“The Symphony”: From Nationalism to the 20th Century

The composer Gustav Mahler once said “A symphony must be like the world. It must embrace everything”

Philip Koslow, Coordinator
philip.koslow@yahoo.com

SPRING 2020
Thursdays 11:00AM – 12:45PM

Over the course of over 300 years the “Symphony” has embraced almost every trend to be found in Western concert music. Part Two of this course will survey the continuing development of the symphony from the second half of the 19th century throughout the 20th century. Excerpts from the well-known symphonic canon will be presented along with biographical information and musical analysis. The overall presentation of the course content will be provided via DVD lectures produced by the Great Courses with Dr. Robert Greenberg. Additional music, printed material and commentary will be provided by the OLLI class coordinator.

Week 1 Nationalism and the Symphony
Week 2 Brahms, Bruckner and the Viennese Symphony
Week 3 Gustav Mahler
Week 4 Nielsen and Sibelius
Week 5 The Symphony in Russia
Week 6 Charles Ives
Week 7 Aaron Copland and Samuel Barber
Week 8 The 20th Century British Symphony
Week 9 Olivier Messiaen and Turangalila!
Week 10 Dmitri Shostakovich and His 10th Symphony