

Paul Hindemith's *Symphony in Bb*

International Music Program (IMP): Seminar for Wind Ensemble
12 December, 2020
17:00 (Italian Time); 9:00am MDT

Paul Hindemith (1895-1963)

- Historical Facts

- Germany & Early Musical Contributions (Amar-Hindemith String Quartet, active from 1921-1933)
- Donaueschingen Festival (Founded in 1921), first composers of the festival included Schoenberg, Berg, Webern, Hindemith, & Krenek
- *Konzertmusik für Blasorchester* (1926)
- Solo Sonatas & Emigration to the US (1937) via Switzerland (1938)
- Significance of *Matis der Maler* (1935-38)
- Becoming a US Citizen in 1946 & Yale University Years
- *Symphonia Serena* (1946), premiered by the Dallas Symphony Orchestra (2nd mvt, entitled “Geschwindmarsch,” a paraphrase of Beethoven’s “Yorck Marche in F” (all winds/brass percussion).

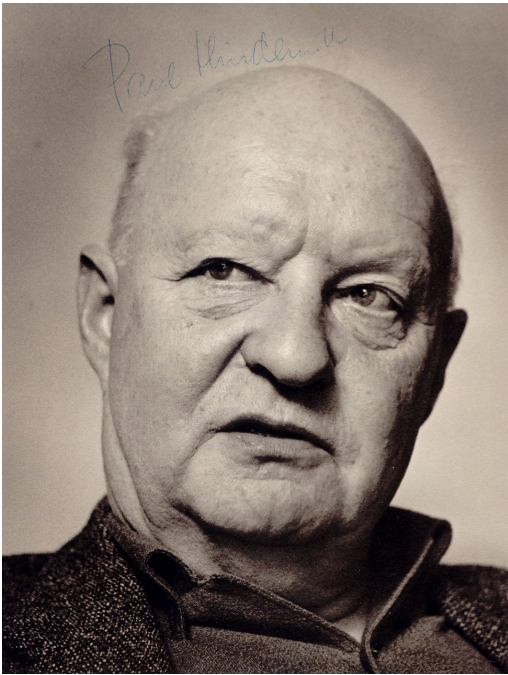
Hindemith's *Symphony in Bb*

- Written in 1951 for the US Army Band and Lt. Hugh Curry (conductor)—premiere performance was in Washington, DC on April 5, 1951 (2021 will be the 70th anniversary of this work!)
- Written in less than 3-month!
- Recordings by the Eastman Wind Ensemble (Frederick Fennell, conductor) in 1956 (1957), Philharmonia Orchestra (1958), and the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra (1959)
- **Neo-classicism** and Hindemith
- Transcript of Don Gillis Interview w/Hugh Curry in 1965 regarding the Hindemith *Symphony in Bb* (view)

Recordings of Hindemith's *Symphony in Bb*

- Eastman Wind Ensemble (Frederick Fennell, conductor)-1957/1958
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qu3uZ4Yurvc>
- Philharmonia Orchestra (Paul Hindemith, conductor)—1958
 - Mvt. 1: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=typXFKlpkgU>
 - Mvt. 2: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yiieECNjO9k>
 - MVt. 3: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aN9akaXwFi8>
- Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra (Paul Hindemith, conductor)--1959 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2TFwFRXr0fo>

Symphony in Bb (Score) & Interview Transcript (Lt. Hugh Curry)



Don Gillis Interviews Lt. Col. Hugh Curry, ABA Convention, March 2-7, 1965
American Bandmasters' Association Research Center, Special Collections in Performing Arts,
University of Maryland, College Park
Transcription by Christina Taylor Gibson

Don Gillis: This is a test, we're talking to Hugh Curry
(okay, let's start)
Hugh Curry: Well, I'm talking back at Don Gillis, how 'bout that? Does that look right? Right number of decades?
D.G.: This is interview number four for the American Bandmasters' Association projected radio show. I'm talking with Col. Hugh Curry, United States Army retired, former Band Director of the United States Army Band, of Ft. Meyer, Virginia in Washington, D.C. Col Curry, welcome to these microphones and thank you in advance for all of the wonderful contributions you, as director of one of the great service bands have made to the band of America!
H.C.: Well thank you very much Don Gillis, you're very kind.
D.G.: I'd like to know, I'm awfully busy on these interviews, Hugh, I'll tell you at the very outset... You come from New England, that's obvious in the way you speak, do you grow up just then.
H.C.: Gee, Don, I've been out of there for twenty years, I didn't know that it still showed.
(laughter)
D.G.: It still shows! What town in New England was it?
H.C.: Cambridge, Massachusetts.
D.G.: I saw a picture of you recently riding a horse in front of an Army Band, you were a band director?
H.C.: If you saw me riding a horse, you should get your glasses changed Don because I've never been on a horse in my life.
D.G.: Well, I'm sorry then.
H.C.: I think that...
D.G.: We'll cut this out of the tape and start again.
H.C.: I think that is our past president Checkley Whiting.
D.G.: How's that? That's one of the reasons I'm unsuccessful in this business...
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PAUL HINDEMITH

Symphony in B flat for Concert Band

1951

Miniature Score
Edition Schott 4068

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