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# Klemperer

## Beethoven Symphonies Volume 2

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This seemed to me a performance of the utmost integrity in the monaural version. The stereophonic one is even more impressive, and, of course, much more realistic. As you listen, you become conscious that the instruments are in their accustomed places, with an interesting exception to which I shall come in a moment, and that they show no tendency to move about. Stereophonically this record is a huge success. The second violins are not in their usual place. Most English conductors put them behind the first violins, on the left of the platform so that the bellies of the instruments are facing the audience. But in the old days they were usually put at the front on the right, so that the audience could enjoy visually as well as aurally antiphonal effects between the two groups of violins on opposite sides of the platform. Sir Adrian Boult is one of the few modern conductors who preserves this traditional layout, and he affirms that composers in the classical period often wrote with it in mind. The disadvantage is that the second violins cannot hope to produce so full a tone as the firsts because the bellies of their instruments are facing backwards away from the audience, and certainly for sound radio and for monaural records it would seem preferable to have firsts and seconds together on the left, producing their maximum tone. But what about binaural records? For the first time in the world of canned music the antiphonal effect becomes a possibility. How conductors are going to react remains to be seen, but Klemperer for one seems happy to use the old layout with the second violins on his right. A passage like the opening of the Storm movement in the Pastoral certainly profits from this arrangement.

R.F., *The Gramophone*, October 1958 - *Symphony No. 6, review of first stereo issue*

### Transfer notes

It's true to say that these recordings were very well made for their day - better perhaps than the Brahms which had preceded them. XR remastering here isn't a question of rescuing a dismal historic artefact; rather it's a case of eliciting the very finest sound quality possible from fine source material - digging deep into the bass for added richness; opening out oft-constricted strings; lifting a veil from the upper treble. In short, whilst the current EMI transfers are perfectly acceptable representations of what was possible in 1956-59, these Pristine remastering offer us what more could have been heard had Klemperer and the Philharmonia had a 21st century recording facility to work with. It's one of those classic series of recordings which merit the very best sound quality - and which should stand thus in every collection. **AR**

FULL PROGRAMME NOTES CAN BE FOUND ONLINE AT [WWW.PRISTINECLASSICAL.COM](http://WWW.PRISTINECLASSICAL.COM)  
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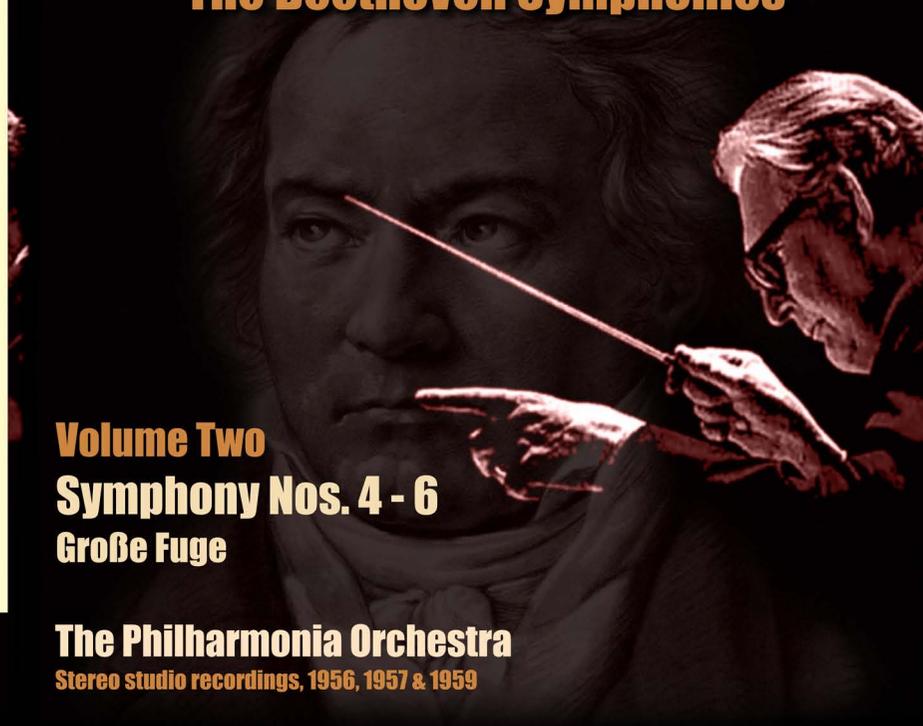
## The Beethoven Symphonies

### Volume Two

## Symphony Nos. 4 - 6

### Große Fuge

The Philharmonia Orchestra  
Stereo studio recordings, 1956, 1957 & 1959



## Klemperer Beethoven Vol. 2

### Symphony No. 4 in B flat, Op. 60

- 1 1st mvt. - Adagio - Allegro vivace (12:29)
- 2 2nd mvt. - Adagio (10:04)
- 3 3rd mvt. - Allegro vivace (6:54)
- 4 4th mvt. - Allegro ma non troppo (7:46)

### Symphony No. 5 in C minor, Op. 67

- 5 1st mvt. - Allegro con brio (8:59)
- 6 2nd mvt. - Andante con moto (11:18)
- 7 3rd mvt. - Scherzo - Allegro (6:15)
- 8 4th mvt. - Allegro (13:37)

### Symphony No. 6 in F, Op. 68 "PASTORAL"

- 1 1st mvt. - Allegro ma non troppo (13:07)
- 2 2nd mvt. - Andante molto mosso (13:26)
- 3 3rd mvt. - Allegro (6:35)
- 4 4th mvt. - Allegro (3:44)
- 5 5th mvt. - Allegretto (9:30)

- 6 **GroÙe Fuge, Op. 133** (16:34)

The Philharmonia Orchestra **Otto Klemperer**

XR remastering by **Andrew Rose**

Cover artwork based on a  
photograph of **Otto Klemperer**

**Symphony No. 4**  
Recorded 21-22 October 1957

**\*Symphony No. 5**  
Recorded 22-24 October 1958

**Symphony No. 6**  
Recorded 28-29 October 1957

**\*GroÙe Fuge**  
Recorded 26-27 March 1956

Recorded at Kingsway Hall, London  
#Studio One, Abbey Road, London

Total duration: **2hr 19:18**

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