



READING THE SIGNS **An Exploration in Score Study and Repertoire**

Instructor: Cailin Marcel Manson

Reading the Signs presents students with an eclectic spread of concert music repertoire, inciting them to discern both the obvious and subtle features of a score when rendered for performance. Students will practice the skills of critical and analytical listening, reflect about what they perceive aurally, and pair these reflections with discussions on context and analysis in order to inform their own ideas about interpretation.

Each week will contain both an online lecture/discussion and a supplemental watching or listening list. The lecture will focus on two or three pieces of orchestral literature joined by theme. The supplemental list will contain a brief video/audio playlist for students to discuss during the weekly online session, in juxtaposition to the week's presented pieces.

Students are expected to come to each lecture prepared with: Journalled thoughts about the weekly supplemental list
Readiness to listen and learn from each other
Openness and good humor

Any materials necessary for the study prescribed within the course will be distributed digitally.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Preparatory Watching:

Herbert von Karajan in Rehearsal with the Wiener Symphoniker
Robert Schumann - *Symphony No. 4 in D minor, Op. 120*

Week One: The Symphony through Differing Lenses

Lecture Pieces:

Franz Joseph Haydn - *Symphony No. 96 in D Major. "Miracle."* Hob. I:96 - Movement IV
Sergei Prokofiev - *Symphony No. 1, "Classical," Op. 25 - Movement I*



Supplemental Listening:

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart - Symphony No. 35 in D Major, "Haydn," K. 385
Arnold Schoenberg - Chamber Symphony, Op. 9

Week Two: Music Inspired By Places and Cultures

Lecture Pieces:

Amy Beach - Symphony in E minor, "Gaelic," Op. 32 - Movement I
Felix Mendelssohn - Overture, "The Hebrides" or Fingal's Cave
and **Symphony 4 in A major, "Italian," Op. 90 - Movement IV**

Supplemental Listening:

Manuel de Falla - Noches en los jardines de España, G.49
Tan Dun - Symphony of Colors: Terracotta

Week Three: Music of Struggle, Grief and Triumph

Lecture Pieces:

Samuel Barber - Adagio for Strings, Op. 11
Florence Price - Symphony No. 4 in D minor - Movement IV
and **Concert Overture No. 2**

Supplemental Listening:

William Grant Still - And They Lynched Him On a Tree (documentary)
Adolphus Hailstork - Epitaph: For A Man Who Dreamed
George Walker - Lyric for Strings

Week Four: The Orchestra as Storyteller

Lecture Pieces:

Richard Wagner - Overture to Der Fliegende Holländer, WWV 63
Bela Bartok - The Miraculous Mandarin, Op. 19 - Opening and First Scene

Supplemental Listening:

Richard Strauss - Till Eulenspiegels lustige Streiche, Op. 28
Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky - Francesca da Rimini, Op. 32