

Vinyl DLP: Gustav Mahler – Symphony N°2

- The Vienna Philharmonic conducted by Zubin Mehta
- Limited edition (2000 copies worldwide)
- 2x 180gr heavyweight virgin vinyl
- Original gatefold cover
- Audiophile sound experience
- Remastered From Original Decca Analogue Tapes at Abbey Road Studios
- © 1975 The Decca Record Company Limited, London
- In celebration of Zubin Mehtas 80th birthday
- Includes voucher for free download of digital copy

Wiener Philharmoniker

Conductor: Zubin Mehta

LP 1

Side A:

1. Allegro maestoso. Mit durchaus ernstem und feierlichem Ausdruck
2. Andante moderato. Sehr gemächlich

Side B:

3. Scherzo: In ruhig fließender Bewegung
4. O Roschen rot! Der Mensch liegt in grosster Not!

LP 2

Side C:

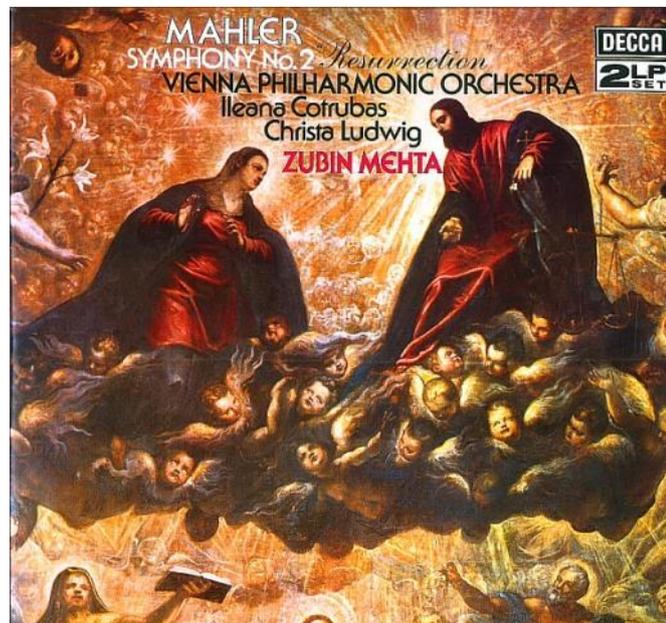
5. Part 1: I'm Tempo Des Scherzo, Wild Herausfahrend

Side D:

5. Conclusion: Sehr Langsam Und Gedeht



Gustav Mahler



SRP
39,90 €

Ultimate Mahler on vinyl with one of the best performances ever!

To celebrate Zubin Mehta's 80th birthday, Decca (Universal Music) proudly presents iconic Zubin Mehta albums in cooperation with The Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra and *Pro-Ject Audio Systems*. A must-have for music fans of the analogue era back on heavy-weight vinyl. Presented with original artwork, this recording has been carefully mastered from the original Decca analogue tapes at Abbey Road Studios.

This is probably Mehta's finest Mahler album ever. The first movement is very dramatic. Mehta opens with a very tense, brisk tempo. Mehta never rushes, but never drags. The timpani is very well-defined, however not overpowering, throughout the movement, as well as throughout the entire disc. The Andante is played very well. The phrasing is wonderful. The Scherzo starts out the best I have ever heard. Two crisp, crystal clear Timpani strikes. Then the next 2 are softer, then the next 2 are even softer, which gives it an amazing affect. Then to the Urlicht. Mehta's slower tempo just adds to the heartbreaking beauty. Add to that the gorgeous singing of Ileana Cotrubas and you have got a winning combination. To the massive finale where Mehta really triumphs. The tempi are perfect. Mehta builds the climaxes perfectly, never dragging. The brass play superbly! I heard some of the lower brass instruments in this movement that I didn't even hear before in my other recordings. Very impressive. When the chorus enters, just listen to the bass singers! Spectacular. The entire chorus sounds heaven-sent. Cotrubas and Ludwig sing crystal clear and beautifully. The organ is heard very clearly. The combination of perfect tempi, magnificent signing and ultra-virtuostic playing make the finale one of the most moving pieces of music you will ever hear.

This recording has everything you could possibly ask for. Mehta's perfect tempi, great signing by Cotrubas, Ludwig, and the Vienna Staatsopernchor. The Vienna Philharmonic, particularly the brass, play just like the virtuostic ensemble that they are. Go and get it ASAP.

Wiener Philharmoniker (Vienna Philharmonic)

The Wiener Philharmoniker were founded in 1842, is an orchestra regularly considered one of the finest in the world. The Vienna Philharmonic is based in the Musikverein in Vienna. Its members are selected from the orchestra of the Vienna State Opera. Selection involves a lengthy process, with each musician having to demonstrate his or her capability for a minimum of three years' performing for the opera and ballet. After this probationary period, the musician may request from the Vienna Philharmonic board an application for a position in the orchestra.

In 1898, on 24 September, the orchestra elected Gustav Mahler. (On 30 May 1899, pro-Mahler and pro-Richter factions had a "heated committee meeting"; matters were finally resolved in August when Richter wrote to his supporters "gently refusing their offer".) Under Mahler's baton the Vienna Philharmonic played abroad for the first time at the 1900 Paris World Exposition. While Mahler had strong supporters in the orchestra, he faced dissension from other orchestral members (an unreconstructed pro-Richter faction plus an anti-Semitic one, according to Jens Malte Fischer), criticism of his re-touchings of Beethoven, and arguments with the orchestra and over new policies he imposed; ultimately, "his working relationship with the Vienna Philharmonic continued to be fueled by resentment and broke down completely in November 1900". He resigned on 1 April 1901, like Richter, citing health concerns as a pretext, but continuing to conduct actively elsewhere (he remained director of the associated Hofoper until 1907).



Zubin Mehta was born into a Parsi family in Bombay (now Mumbai), India, the son of Mehli and Tehmina Mehta. His father was a violinist and founding conductor of the Bombay Symphony Orchestra, and also conducted the American Youth Symphony upon moving to Los Angeles, CA. Mehta is an alumnus of St. Mary's School, Mumbai, and St. Xavier's College, Mumbai. While in school, Mehta was taught to play the piano by Joseph de Lima, who was his first piano teacher. Mehta initially intended to study medicine, but eventually became a music student in Vienna at the age of 18, under Hans Swarowsky. Also at the same academy along with Mehta were conductor Claudio Abbado and conductor-pianist Daniel Barenboim.

Mehta's first marriage was to Canadian soprano Carmen Lasky in 1958. They have a son, Mervon, and a daughter, Zarina. In 1964, they divorced. Two years after the divorce, Carmen married Mehta's brother, Zarin Mehta, formerly the Executive Director of the New York Philharmonic. In July 1969, Mehta married Nancy Kovack, an American former film and television actress. Mehta, a permanent resident of the United States, retains his Indian citizenship.



Conducting career

In 1958, Mehta made his conducting debut in Vienna. From this time on he performed and recorded with The Vienna Philharmonic and created magic moments of musical mastership. In 1975, he recorded for Decca Mahler's recorded symphony „The Resurrection“.

He won the International Conducting Competition in Liverpool and was appointed assistant conductor of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic. Mehta soon rose to the rank of chief conductor when he was made Music Director of the Montreal Symphony Orchestra in 1960, a post he held until 1967. In 1961, he was named assistant conductor of the Los Angeles Philharmonic; however, the orchestra's music director designate, Georg Solti, was not consulted on the appointment, and subsequently resigned in protest; soon after, Mehta himself was named Music Director of the orchestra, and held the post from 1962 to 1978.