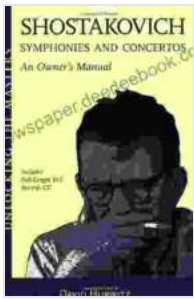


Shostakovich Symphonies and Concertos: An Owner's Manual



Dmitri Shostakovich was one of the most important and influential composers of the 20th century. His music is often characterized by its emotional intensity, its complex textures, and its use of dissonance. Shostakovich wrote 15 symphonies and 10 concertos, as well as a large number of other works.



Shostakovich Symphonies and Concertos - An Owner's Manual: Unlocking the Masters Series by David Hurwitz

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In this article, we will provide an overview of Shostakovich's symphonies and concertos. We will discuss the history of each work, its musical characteristics, and its significance in the composer's output. We will also provide a discography of recommended recordings.

Symphonies

Shostakovich's symphonies are among his most important and well-known works. They are often characterized by their large scale, their complex structures, and their use of dissonance. Shostakovich's symphonies often reflect the political and social events of his time, and they are often seen as a reflection of the composer's own personal struggles.

Symphony No. 1 (1925)

Shostakovich's Symphony No. 1 was written when he was just 19 years old. It is a large-scale work in four movements, and it is characterized by its energetic and optimistic tone. The symphony was a critical and commercial success, and it established Shostakovich as a major composer.

Symphony No. 2 ("To October") (1927)

Shostakovich's Symphony No. 2 was written to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the October Revolution. It is a large-scale work in three movements, and it is characterized by its use of dissonance and its complex rhythms. The symphony was a critical and commercial success, and it further cemented Shostakovich's reputation as a major composer.

Symphony No. 3 ("The First of May") (1929)

Shostakovich's Symphony No. 3 was written to celebrate the International Workers' Day. It is a large-scale work in four movements, and it is characterized by its use of folk melodies and its optimistic tone. The symphony was a critical and commercial success, and it further cemented Shostakovich's reputation as a major composer.

Symphony No. 4 (1936)

Shostakovich's Symphony No. 4 was written in response to the criticism he had received for his previous symphonies. It is a large-scale work in four movements, and it is characterized by its use of dissonance and its complex rhythms. The symphony was not a critical or commercial success, but it is now considered to be one of Shostakovich's most important works.

Symphony No. 5 (1937)

Shostakovich's Symphony No. 5 was written in response to the Great Purge, a period of political repression in the Soviet Union. It is a large-scale work in four movements, and it is characterized by its use of dissonance and its complex rhythms. The symphony was a critical and commercial success, and it is now considered to be one of Shostakovich's greatest works.

Symphony No. 6 (1939)

Shostakovich's Symphony No. 6 was written in response to the outbreak of World War II. It is a large-scale work in three movements, and it is characterized by its use of dissonance and its complex rhythms. The symphony was a critical and commercial success, and it is now considered to be one of Shostakovich's greatest works.

Symphony No. 7 ("Leningrad") (1941)

Shostakovich's Symphony No. 7 was written during the Siege of Leningrad. It is a large-scale work in four movements, and it is characterized by its use of dissonance and its complex rhythms. The symphony was a critical and commercial success, and it is now considered to be one of Shostakovich's greatest works.

Symphony No. 8 (1943)

Shostakovich's Symphony No. 8 was written after the Battle of Stalingrad. It is a large-scale work in four movements, and it is characterized by its use of dissonance and its complex rhythms. The symphony was not a critical or commercial success, but it is now considered to be one of Shostakovich's most important works.

Symphony No. 9 (1945)

Shostakovich's Symphony No. 9 was written after the end of World War II. It is a large-scale work in four movements, and it is characterized by its use of dissonance and its complex rhythms. The symphony was not a critical or commercial success, but it is now considered to be one of Shostakovich's most important works.

Symphony No. 10 (1953)

Shostakovich's Symphony No. 10 was written after the death of Joseph Stalin. It is a large-scale work in four movements, and it is characterized by its use of dissonance and its complex rhythms. The symphony was not a critical or commercial success, but it is now considered to be one of Shostakovich's most important works.

Symphony No. 11 (1957)

Shostakovich's Symphony No. 11 was written after the Hungarian Revolution. It is a large-scale work in four movements, and it is characterized by its use of dissonance and its complex rhythms. The symphony was not a critical or commercial success, but it is now considered to be one of Shostakovich's most important works.

Symphony No. 12 ("The Year 1917") (1961)

Shostakovich's Symphony No. 12 was written to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the October Revolution. It is a large-scale work in four movements, and it is characterized by its use of dissonance and its complex rhythms. The symphony was not a critical or commercial success, but it is now considered to be one of Shostakovich's most important works.

Symphony No. 13 ("Babi Yar") (1962)

Shostakovich's Symphony No. 13 was written in response to the Babi Yar massacre, in which the Nazis murdered 33,771 Jews in Kiev. It is a large-scale work in five movements, and it is characterized by its use of dissonance and its complex rhythms. The symphony was not a critical or commercial success, but it is now considered to be one of Shostakovich's greatest works.

Symphony No. 14 (1969)

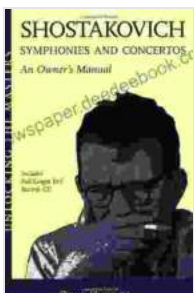
Shostakovich's Symphony No. 14 was written after the Prague Spring, a period of liberalization in Czechoslovakia that was crushed by the Soviet Union. It is a large-scale work in eleven movements, and it is characterized by its use of dissonance and its complex rhythms. The symphony was not a critical or commercial success, but it is now considered to be one of Shostakovich's most important works.

Symphony No. 15 (1971)

Shostakovich's Symphony No. 15 was his last symphony. It is a large-scale work in four movements, and it is characterized by its use of dissonance and its complex rhythms. The symphony was not a critical or commercial success, but it is now considered to be one of Shostakovich's most important works.

Concertos

Shostakovich also wrote a number of concertos for various instruments. His concertos are often characterized by their virtuosic writing and their use of dissonance. Shostakovich'



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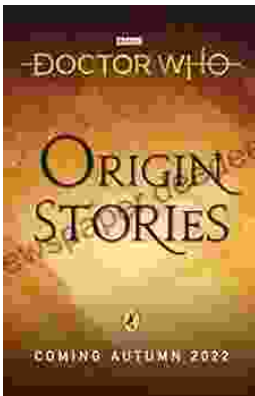
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