

Re: Beethoven's 5th Symphony

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"Michael" <mschaffer@gmx.net> wrote in message
news:1107647672.821178.197330@o13g2000cwo.googlegroups.com...
> *Actually I think "understanding" and appreciating the 6th is crucial*
> *to*
> *"understanding" the 5th. I find it very telling that LvB wrote both of*
> *them at the same time, and originally, the numbering was reversed, if*
> *I*
> *remember correctly, still at the time of the first performances and*
> *only put in the order known today later.*
> *Why did he change the numbering?*
> *Maybe it was simply for practical considerations, maybe for no reason*
> *at all.*
> *Maybe LvB saw the 2 symphonies as one larger structure and wanted the*
> *6th to be played after the 5th. There is some justification in doing*
> *so, even though it is very rarely done when the 2 symphonies are*
> *played*
> *next to each other. The 5th is so much more applause-driving, it*
> *always*
> *gets placed last.*
> *Without wanting to read too much into the music, it is clear that the*
> *5th is a "story" of great conflict and final resolution and triumph*
> *after a long and intensive struggle. The 6th is a vision of harmony,*
> *only briefly interrupted, and if you follow the music attentively and*
> *openly, you will find that the finale of the 6th is maybe even more*
> *exciting than that of the 5th, because it carries you away on wave*
> *after wave of exhilaration.*
> *When you get scores of both pieces, you will easily be able to see*
> *that*
> *in the first movement of the 5th, the classical principle of building*
> *up phrases across even numbers of bars (e.g. 4,8) is almost constantly*
> *interrupted. In the development section (after the repeat), the music*
> *is pulled apart by conflicting motifs and interjections. Even the very*
> *lyrical 2nd theme (after the horn call) which goes in phrases of 4*
> *bars, is constantly "bothered" by the hammering main motif.*
> *It might be interesting for you to know that the 2nd movement's long*
> *main theme is actually based on a popular Viennese street song, the*
> *kind that was sung by travelling singers with hand-cranked organs (I*

sci.physics: Re: Beethoven's 5th Symphony

- > *don't know the correct English term). The text roughly ran something*
- > *like "I have no money and nothing in the world, I am eternally*
- > *floating*
- > *around looking for a little piece of luck and happiness".*

LOL... what makes you think I don't have the score to all nine?
Androcles.