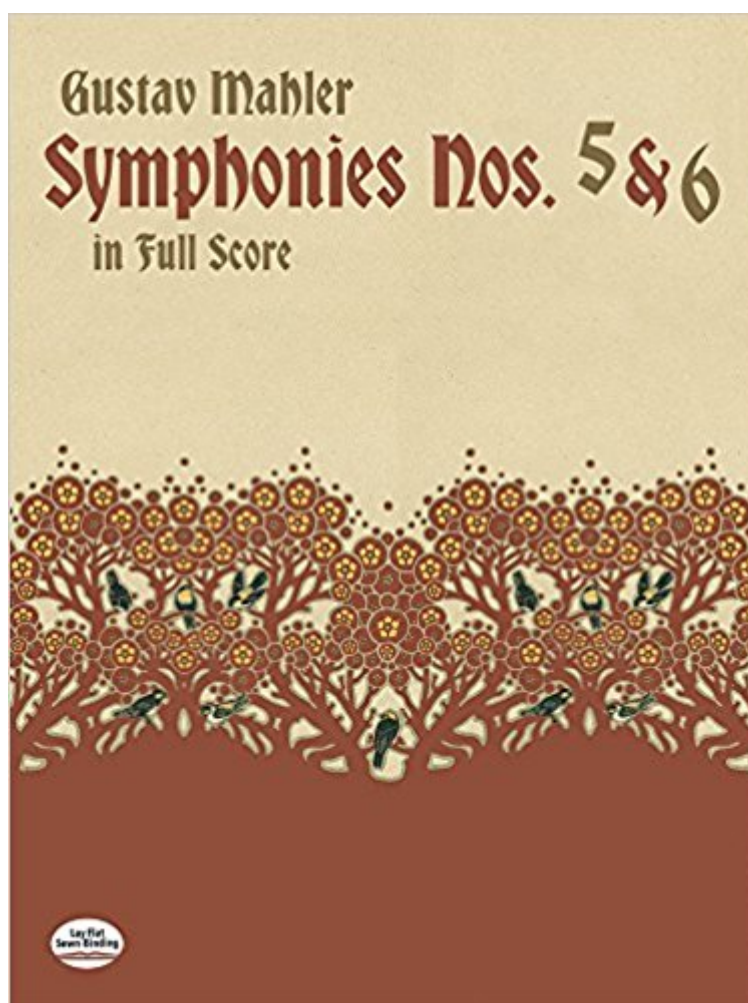


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Symphonies Nos. 5 And 6 In Full Score (Dover Music Scores)



Synopsis

In his Fifth Symphony, Gustav Mahler (1860–1911) moved on from the song-oriented works of his "Wunderhorn" period to take up the challenges of the purely instrumental symphony. It was a move that brought to the fore the Austrian composer's genius for discovering fresh and convincing formal solutions for his musical aims. Without a specific dramatic "program" or narrative line, the Fifth Symphony moves forward in vivid, emotionally compelling musical shapes that begin in funereal gloom and build to climactic expressions of heroic triumph and ultimate joy. In his Sixth Symphony, Mahler continued to explore the potential of the instrumental symphony, but followed an opposite dramatic course to that of the Fifth, this time building to a series of shattering climaxes implying ultimate defeat and death. Both of these deeply moving works, composed between 1901 and 1906, are today among the most performed symphonic works in the orchestral repertoire. Both symphonies are reprinted here from authoritative full-score editions in a finely produced volume designed to provide a lifetime of enjoyment and study.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Austrian composer and conductor Gustav Mahler (1860–1911) wrote chiefly symphonies and Lieder. Late Romantic in style, his tempestuous works reflect the anxious mood of Europe at the turn of the 20th century. Because of his Jewish roots, the composer's music was suppressed by the Nazis but has enjoyed a steady revival over the past five decades.

If you can read a score and want to figure out how Mahler achieves his tonal textures as you're listening to a performance, a pocket score isn't much use; this one fills the bill. If you're more interested in posturing about which version of the various ones available is the most "authentic", a Dover score is at least cost-effective as a strawman. To me, it doesn't matter if all the notes aren't exactly the same as what I'm hearing as I go through it. This version is cleanly printed and handles nicely. I purchased it because I didn't like the one that the library had. Although I got it for the sixth, I'm looking forward to using it on the fifth someday downstream.

When I bought this book, I ignored the reviews of those that proclaimed the edition of 6th symphony in this volume is incorrect. I should have listened to them. Mahler reorchestrated this piece multiple times, but Dover uses the original edition. The orchestration of the sixth is significantly different in this edition than in the ones used in major recordings, making it obsolete for my purposes. I thus cannot use it to study the sound of the orchestration. If this is a factor in your decision to purchase a score of the Mahler 6, do not get this! Definitely do not get this if you are a conductor!!

Probably my favorite Mahler Symphony, his Symphony No. 5 was the first I ever saw performed. It's a fantastic work and, unlike his "Tragic" Symphony No. 6, the tragedy from the opening Funeral March is reconciled by the exuberant and boistrous finale. The very last section of the fourth movement to the end has a triumphant feel (and even sound and structure) reminiscent to Tschaikowsky's Symphonic finales. The Tragic 6th is a great piece to study, but, for me, can be very weary as the symphony does not more than briefly rise above melancholy. A great large score, the print is very readable and there a few translations for the German text (though, having a completely German version of the score, there are several instructions that have been left out). It lies flat on the desk or music stand, which is a great plus. Lastly, it's inexpensive, which makes it a must for Music students and I highly recommend it to professionals and listeners alike.

For the price, why not? To paraphrase Adorno, to understand a musical composition, you need to "read it with the score". Mahler is a brilliant composer; he is also an even more brilliant orchestrator.

notes are easy to read. The scores are large, so the book has several hundred pages....Overall a good bargain for such large works. The quality pretty good I think and the durability is about the best you could expect from paperback or softcover...The usual from Dover. No complaints here....I've

ordered scores from Dover for several years, and if nothing else, the quality is very consistent.

This is a great collection of the Mahler Symphonies, there are much better editions out there but for the price these are a good buy!

It's got all the notes and pages and things.

Great It fill all my expectationsThanks

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