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STEREO

# Stokowski

## The Philadelphia Orchestra

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Stokowski's long association with The Philadelphia Orchestra began in 1912 when, at the age of 30, he gave his first concert in the city with the orchestra. He stayed in Philadelphia for almost thirty years, handing over to Eugene Ormandy at the end of the 1940-41 season. However, Stokowski returned in 1960 as a guest conductor and continued a series of occasional concerts with the orchestra in the years which followed.

The present concert, which took place on 17 December 1962, is taken from broadcast master tapes originally held in the conductor's own archives, and supplied for transfer for this release by Edward Johnson, who for many years put great efforts into the running of the Stokowski Society, and who obtained a number of recordings from Stokowski's assistant, Jack Baumgarten. This is its first public issue.

As with the earlier concert from the same year (16 March, issued as *PASC372*), we took the unusual step in preparing this release of making all transfers and restoration at a very high sampling rate of 96kHz in order to preserve the highest frequencies captured on tape. Although these exceptionally high frequencies cannot be reproduced on CD, they are available in a 24/96 FLAC download from our website.

Remastering took heed of Stokowski's frequent instruction to producers of his recordings. He liked a full and reverberant sound, as Edward Johnson explains: "The thing to remember with Stokowski is that he started life as a church organist and in his recitals usually played orchestral works transcribed for the organ. So when he became a conductor he recalled the days when he had his feet on the deep 32' pedals and heard the final chord of the piece dying away down the nave for a couple of seconds. Consequently, his correction notes to record producers always asked for "more lows" and "more reverberation," as in the example attached to the producer of his LP of the "The Planets.""  
[Letter reproduced online] I have been careful in my application of this, using a convolution reverb of one of the world's great symphony halls to give the recording the space and texture lacking in the original radio tapes.

The December concert has at its heart a stirring performance of Beethoven's *Symphony No. 5*, but elsewhere Stokowski conducted a considerable chunk of 20th Century music. One piece, Revueltas's *Sensemaya*, which was played between the Ravel and Stravinsky, proved too long to fit onto this CD. It is, however, available to download for free on our website and is featured as a bonus track in our FLAC downloads.

The concert featured a number of encores, including a couple of arrangements by Stokowski himself. The finale to the concert brings a light-hearted close to a concert which was put on as a fundraiser for the orchestra's pension fund, and conveys a sense of real warmth between the musicians and their audience. **A.R.**

FULL PROGRAMME NOTES CAN BE FOUND ONLINE AT [WWW.PRISTINECLASSICAL.COM](http://WWW.PRISTINECLASSICAL.COM)  
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**Wagner - Lohengrin Prelude**  
**Beethoven - Symphony No. 5**  
**Ravel - Alborada del gracioso**  
**Stravinsky - Petrushka Suite**

**encores by Clarke, Gould, Rachmaninov, Haydn**

**Live concert recording, 17 December 1962 - Transfers from Stokowski's own master tapes**

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STOKOWSKI CONDUCTS WAGNER, BEETHOVEN, RAVEL, STRAVINSKY  
STOKOWSKI, THE PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA

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XR remastering by **Andrew Rose**

Transfers from tapes compiled for  
Leopold Stokowski from the  
collection of Edward Johnson

Cover artwork based on a  
photograph of **Stokowski** in  
Philadelphia, 1960

Recorded at the Academy of  
Music, Philadelphia for broadcast  
by WFLN-FM

Also available as a high-resolution  
24/96 FLAC download

Total duration: **79:20**

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## Stokowski in Philadelphia

- 1 Radio Introduction (1:35)
- 2 WAGNER Lohengrin - *Prelude to Act Three* (3:37)
- BEETHOVEN** Symphony No. 5 in C minor, Op. 67
  - 3 1st mvt. - *Allegro con brio* (6:55)
  - 4 2nd mvt. - *Andante con moto* (11:15)
  - 5 3rd mvt. - *Scherzo: Allegro* (6:07)
  - 6 4th mvt. - *Allegro* (9:00)
- 7 RAVEL *Alborada del gracioso* (6:59)
- 8 STRAVINSKY *Petrushka Suite* (16:52)
- 9 CLARKE *Trumpet Prelude* (2:29)
- 10 GOULD *Guaracha* (3:49)
- 11 RACHMANINOV *Prelude in C sharp minor* (4:49)
- 12 HAYDN *Symphony No. 45 in F-sharp minor "Farewell" Finale* (5:54)

**The Philadelphia Orchestra Leopold Stokowski**

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