7 56 **Turangalila-symphonie:** VIII. Développement d'amour (Development of Love): Bien modéré (At a very moderate tempo) 10'24
- Kaori Kimura *piano*, Takashi Harada *ondes martenot*, Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, Hiroyuki Iwaki *conductor* LIVE RECORDING

VOL. II CD2

[74'54]

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN 1770-1827

- 8 **Symphony No. 3 in E-flat major, Op. 55 'Eroica'** [46'57]
- 1 I. Allegro con brio 16'31
- 2 II. Marcia funebre: Adagio assai 13'38
- 3 III. Scherzo: Allegro vivace 5'31
- 4 IV. Finale: Allegro molto – Poco andante – Presto 11'07
- Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra, David Porcelijn *conductor*

TRACK RANK

FELIX MENDELSSOHN 1809-1847

- 5 78 **Symphony No. 5 in D minor, Op. 107 'Reformation':** I. Andante – Allegro con fuoco 11'59
- Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra, Sebastian Lang-Lessing *conductor*

EDWARD ELGAR 1857-1934

- 6 30 **Symphony No. 1 in A-flat major, Op. 55:** III. Adagio 15'38
- Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, Jeffrey Tate *conductor* LIVE RECORDING

VOL. II CD3

[75'19]

JEAN SIBELIUS 1865-1957

- 9 **Symphony No. 2 in D major, Op. 43** [42'45]
- 1 I. Allegretto 8'56
- 2 II. Tempo andante, ma rubato 14'35
- 3 III. Vivacissimo – Lento e suave – Tempo primo – Lento e suave – 5'46
- 4 IV. Finale: Allegro moderato 13'13
- Adelaide Symphony Orchestra, Arvo Volmer *conductor*

ANTON BRUCKNER 1824-1896

- 5 46 **Symphony No. 4 in E-flat major 'Romantic':** I. Bewegt, nicht zu schnell (With movement, not too fast) 22'01
- Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, Hubert Soudant *conductor*

ROBERT SCHUMANN 1810-1856

- 6 97 **Symphony No. 1 in B-flat major, Op. 38 'Spring':** III. Scherzo: Molto vivace – Molto più vivace 5'27
- Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra, Sebastian Lang-Lessing *conductor*

HECTOR BERLIOZ 1803-1869

- 7 15 **Symphonie fantastique, Op. 14:** IV. March to the Scaffold: Allegretto non troppo 4'38
- Sydney Symphony Orchestra, Willem van Otterloo *conductor*

VOL. II CD4

- | | | | |
|---|----|--|---------|
| | | FRANZ SCHUBERT 1797-1828 | [75'24] |
| | 10 | Symphony No. 9 in C major, D944 'Great' | [52'12] |
| 1 | | I. Andante – Allegro ma non troppo | 15'37 |
| 2 | | II. Andante con moto | 14'01 |
| 3 | | III. Scherzo: Allegro vivace | 10'54 |
| 4 | | IV. Finale: Allegro vivace | 11'28 |
| | | Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, Zubin Mehta <i>conductor</i> | |
| | | WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART 1756-1791 | |
| 5 | 13 | Symphony No. 40 in G minor, KV550: I. Molto allegro | 7'27 |
| | | Australian Chamber Orchestra, Richard Tognetti <i>director</i> LIVE RECORDING | |
| | | JOSEPH HAYDN 1732-1809 | |
| 6 | 79 | Symphony No. 104 in D major 'London': I. Adagio – Allegro | 8'15 |
| | | Australian Chamber Orchestra, Richard Tognetti <i>director</i> LIVE RECORDING | |
| | | PHILIP BRAČANIN b. 1942 | |
| 7 | 81 | Symphony No. 2 'Choral': II. Allegro molto | 4'35 |
| | | Queensland Symphony Orchestra, Werner Andreas Albert <i>conductor</i> | |
| | | SEAN O'BOYLE b. 1963 | |
| 8 | 83 | Riversymphony: Dolphin Dreams | 2'17 |
| | | Anna Fraser <i>soprano</i> , Willoughby Symphony Choir (Philip Chu <i>musical director</i>), The Queensland Orchestra, Sean O'Boyle <i>conductor</i> | |

The Classic 100 Symphony –
Complete List

- | | | | |
|----|---|----|---|
| 1 | DVOŘÁK Symphony No. 9 'From the New World' | 25 | SIBELIUS Symphony No. 5 |
| 2 | BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 9 'Choral' | 26 | SHOSTAKOVICH Symphony No. 5 |
| 3 | BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 6 'Pastoral' | 27 | PROKOFIEV Symphony No. 1 'Classical' |
| 4 | SAINT-SAËNS Symphony No. 3 'Organ Symphony' | 28 | TCHAIKOVSKY Symphony No. 4 |
| 5 | BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 7 | 29 | BRAHMS Symphony No. 3 |
| 6 | BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 5 | 30 | ELGAR Symphony No. 1 |
| 7 | TCHAIKOVSKY Symphony No. 6 'Pathétique' | 31 | SHOSTAKOVICH Symphony No. 7 'Leningrad' |
| 8 | BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 3 'Eroica' | 32 | DVOŘÁK Symphony No. 8 |
| 9 | SIBELIUS Symphony No. 2 | 33 | MAHLER Symphony No. 4 |
| 10 | SCHUBERT Symphony No. 9 'Great' | 34 | BIZET Symphony in C |
| 11 | TCHAIKOVSKY Symphony No. 5 | 35 | BRAHMS Symphony No. 2 |
| 12 | MOZART Symphony No. 41 'Jupiter' | 36 | MAHLER Symphony No. 8 'Symphony of a Thousand' |
| 13 | MOZART Symphony No. 40 | 37 | BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 8 |
| 14 | MAHLER Symphony No. 2 'Resurrection' | 38 | MOZART Symphony No. 39 |
| 15 | BERLIOZ Symphonie fantastique | 39 | MAHLER Symphony No. 3 |
| 16 | RACHMANINOFF Symphony No. 2 | 40 | SCHUBERT Symphony No. 5 |
| 17 | GÓRECKI Symphony No. 3 'Symphony of Sorrowful Songs' | 41 | MAHLER Symphony No. 9 |
| 18 | MAHLER Symphony No. 5 | 42 | FRANCK Symphony in D minor |
| 19 | SCHUBERT Symphony No. 8 'Unfinished' | 43 | SIBELIUS Symphony No. 3 |
| 20 | BRAHMS Symphony No. 4 | 44 | VAUGHAN WILLIAMS Symphony No. 5 |
| 21 | MAHLER Symphony No. 1 'Titan' | 45 | HAYDN Symphony No. 94 'Surprise' |
| 22 | BRAHMS Symphony No. 1 | 46 | BRUCKNER Symphony No. 4 'Romantic' |
| 23 | MENDELSSOHN Symphony No. 4 'Italian' | 47 | SHOSTAKOVICH Symphony No. 10 |
| 24 | MENDELSSOHN Symphony No. 3 'Scottish' | 48 | SIBELIUS Symphony No. 1 |
| | | 49 | R. STRAUSS An Alpine Symphony |
| | | 50 | SHOSTAKOVICH Symphony No. 11 'The Year 1905' |
| | | 51 | MOZART Symphony No. 38 'Prague' |
| | | 52 | BRUCKNER Symphony No. 8 |

53 SIBELIUS **Symphony No. 7**
54 MAHLER **Symphony No. 6 'Tragic'**
55 MOZART **Symphony No. 29**
56 MESSIAEN **Turangalila-symphonie**
57 ELGAR **Symphony No. 2**
58 HAYDN **Symphony No. 101 'Clock'**
59 VAUGHAN WILLIAMS **Symphony No. 3
'Pastoral'**
60 BEETHOVEN **Symphony No. 4**
61 DVOŘÁK **Symphony No. 7**
62 VAUGHAN WILLIAMS **Symphony No. 1
'A Sea Symphony'**
63 BEETHOVEN **Symphony No. 2**
64 RACHMANINOFF **Symphony No. 3**
65 VAUGHAN WILLIAMS **Symphony No. 2
'London'**
66 BRUCKNER **Symphony No. 7**
67 EDWARDS **Symphony No. 1
'Da pacem Domine'**
68 MOZART **Symphony No. 25**
69 BRUCKNER **Symphony No. 9**
70 MOZART **Symphony No. 35 'Haffner'**
71 BORODIN **Symphony No. 2**
72 MOZART **Symphony No. 36 'Linz'**
73 SCHUMANN **Symphony No. 3 'Rhenish'**
74 TCHAIKOVSKY **Symphony No. 1
'Winter Dreams'**
75 TCHAIKOVSKY **Symphony in B minor
'Manfred'**
76 VAUGHAN WILLIAMS **Symphony No. 7
'Sinfonia Antartica'**
77 WALTON **Symphony No. 1**

78 MENDELSSOHN **Symphony No. 5
'Reformation'**
79 HAYDN **Symphony No. 104 'London'**
80 SIBELIUS **Symphony No. 4**
81 BRAČANIN **Symphony No. 2 'Choral'**
82 RACHMANINOFF **Symphony No. 1**
83 O'BOYLE **Riversymphony**
84 MAHLER **The Song of the Earth:
A Symphony for Tenor and Alto Voice
and Orchestra**
85 HAYDN **Symphony No. 45 'Farewell'**
86 PROKOFIEV **Symphony No. 5**
87 BERLIOZ **Harold in Italy: Symphony
in Four Parts**
88 TCHAIKOVSKY **Symphony No. 2
'Little Russian'**
89 MENDELSSOHN **Symphony No. 2
'Lobgesang'**
90 NIELSEN **Symphony No. 4
'The Inextinguishable'**
91 NIELSEN **Symphony No. 5**
92 SHOSTAKOVICH **Symphony No. 4**
93 SIBELIUS **Symphony No. 6**
94 STRAVINSKY **Symphony of Psalms**
95 RACHMANINOFF **Choral Symphony
'The Bells'**
96 DVOŘÁK **Symphony No. 6**
97 SCHUMANN **Symphony No. 1 'Spring'**
98 DVOŘÁK **Symphony No. 5**
99 GLASS **Symphony No. 4 'Heroes'**
100 HAYDN **Symphony No. 100 'Military'**

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