

Recording Recommendations

Mariela Rodriguez-Bohannon

Because I believe that one of the best ways to learn about classical music is to listen to it, below is a list of *some* recordings that I recommend. I find them inspiring and very helpful in learning how to play the horn and how to make music.

I also believe that we should listen to *all* types of music. Whether it is classical, jazz, blues, country or foreign music, all music has something we can learn from.



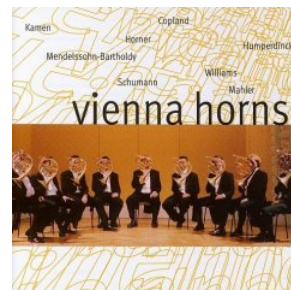
Horn Ensembles

The **Vienna Horns** chamber music ensemble, founded in 2002, is probably the only one of its kind in the world. Its members are the lead hornists of Austrian orchestras, and they all play exclusively the Vienna Horn in F, an instrument that is used only in Vienna and that is partly responsible for the distinctive *Vienna Sound*. The ensemble's repertoire includes not only original works and virtuoso arrangements of film music, but also works rooted in unsophisticated Austrian folk culture and contemporary compositions that show off the instrument's warm, dark sound. This is definitely one of my favorite horn ensembles.

Vienna Horns

Robin Hood Prince of Thieves
Fanfare for the Common Man
Titanic
Olympic Fanfare and Theme
Abendsegen ("Hänsel und Gretel")
Konzertstück
Nocturne
Ich bin der Welt abhanden gekommen

Michael Kamen,
Aaron Copland
James Horner
John Williams
Engelbert Humperdinck
Robert Schumann
Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy
Gustav Mahler.



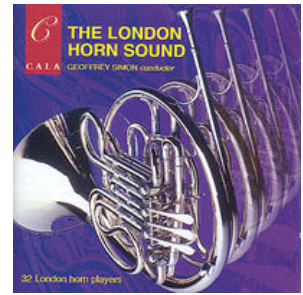
Lebenszeichen

Festival Fanfare
Auf in den Kampf ("Carmen")
The Battle of Stirling Bridge
Hänsel und Gretel
Quartett in B- Dur, op.28
Farewell to Red Castle
Fledermaus Suite
Der Hölle Rache ("Zauberflöte")
Gemsveilchen Walzer
Egmont Ouvertüre

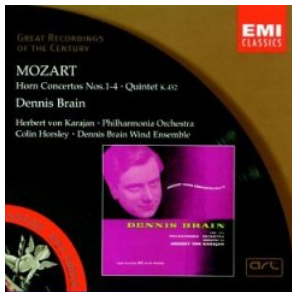
Nicholas J. Perrini
Georges Bizet
Florian Janezic
Engelbert Humperdinck
Gottfried August Homilius
Kerry Turner
Johann Strauss
Wolfgang A. Mozart
Anton Wunderer
Ludwig van Beethoven



The **London Horn Sound** builds on the extraordinary tradition of French Horn playing in London (formerly the home to the talents of Dennis Brain, Alan Civil and Barry Tuckwell) and brings together, for the first time, today's generation of world-class London-based players, which includes Richard Bissell, Nigel Black, Anthony Halstead, Frank Lloyd, David Pyatt, Hugh Seenan, Michael Thomson and Richard Watkins. From Mozart to Queen, Rossini to Ellington, with a tip of the hat to film music with James Horner's fantasy from the box office smashing epic movie "Titanic," complemented by deft and sensitive arrangements this is a truly unique showcase for the cream of the London crop.



Solo Horn



Mozart: Horn Concertos Nos. 1-4: Dennis Brain was one of the greatest horn players of all time. Perhaps no other collection of performances better exemplifies his delicate touch than this recording from 1954. When listening to these recordings I feel as though this is exactly how Mozart wanted them to sound, and that Dennis Brain was truly born to play them. Some of these passages are very difficult to play, but Brain makes them appear absolutely effortless and graceful. Despite the age of the recording, the sound is crisp and clean, making repeated listening enjoyment assured. I highly recommend it.

Mozart: Horn Concertos; Oboe Concerto

This is another recording that I highly recommend of the 4 Mozart Concerti – this is *a must-have!*

Alan Civil is the performer here, and his playing is brilliantly free of pretense, openly fresh, spontaneous, and his balance of humor and poignancy is exceptional.



Other players I recommend to listen to are: Herman Baumann (great solo player!), John Cerminaro (Principal horn with the Seattle Symphony and former Principal horn with the New York Philharmonic), Stefan Dohr (First Horn with the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra), Barry Tuckwell (former Principal Horn with the London Symphony Orchestra), Michael Thompson (former Principal Horn with the Philharmonia Orchestra) and Wolfgang Tomboeck (Principal Horn, Vienna Philharmonic). These players had recorded many works for horn and piano, horn and orchestra and /or chamber music.



The Art of the Vienna Horn

Horn Sonata in F major, Op 17

Auf dem Strom, D943

Adagio and Allegro in A flat major, Op 70

Trio in E flat major, for piano, violin and horn, Op 40

Ludwig van Beethoven

Franz Schubert

Robert Schuman

Johannes Brahms

The Vienna Horn is so called because of its widespread use, even today, in Vienna. But in fact it's not at all uncommon elsewhere: even Yamaha produces them, distributing them worldwide. And many players – but only confident professionals! – and orchestras insist on them for the core Romantic repertory. It differs from what has become the standard horn (the so-called double horn) by having a single length of tubing, giving the harmonic series of F: the double horn allows the player to switch in, by means of a fourth valve, a shorter length of tubing in B flat enabling much more secure delivery of high-lying notes. The high

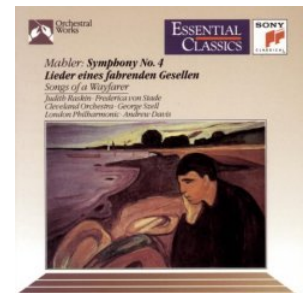
price double-horn players pay, a Vienna horn player will tell you, is the tone quality of the smaller 'half' of the instrument - like going from grand to upright? Because the notes of the B flat harmonic series are further apart, there is a loss in its singing range of the characteristic lip-controlled legato.
Peter J Lawson

Orchestral Music



This CD, **Orchestral Excerpts for Horn**, provides a wonderful opportunity to listen to the technical and interpretational qualities that are needed to play in a top notch professional orchestra. Provides comments on how to play each excerpt. I may or may not agree with some of his playing but it is really an exceptional CD to have as guidance for today's world of audition playing.

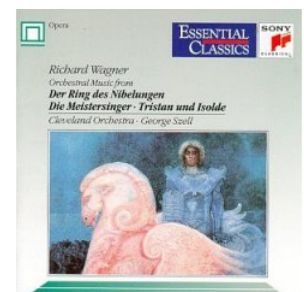
This compact disc includes Gustav Mahler's *Symphony No. 4* recorded in 1965. The Cleveland Orchestra has always had a reputation for phenomenal accuracy and brilliance, and George Szell (the conductor) harnesses these qualities to give an almost supernaturally clear account of Mahler's score. *I love it!*



This CD contains works by Richard Strauss: *Also Sprach Zarathustra*, *Till Eulenspiegels lustige Streiche*, and *Don Juan* New York Philharmonic, Leonard Bernstein, Conductor Listen especially to *Till Eulenspiegels lustige Streiche*. James Chambers is the principal hornist in this recording . This is another *must-have recording* for anyone wanting to learn the "Grand" style of horn playing.

Richard Wagner: Orchestral Music from
Der Ring des Nibelungen, Die Meistersinger and Tristan und Isolde
Cleveland Orchestra, George Szell, Conductor

Every aspiring horn player should have this recording to be exposed to a great interpretation of Wagner's music to the Ring. Myron Bloom is the principal horn here and plays every mayor excerpt in this recording with the powerful sound required for Wagner.



Other Music

Michael Bublé



This CD contains the following songs: *Fever, Moondance, Kissing A Fool, For Once In My Life, How Can You Mend A Broken Heart, Summer Wind, You'll Never Find Another, Crazy Thing Called Love, Put Your Head On My Shoulder, Sway, The Way You Look Tonight , Come Fly With Me, That's All*
I just *love* Michael Buble...I have almost *all* his CDs. My husband is getting very annoyed about it, but its OK, he likes his singing too. It is sort of like a modern Frank Sinatra (*love* him too. I learn a lot about phrasing!).