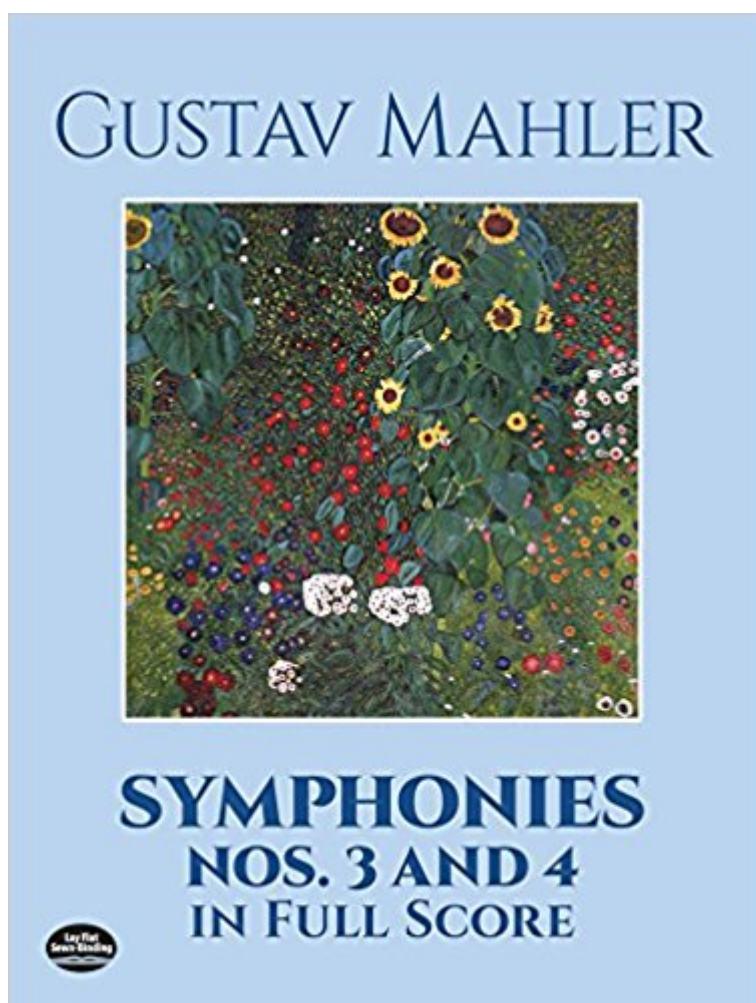


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Symphonies Nos. 3 And 4 In Full Score (Dover Music Scores)



Synopsis

Mahler's third and fourth symphonies mark a turning point in his development as a composer. Symphony No. 3 (1896) predominantly follows the musical style of the earlier two symphonies, which tended to emphasize a single melodic line with subordinate harmonies. Symphony No. 4 (1900) embodies the more contrapuntal style that characterizes his later symphonic works. At the same time, these works bring Mahler to the end of his "Wunderhorn years," when his inspiration derived strongly from *Des Knaben Wunderhorn* (The Youth's Magic Horn), an early 19th-century collection of folklike poetry that celebrated themes of nature. The Third Symphony, scored for a massive orchestra, was conceived as a vast nature cycle in six movements. These include the great opening march, the moving setting for alto of Nietzsche's "O Mensch! Gib Acht!" and the scintillating bell song for women's and boys' choirs "Es sungen drei Engel." The Fourth Symphony, more restrained in expression yet filled with affecting melody, is one of the most beloved of all Mahler's symphonies. Smaller in scale than the Third and classically proportioned, it progresses from the striking sleighbells of the opening and the rich complexities of the early movements to the deeply touching simplicity and beauty of the closing soprano song "Das himmlische Leben." Now music lovers can study the orchestral richness of these two great Mahler scores, reprinted here from original Viennese editions. In the unusually diverse musical textures of these two contrasting symphonic masterworks, music professionals, and students alike can explore the genius of the composer often regarded as the last great Austrian symphonist."

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Austrian composer and conductor Gustav Mahler (1860–1911) wrote chiefly symphonies and Lieder. Late Romantic in style, his tempestuous works reflect the anxious mood of Europe at the turn of the 20th century. Because of his Jewish roots, the composer's music was suppressed by the Nazis but has enjoyed a steady revival over the past five decades.

Someone mentioned how invaluable it is to own the score because you can refer to it when you read an article, or review, or liner notes that make references to a measure number. Well, this book is useful only if you number the measures yourself with a pencil (which would take a very long time), since the book actually does NOT supply measure numbers. It supplies a number of figures... (for instance, if I remember correctly, Symphony No. 3's 1st movement has 76 figures). But each figure can be any number of measures, so when you read an article that makes reference to measure 435, you simply won't be able to find it, without actually numbering the measures yourself. Otherwise, it is a very good book. Dover has managed to bring complete scores of great works to the average budget-conscious consumer, and this is truly an excellent book that covers two amazing symphonies. You are bound to learn a lot about orchestration just from studying these. I am particularly fond of studying the brass sections in the first movement of the 3rd Symphony... Truly phenomenal composition!

This two in one score is terrific for the amateur music fan who likes to curl up in their favorite chair on a stormy Saturday night with their headphones and some hot chocolate and hear everything the composer wanted. The print is large enough to see everything that is going on without being so clumsy that it is unmanageable without a stand or table. The price is right too!

Again, the Dover publications of scores is excellent and to have both symphonies in one volume is a real find. The 3rd is huge but the clarity of the printing makes it easy to follow the score. The 4th is smaller in scale but again, the print quality is excellent.

What can I say? it's a symphony score! I guess I can comment that the book is well made. doesn't fall apart or anything. You can read everything clearly~ great for learning music if you're studying music or a professional who wants to learn the score.

The Dover reprints are not the best but for the price nothing beats it! I highly recommend these Symphonies !

Perfect when you do not have the money to buy a better edition ;-)

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