Written by bluesever Tuesday, 26 January 2010 20:58 - Last Updated Sunday, 22 September 2013 21:07

Anton Bruckner – Symphony No.2 in C minor (Karajan) [1990]



I. Moderato II. Andante III. Scherzo: Mäßig schnell IV. Finale Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra Herbert von Karajan - conductor First released in 1982

Anton Bruckner's Symphony No. 2 in C minor was completed in 1872, and revised, like most of Bruckner's other symphonies, at various points thereafter.

It was composed after the Symphony No. 0 in D minor (which was itself composed after the Symphony No. 1 in C minor). It is the only "official" Bruckner symphony (that is to say, excluding No. 0) without a dedication: Franz Liszt tacitly rejected the dedication, and Richard Wagner chose the Symphony No. 3 in D minor instead. The premiere was given with Bruckner himself conducting in 1873.

Although the first performance of the Second Symphony on 26 October 1877 by the Vienna Philharmonic under Bruckner's baton was a great success, the composer's highly personal musical language was not understood and well-intentioned friends and patrons (such as Johann Herbeck) called for a revision. Performances and recordings of the first version, edited here by William Carragan on the basis of all available sources, offer the musical world fascinating insights into the genesis of this profoundly individual work. --- mwv.at

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