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MONTEUX

IN MOSCOW

SCHUBERT Symphony No. 9 "Great" in C, D944

- 1 1st mvt. - Andante - Allegro ma non troppo (13:17)
- 2 2nd mvt. - Andante con moto (12:29)
- 3 3rd mvt. - Scherzo - Allegro vivace (9:07)
- 4 4th mvt. - Allegro vivace (12:00)

Recorded live at the Moscow Conservatoire, September 9th, 1956
First issued in the USSR as Melodiya LP M10 45701 005

Boston Symphony Orchestra
conductor **Pierre Monteux**

LP from the private collection of Anders Riber
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Cover artwork based on a photograph of Pierre Monteux
Total duration: 46:53 ©2010 Pristine Audio.

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MONTEUX IN MOSCOW

BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

PRISTINE
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XR



SCHUBERT - SYMPHONY No. 9

LIVE IN MOSCOW, SEPTEMBER 9TH 1956

PRISTINE
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PASC220

SCHUBERT SYMPHONY No. 9 'GREAT' IN C, D944
MONTEUX, BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

PRISTINE
AUDIO

MONTEUX IN MOSCOW

SCHUBERT SYMPHONY No. 9

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SCHUBERT SYMPHONY No. 9 'GREAT' IN C, D944
MONTEUX, BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

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Pierre Monteux, the prominent French conductor, has gone down in the history of music for his premieres of the works of Stravinsky, Ravel and Debussy. According to the Soviet conductor Leo Ginzburg, "he is a highly erudite musician... his technique is clear and simple. His spare, very economical gestures... are the result of tremendous professional experience, wisdom and skill."

Pierre Monteux was born in Paris on April 4, 1875. After graduating in 1896 from the Paris Conservatoire he served as a violist in a number of orchestras. Although he had ascended the conductor's podium at the age of twelve, his reputation came considerably later, at the beginning of our century, when his gifts were revealed with particular force at the Diaghilev Russian Ballet in Paris in 1911. Here he premiered Stravinsky's "Petrouchka" and "Sacre du Printemps" (1911 and 1913), Ravel's "Daphnis and Chloe" and Debussy's "Jeux." In 1914 he founded and headed the Concerts Monteux, which added considerably to his popularity.

In 1916, Pierre Monteux crossed the ocean with the Russian Ballet on a tour of the United States where he accepted the invitation of the Metropolitan Opera to conduct its 1917 — 1919 seasons, and worked with the Boston Symphony right up to 1924. His artistic partnership with that orchestra continued in later years, earning him its admiration and the title of "Principal Guest Conductor." In the 1920's Monteux advanced to the ranks of foremost European conductors.

The next stage in his activity, which included numerous guest performances, was the famous Amsterdam Concertgebouw. Here he worked for an entire decade (1924 — 34) as co-conductor of the great Willem Mengelberg. This was the time too when he founded the Paris Symphony Orchestra, whose principal conductor he was in 1929 — 1938. The last orchestra fate had bound Pierre Monteux with as musical director for a long time was the San Francisco Symphony Orchestra (1936 — 1952).

Later he engaged mainly in guest conducting, welcomed by orchestras of London, Vienna, Amsterdam, Paris, many groups in the USA, and particularly the Boston Symphony which he led on its tour to the Soviet Union. A professional of the highest order, Pierre Monteux was known as an interpreter of an incredibly wide range. While his presentations of classical, romantic and modern music (to the popularization of which Monteux devoted so much effort), did not always correspond to his high reputation, one must note the general high standard, and at times truly brilliant reading of the most complex scores. His art had always won over audiences by its sincerity, emotionality and dedication.

Pierre Monteux lived a long life (he died in Hancock, State Maine, USA, on July 1, 1964), working up to his last days. His name holds a place of honour in the history of music.

- from the *Melodiya* LP sleeve notes

Further notes online at www.pristineclassical.com