

Joseph Marx

(1882–1964)

Master of
romantic impressionism



Visit the official website
of the Joseph Marx Society:
joseph-marx-society.org

"There is no composer better served on the internet."
(Michael J. A. Brough)

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The Joseph Marx Society has its own website:

joseph-marx-society.org



Austria's leading contemporary composers
and the author of this website founded the
Joseph Marx Society

(English translation by Berkant Haydin)

On April 1st, 2006, the inaugural meeting of the first Joseph Marx

Society in history took place in Vienna. **Berkant Haydin**, the author of this website who had registered the society at the Austrian authorities in March, founded the Joseph Marx Society **with Austria's leading composers and music officials**: Friedrich Cerha -who has completed and orchestrated Alban Berg's opera "Lulu"- with his wife Gertraud, the celebrated composer Kurt Schwertsik, the influential Austrian music critic and Marx pupil Peter Vujica, Haide Tenner (President of the Vienna RSO), Eric Marinitsch (Promotion and Marketing Director of Universal Edition), Heinz Prammer (European Cultural Services) and Robert Hanzlik (a renowned music researcher).

The inaugural meeting started with a speech by Berkant Haydin, author of this website and General Secretary of the Society. Later on, the two leading contemporary composers of Austria, **Friedrich Cerha and Kurt Schwertsik**, honored Joseph Marx as one of the most significant figures of Austrian 20th century music.

Friedrich Cerha who knew Joseph Marx personally and met him many times, pointed out Marx's central position in Austrian music history and **called Joseph Marx a major authority of Austrian music**. He emphasized Marx's qualities as a **highly ingenious and eloquent music teacher and critic and pointed out Marx's reputation as a composer of a large number of gorgeous orchestral and choral works**. Cerha told a couple of anecdotes of his encounters with Joseph Marx and recalled an experience that he had in the 1950s when he (Cerha), as a 30 year old composer, came across a copy of the gigantic score of the Autumn Symphony (Herbstsymphonie) in a Viennese library and then spent hours admiring the unbelievable complexity of this work.

Kurt Schwertsik who studied with Marx in the 1950s, called his teacher an **internationally respected, undisputed head of Viennese musical life** and told a lot of amusing anecdotes from Joseph Marx's lectures as a music teacher.


Further famous members of the Joseph Marx Society are **Thomas Hampson** (one of today's most celebrated baritones), **Rob Barnett** (British Music Society and MusicWeb International), **Michel Fleury** (French musicologist, critic and author), **John Wood** (renowned American poet and author), **Martin Sieghart** (Austrian conductor), the Marx pupil **Gernot Gruber** who is one of today's leading Mozart experts, and **Wilhelm Sinkovicz**, President of the Franz Schmidt Society.

The Joseph Marx Society came out of Berkant Haydin's active years as the world's most diligent Marx fan. The Society wants to remind the public of Joseph Marx's outstanding position in 20th century late romanticism, bring his yet underrated orchestral and choral works back to the concert halls and consolidate his well-deserved reputation as one of the most fascinating symphonists on the international classical music CD market.

The members of the **executive committee** of the Joseph Marx Society are: **Kurt Schwertsik** (President), **Peter Vujica** (1st Vice President), **Stefan Esser** (2nd Vice President), **Berkant Haydin** (General Secretary).

The Joseph Marx Society will present its own website soon, with all the required information about the activities of the Marx Society and useful information for everybody who would like to become a member or just support the Society by a kind donation. **All music lovers who have enjoyed Joseph Marx's previously released CDs are invited to support the Marx Society with their invaluable contribution.**

In case of requests of all kinds please contact the General Secretary, Berkant Haydin, at his email:

Email:  office@joseph-marx.org

Donations account of the Joseph Marx Society in Vienna:

Transfers within Austria:

- Bank Austria Creditanstalt (BA-CA), Wien

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Who was Joseph Marx?

One of the remaining mysteries of music history is why Joseph Marx, titled "**the leading force of Austrian music**" by William Furtwaengler in 1952, is no longer counted among the great composers of the 20th century. The Styrian composer received an **enormous number of honors and awards** over the course of his long life, but he was also held in high esteem as one of the most active music officials, composition teachers and critics of the mid-European late Romantic era. As numerous surviving contemporaries can confirm, he even occupied a key position in the Viennese music scene over several decades. Thus it is not surprising that the Ataturk government called him to Turkey in 1932, where he acted as first advisor on the development of Turkish music and concert life, and where he also helped to build up the Turkish conservatory (later, Hindemith and Bartok stepped in). His surviving students recall that Marx, whose friends were famous contemporaries like Puccini, Szymanowsky and many others, also had extensive knowledge in the areas of literature, art and sciences. **His entire student body "adored and admired him like a semi-God"**. His reputation as Austria's leading musical authority soon spread to all corners of the earth, and young musicians from all over the world made the long journey to Austria, to receive instruction by Marx who had also made a name for himself as the composer of many internationally famous songs. And this is where the origin of the extraordinary career of Joseph Marx lies.

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Born in 1882 in Graz as the son of a doctor and a female pianist, Marx was fascinated from an early age with poetry as an art form and also had an **intense relationship with nature** (throughout his life, he maintained a close affinity with nature). On the musical side, in his younger years he was greatly influenced by **Debussy and Scriabin**, both of whom he deeply admired. Following the composition of numerous organ and piano pieces and a couple of trio and quartet works that he arranged himself around the turn of the century (to date unpublished but in those days partly performed with great success), Marx concentrated mainly on piano songs which he accompanied himself. He was, incidentally, also a **brilliant pianist**. Even in the last decade of his life, he was still able to easily perform even the most difficult piano pieces, by heart, and he often demonstrated this skill during his lessons.

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At the age of 25, while performing at a Lieder evening, Marx met the singer **Anna Hansa** (1877-1967) who stemmed from one of the best families of Graz. Anna Hansa had many contacts to musicians and artists. She had opened a café in Graz that introduced a new concept: It acted as a point of cultural exchange among various artists and also as a locale for musical performance evenings. His initial friendship, and later his life-long love for Anna, changed Joseph Marx's life forever. An established singer, she performed the promising young composer's Lieder and thus helped him to make his final breakthrough as the **most-performed song composer of Styria**.

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Joseph Marx's thinking was initially influenced by the epistemologist **Alexius von Meinong** (1853-1920) and later also by his friendship with **Vittorio Benussi** (1878-1927, one of von Meinong's famous students), an experimental psychologist with whom he extensively discussed the psychological mysteries of music. Eventually, he became convinced that tonality was a natural law and, as such, an irrevocably unity with the heart and spirit of man. This has been impressively documented in his literary work "Weltsprache Musik" ("Music - A universal language"). A close friendship with the poet **Anton Wildgans** (1881-1932) and also his own studies in **philosophy, art history, German language/culture and archaeology** at Graz University finally rounded off Joseph Marx's education as a **highly sophisticated man**.

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His 1909 dissertation "About the function of intervals, harmony and melody in the comprehension of tone complexes" attracted great attention and by 1912, he had already composed 120 songs, some of which had been very successful in Austria. In 1914, he was offered a **professorship of music theory at Vienna University's Music Academy**, where he taught from then onward. There, Schreker and other famous contemporaries were among his colleagues. In 1922, he succeeded Ferdinand Löwe as director of the Academy and later became director of the **Music College**. Following his time as **advisor to the Turkish government** (1932-33), Joseph Marx became a music **critic** for the Neues Wiener Journal (New Vienna Journal) in the Thirties and later worked in the same field for the Wiener Zeitung. During his time of teaching in Vienna and at Graz University, he taught a total of **1255 students from all over the world**. He did not finish teaching until approximately the mid-fifties, when he had already made history, not only as one of the most important representatives of classical music in Austria, but also as the most influential opponent of the New Viennese School. With his oppositional stance, Marx found himself in good company. Aside from his Austrian fellow-opponents (among them Wilhelm Kienzl, Alois Melichar und Franz Schmidt), he also received active support from abroad. **Frederick Delius**, for instance, one of England's musical counterparts of Marx, called Schoenberg's progressive style an "atonal ugliness". Yet, among those opponents to the modernists, Marx was certainly - leastwise in the middle European parts - the most conspicuous and active one. His sharp wit, applied not only in his function as critic and teacher against the Schoenberg circle but also as **jury member** in several national and international competitions, never spared any of the young atonal-polytonal composers.

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Aside from his early outpouring of Lieder, Joseph Marx wrote several **popular choral works** (among them the orchestral works "Autumn Chorus for Pan" and "Morning Chant"), as well as some **exquisite solo piano and chamber music** (among them three string and three piano quartets, two violin sonatas, one piano trio, several works for cello and piano and some chamber pieces with voice). Additionally, he left behind a **comprehensive orchestral oeuvre**, including the Romantic Piano Concerto, completed in 1919, as well as **his major work, the Autumn Symphony (1920/21)** which could rather be described as a rhapsody of near gigantic proportion. Further, there is the Nature Trilogy including three stunning symphonic poems, a second piano concerto titled Castelli Romani and many more.

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Within the international composers' community, Marx was held in high esteem. For instance, the prolific Russian-Canadian composer Sophie Carmen Eckhardt-Grammaté (1902-74) once said about him that his music had **"defined the entire era"**. Also, no less a man than Nikolaj Medtner (1880-1951), one of the most influential members of Moscow's famous circle of composers in the late 19th Century which included masters such as Sergej Tanejew, Alexander Skrjabin und Sergej Rachmaninov, wrote in a letter to Marx on November 4th, 1949: "My meeting with you was an unexpected gift and also a sign showing that everything that is unexpected, fantastic and ETERNALLY romantic does still exist, despite all the efforts of the contemporary 'leaders' of art who strive to eradicate these values."

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In view of such evident verification of his skills, we must ask why this widely renowned composer has been so undeservedly neglected. One of the main reasons might well be the mistaken belief that Marx had been an ultraconservative, even a backward composer - a claim that cannot be substantiated by anyone undertaking the detailed study of Marx's full oeuvre, especially when compared to the composers of his time who were more famous but similar in style. In his capacity as a high-ranking music functionary and critic, and without doubt as a traditionalist and one of the great protectors of tonality, Marx was very prominent and successful in setting the Viennese tone of the time. As such, he has never made a secret of his **admiration for the founding fathers of music** (Mozart, Schumann, Bach, Haydn etc.). In several of his own works - "Old Vienna Serenades" of 1941, for instance - he used variations of their well-known and lesser-known themes and incorporated motifs of Carl Michael Ziehrer, Joseph Haydn and others. One can also examine his string quartets in modo antico and in modo classico, arranged for string orchestra, where Marx paid homage to his role models in a most impressive manner. With his music, Marx certainly also meant to make available an **instructive guideline for young composers**, and he succeeded. The classicist works from his final creative period, just like his works stemming from his first outpouring of Lieder, have **influenced an entire generation of musicians**, as is confirmed by numerous letters to Marx and by other important documents. The great cellist Pablo Casals, for instance, once said that Marx was "absolutely indispensable for maintaining the musical culture of the future", and also that the "non-musique of particular famous contemporaries" was "certain to fail".

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It should never be forgotten that the **essential purpose of music** is not to separate people but to give them **pleasure**. And this is what Joseph Marx unquestionably intended to do. The vast melodiousness and refined harmonies of his scores mirror the versatile, sparkling essence of this composer. A profound lyricist and yearning optimist, he wants to share his bottomless joy of life with others. Thus, as a *poet of happiness*, Joseph Marx who died at the age of 82 in 1964, occupies a very special place in music history and as such also deserves a corresponding presence in the world's concert programs.

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Translated from the German by Tess Crebbin

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Biography

"The genuine work of art is as organic as a tree developing out of a seed, growing, blooming; its splendour is natural yet intangible, a thousand fragments joining, and yet of unimaginable beauty beyond description..." (Joseph Marx)

"How could such a major composer fall into oblivion?"

(Riccardo Chailly, conductor)

"Joseph Marx is the leading force of Austrian music."

(Wilhelm Furtwängler, conductor, in 1952)

Joseph Marx's life briefly:

- 1909: Graduated as Doctor of Philosophy at Graz University and published prize-winning dissertations on the psychological fundamentals of tonality and harmony
- 1906-12: Composed approx. 150 songs, many of which were performed by the greatest divas and singers of the 20th century
- 1911-46: Composed a huge number of orchestral and choral works that were premiered and conducted by the Maestros of his era (Ferdinand Löwe, Clemens Krauss, Arthur Nikisch, Fritz Reiner, Karl Etti, Robert Heger, Karl Böhm and others)
- 1914-52: Professor of music theory, harmony, counterpoint and composition at Vienna University
- 1922-24: Chief of the Vienna Academy of Music and Performing Arts in succession to Ferdinand Löwe
- 1924-27: Rector of Austria's first University of Music in Vienna (founded by himself)
- 1947-52: Professor of musicology at Graz University
- Having had more than 1,255 students (in Vienna alone), he was one of the most active and most influential music teachers of the 20th century (similar to Nadia Boulanger)
- 1932-33: First advisor to the Turkish government on the modern re-organization of the Turkish conservatory and concert system
- Over almost two decades he represented Austria as a jury member in international competitions of composition
- Over almost three decades he was one of Austria's most influential essayists and critics (working for Vienna's leading newspapers and music magazines)
- During the last two decades of his life, he was president of the leading institutions of Austrian musical life such as Association of Austrian Composers, Mozart Society, AKM, Society for the Publication of Monuments of Music, Association of the Music Teachers of Austria, Association of the Critics of Vienna and many others
- Winner of the Great Silver Decoration of the Republic of Austria (1928)
- Winner of the Great Austrian Price of State (1950), the highest price that can be awarded to a composer in Austria (Marx was the first winner of this price)
- Winner of the Vienna Music Price (1952)
- Winner of the Great Decoration of Science and Arts (1957)
- Honorary President of the "Fédération Internationale des Sociétés d'Auteurs et Compositeurs" (1960)
- Honorary President of the Association of Styrian Musicians
- Name-giver (1947) to the "Joseph Marx Music Price of Styria"
- Honorary member of the Academy of Sciences
- Member of the Austrian UNESCO commission
- Honorary citizenship and honorary ring of the cities of Vienna and Graz
- Honorary member of the Vienna Konzerthaus Society
- Honorary member of the "Gesellschaft der Musikfreunde" and "Musikverein für Steiermark" and honorary doctor of the Universities of Music and Performing Arts of Vienna and Graz

Joseph Rupert Rudolf Marx (sometimes incorrectly spelled Josef Marx) was born 11 May 1882 in Graz/Austria. He first studied music with his mother, then was educated at Johann Buwa's piano school where - among many others - Hugo Wolf had also been a student. There he was also taught to play the



violin and meanwhile autodidactically learned the cello too. His first exercises in composition date from his time at secondary school when he began to arrange pieces for trio or quartet from existing themes. In the meantime he had also become a member of the piano school's ensemble as a piano accompanist. His parents forbade him to play the piano but he found other ways to realise his love for music. It was at this time that he began to compose his first piano pieces and to perform them with the ensemble of his music school. Before having finished secondary school he planned (or pretended?) to become a watchmaker while he was thinking of starting an education in photography, but then he turned back to secondary school and finally finished his studies. At Graz University he attended courses in philosophy and art history after having followed for only one year his father's wish that he should read law. This decision produced a break between him and his family. Nevertheless, his strong interest in music made him continue to compose at the age of 26 so that within only four years (1908-12) he wrote around 120 songs. His name became known in Vienna, where in 1914 he was offered the post of professor of theory at the music academy. In 1922 he became director of the academy, and he was rector (1924-27) when the institution was reorganized as a Hochschule für Musik. He then acted as adviser to the Turkish government in



laying the foundations of a conservatory in Ankara (1932-33). From 1931 to 1938 he was music critic for the Neues Wiener Journal and after World War 2 he worked in the same capacity for the Wiener Zeitung; during World War 2 Marx was the most frequently performed composer in Austria which becomes apparent in the fact that he has later been president, chairman or honorary member of many important Austrian music associations and societies over two decades until he died 3 Sept 1964 in Graz at the age of 82. During his 43 years as a teaching professor in composition, harmony and counterpoint Marx had 1255 students from all over the world many of which later achieved national and worldwide fame as composers, conductors, soloists, musicologists etc. As Marx enjoyed great popularity and much respect during his lifetime, there is no question that he had an immense impact on at least two generations of musicians in the 20th century.

NEW

[Click here to view a more detailed biography that I wrote for a small music publisher](#)

Interesting personal details about Joseph Marx



Joseph Marx was a tall and rather strongly built man. He was considered an excellent pianist who used to accompany his own compositions on the piano with often quite demanding piano parts until old age, electrifying critics and audience alike. His students, acquaintances and colleagues described him as an out-and-out individualist and, at the same time, as an open and frank man with a philosophical background and a subtle sense of humour. He was always described as witty and eloquent and as someone who knew how to express his thoughts brilliantly. That is why his lessons were given in a stimulating and humorous atmosphere where he sometimes told anecdotes about his encounters with many renowned composers whom he knew or had known personally (for example Puccini, Szymanowski,

Franz Schmidt). The course of his lessons was characterized by improvisation: The students were not allowed to take notes in order to develop an intuitive over a mechanical understanding and practical application. He used to further the talents of his students in an almost imperceptible way and corrected them only if they committed technical mistakes. It is also known that Marx gave private lessons to many of his students in need of additional support, even in his spare time and without demanding any fee. Despite his very critical attitude towards the atonal avant-garde he also praised compositions of young modernists provided that they could be assigned at least to some extent to tonal music. He was respected by students and colleagues alike, even by those advocating a very different musical style. In this context it may be noted that many of his students coming from different parts of the globe later achieved national and worldwide fame in their respective musical line. The fact that the total estate of letters to Marx consisted of 14589 pieces from 3420 correspondents (!), including a host of well-known persons, should be a clear indication of the popularity and the renown of Joseph Marx who due to several unfortunate circumstances fell into oblivion after his death.



Compositional style

The unique "**Marx sound**" reminds the listener of **Debussy, Scriabin, Delius, Ravel, Respighi, J. Jongen, Vladigerov, Reger, Schreker, R. Strauss, Korngold, Brahms, Mahler** and **Bruckner** but is in the end totally his own. Regarding his Lieder for which he became famous (these were mainly composed before he was 30 years of age) he is said to be the rightful successor to **Hugo Wolf**. The southern atmosphere in many of his works has its origin from his mother who was half Italian half Slav. Marx was a **late romantic impressionist** whose musical inspiration was nourished by his *deep and spiritual tie to Mother Nature* to whom he wrote so many *glorious hymns of love*. This is why the mood of his music is so sensuous, optimistic and even hedonistic, a work of art created by a happy man who wants to share his delight with others.



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Photographs of the house in Vienna where Marx lived from 1915 to 1964 and some photographs of his grave of honour at the Vienna Central Cemetery

The following photographs were shot by Martin Rucker on April 1, 2003.





"In this house lived the composer Joseph Marx from 1915 to 1964. Dedicated by the Mozartgemeinde (Mozart Society), Vienna 1965."

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NEW

Many more photos of places in Austria where Marx lived and worked can be found [here...](#)

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT MARX'S FATE AS ONE OF THE MOST UNDERRATED MASTERS OF TWENTIETH CENTURY'S MUSIC READ THE FOLLOWING CHAPTERS.

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The adventure begins...



In February 2000 I came across a CD that was part of Hyperion's "The Romantic Piano Concerto" series (Vol. 18, Hyperion CDA66990). It included two piano concertos by Joseph Marx (Josef Marx) and Erich Wolfgang Korngold one of which impressed me in a way that no music had managed before: The Romantisches Klavierkonzert (Romantic Piano Concerto) by Joseph Marx. After having heard this gorgeous late romantic concerto I began to search for recordings of other orchestral works by Marx but when I began to browse through the existing commercial offerings of Marx works I was truly disappointed since the above mentioned piano concerto was the ONLY orchestral work by Marx available at all. There are a number of recordings of his songs with piano, these appear in the Etcetera and FY Solstice labels. The CD booklet of the Hyperion CD written by Brendan Carroll briefly gave some highly interesting information on a number of Marx's orchestral works but these also were unavailable on the international market. Hence, I gave up searching.

Some weeks later, a good friend from England (a collector) sent me a tape cassette with a recording of *Marx's 2nd piano concerto* Castelli Romani for Piano and Orchestra that he had received from someone who had taped a German radio broadcast. This recording now ranks as one of the Top 5 of my entire

piano concerto collection that currently includes more than 1,500 works. The "Castelli Romani" definitely is an outstanding work of impressionistic romanticism and dazzling beauty. Several audio samples of this brilliant 2nd piano concerto, but also of many other unknown orchestral Marx works are available at this website.



After having heard the "Castelli Romani", I decided to locate recordings of all other orchestral works by Marx. In the meantime, ASV Records, Pavane Records and FY Solstice released CDs with a part of the Marx chamber works (it seems that Marx's few other chamber works might be issued soon). But regarding his orchestral works - especially his **Herbstsymphonie** that is mentioned in the booklets of all available Marx CDs - I was still groping in the dark...

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In quest of the legendary HERBSTSYMPHONIE (Autumn Symphony)

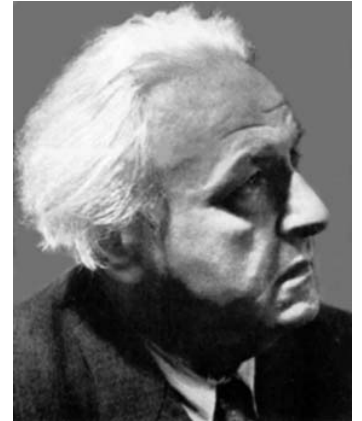


Brendan Carroll wrote that the most important orchestral works of Joseph Marx (Josef Marx) have never been recorded (liner notes of Hyperion CDA66990). Indeed, only a handful of radio broadcasts have been made in the last 70 years as I know from my own research. Michel Fleury who wrote the



booklet articles for the few other commercial Marx CDs also seems to know these deplorable facts. Nevertheless, I had the feeling that there might somewhere exist recordings of Marx's orchestral works and especially of the *Herbstsymphonie*. I was somehow sure that if recordings did exist I would find them.

First I began to search the World Wide Web but I failed since there is almost no useful information about Marx's orchestral works in the whole Internet! Could it really be possible that none of Marx's orchestral works apart from the Romantic Piano Concerto had ever been recorded? In order to get an answer I decided to call the Austrian Radio Station ORF in Vienna. This turned out to be a good decision since the ORF (who has different state studios of which all have their own archive) indeed had recordings of a major part of Marx's orchestral and chamber works. I was overwhelmed by the list of works that was read out to me from the archive database. I ordered all recordings of every work for chamber and orchestral ensemble that the Viennese radio station had in its archive. Then I asked the key question: "Could you please check your archive for a work named **Herbstsymphonie** (or Herbstsinfonie / Herbst-Sinfonie / Herbst-Symphonie as it is sometimes spelled)?" I was so excited and highly expectant. Then the voice at the other end of the line said "No, I can't find anything like that". This was



truly disappointing to me but at the same time I had the idea to call the ORF state studio in Marx's hometown Graz which could well have had a recording. My phone call to the ORF archive in Graz indicated that they also had no recording of the *Herbstsymphonie*. At least I was able to order a few other orchestral and chamber works that the Viennese archive didn't have. The other ORF studios had nothing else of interest.

However, this was the beginning of the most extensive phone call campaign that I had ever made in my life.

I called a very large number of eligible archives, universities, music societies, orchestras, musicologists, conductors, historians, discographers, lexicographers, pianists and besides many other persons who are familiar with the Austrian music scene, but I also spoke to some of Marx's living pupils



and friends or to their descendants, among these the grand-daughter of the famous singer **Anna Hansa** (1877-1967) who has been Marx's lifetime romance and partner over five decades and to whom Marx had **dedicated his *Herbstsymphonie***. (Marx himself never had any children and there are no other direct relatives.) Unfortunately none of them could provide a recording of the *Herbstsymphonie*; for the most part they had never even heard the name of this work!



Anna Hansa

I contacted the Universal Edition, the main publisher of Marx's scores. Of course they also had no recording of any of Marx's orchestral works. Now I

understood that calling the ORF studios had been the very best idea that I could have had. Nonetheless I asked the Universal Edition if the score of the Herbstsymphonie has ever been loaned. They just saw a curious entry in their database and gave me the phone number of the famous German publisher Schott in Mainz who then gave me the information that the score had obviously been loaned out in 1990 but this turned out to be nothing but a wrong entry in the computer as I discovered several phone calls later - one of which was with a German classical music producer in Mombasa/Kenya!

After that I called the Austrian National Library in Vienna. Their music division had indeed two other orchestral works that even the ORF did not have - of course I ordered them. In the meantime I had been hearing the first batch of recordings from Austria and was deeply impressed: ***How could such great music be that unknown and totally forgotten? How could a composer who obviously was one of the most approachable composers of the 20th century be that neglected? And what is more, how could his Herbstsymphonie that is Marx's major work due to all sources to which I had access later, be the most forgotten work among his orchestral masterpieces?***



Joseph Marx at his home in Vienna, Traungasse 6 (1963).

For more photos of this house [please click here](#)

I was hoping to get answers to these questions by reading all the biographies and writings about Joseph Marx that were mentioned in other books and in the Internet (which was rather problematic since his name is sometimes incorrectly spelled Josef Marx). The first book that I received was a doctoral thesis about Joseph Marx written by Dr. Andreas Holzer from Vienna University. This dissertation is the latest and by all means the most comprehensive writing about Joseph Marx. Of course it can't be compared with Andreas Liess's biography since Liess was one of Marx's friends and pupils but it is still the most extensive information source compiled by a person who was not part of Marx's circle of acquaintances as the writers of all other biographies had been.

In Dr. Holzer's thesis I eventually seemed to have found the reason why the Herbstsymphonie had disappeared from the concert programs.

The premiere was performed 5 Feb 1922 by the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Felix von Weingartner, as part of the "Philharmonic Concerts" series. The dress rehearsal was disturbed by a circle of saboteurs who used whistles and evidently didn't want the symphony to be successfully performed, and the same happened at the premiere. This divided the audience into three groups: those who loudly whistled in order to disturb the performance, those who were overwhelmed by the euphony of the music and cheered and applauded in order to express their enthusiasm and to drown out the troublemakers, and the rest who just tried to be able to hear the music. Visitors even reported acts of physical violence between the two factions of the audience during a tumult that lasted about fifteen minutes. Unfortunately even Marx himself didn't know exactly which circles were responsible for all that trouble as he wrote in one of his private letters.

Several articles in newspapers and music magazines described the symphony as a work that naturally had to tear the audience apart:

"A masterly thematic and polyphonic work that sometimes makes use of Schreker techniques ..."

("Musikblätter des Anbruchs", 1923/5, p. 156)

"... an extremely large, even monstrous work with sometimes excessive sonority and polyphony ... masterly use of techniques ..."

("Wiener Morgenzeitung", 7 Feb 1922)

"... an unsymphonic symphony ... A too monstrous work of a lyricist who is wrapped up in his music ..."

("Wiener Zeitung", 5 June 1923)

In spite of the huge attention that the work had attracted in Vienna, its Viennese premiere must be evaluated as a flop. However, there are hints showing that Felix von Weingartner seemed not to be the "right one" to conduct the work as the premiere in Graz (26 Sep 1922) conducted by Clemens Krauss gave a totally different impression of the music so that the symphony was celebrated as perhaps no other symphonic work had ever been celebrated there before. One should note that this was not only influenced by the fact that Graz is Marx's hometown since all later Viennese performances of the Herbstsymphonie conducted by Clemens Krauss were greatly successful and the scandalous premiere of 1922 seemed to have been forgotten.

Wiener Konzerthaus-Gesellschaft

Freitag, den 18. Mai 1923, 7 Uhr abends
im Großen Saale des Wiener Konzerthauses

**Ausserordentliches
Orchester-Konzert**

Wiener Sinfonic-Orchester

Dirigent:
CLEMENS KRAUSS (Staatsoper)

Programm:

MOZART Sinfonie G-moll (Köch. Nr. 550).

JOSEPH MARX „Eine Herbst-Sinfonie“ in H.

1. Ein Herbstgesang (bewegt), H-moll.
2. Tanz der Miltagsgeister (sehr rasch), Es-dur.
3. Herbstgedanken (ruhig), D-dur.
4. Ernte und Einkehr (sehr bewegt), D-dur, später H.

*

Preis 3000 Kronen.

One additional note: In 1927 the Herbstsymphonie was not performed completely anymore. Marx had meantime decided that the fourth movement ("Ein Herbstpoem"; original title: "Ernte und Einkehr") should be performed as an independent work. This movement is the only one of the four movements that begins after a break while the first three movements of the symphony must be performed without a break.

VEREIN WIENER TONKÜNSTLER-ORCHESTER

Donnerstag, den 6. und Freitag, den 7. Dezember 1923,

7 Uhr abends

im Großen Musikvereins-Saale

II. ordentliches

Abonnement-Konzert

Dirigent:

Konzertdirektor

PROF. CLEMENS KRAUSS

(STAATSOPIER)

Ausführende:

Das WIENER SINFONIE-ORCHESTER

Programm:

HAYDN Sinfonie Nr. VII, C-dur.

P A U S E

JOSEF MARX „Eine Herbst-Sinfonie“ in H.

1. Ein Herbstgesang (bewegt), H-moll.

2. Tanz der Mittagsgeist (sehr rasch), Es-dur.

3. Herbstgedanken (ruhig), D-dur.

4. Ernte und Einkehr (sehr bewegt), D-dur.
später H.

VORANZEIGEN:

Nächstes außerordentliches Konzert unter Leitung von Konzertdirektor

WILHELM FURTWÄNGLER

Donnerstag, den 13. und Freitag, den 14. Dezember 1923

P R O G R A M M:

1. WEBER Operette zu „Präciosa“

2. SCHUPLANN Sinfonie Nr. 4, D-moll.

3. IGOR STRAWINSKY „Le sacre du printemps“ (1. Teil, Uebersetzung
(Erste Aufführung in Wien).

NÄCHSTES II. ORDENTLICHES ABONNEMENTKONZERT

Donnerstag, den 17. und Freitag, den 18. Jänner 1924

BEGER Romantische Suite.

BRUCHNER II. Sinfonie, D-moll.

Leitung: Konzertdirektor Prof. CLEMENS KRAUSS, Dirigent der Staatsoper

Reservierte Karten im Sekretariat, Wiedner, Czerninggasse Nr. 4.

But why have Marx's other orchestral works also been neglected and forgotten in the following years? One can say that the Austrian music scene of the 1920s was generally divided into two factions: the tonal and the atonal music. Marx was one of the leading members of the tonal group, perhaps even the leading light of the Viennese music scene of that era as one can see from the numerous functions that he had in Vienna. Naturally there were a lot of Marx opponents among other music circles. After Marx's orchestral works had been quite frequently performed in the 1920s the interest in this kind of innovative but still tonal late romantic style began to wane. Seemingly as a reaction to this development, Marx then wrote his three famous string quartets of which the titles ("modo antico", "modo classico") tell much about his attitude towards the modernists.

As my search for a recording of the Herbstsymphonie went on I found a website where the names of all persons who had written letters to Marx are listed. This list was the reason for at least 50 additional phone calls, among which I also called Deutsche Grammophon, the most important German music archives and a couple of German discography experts. None of these could help me with locating a recording. Then I seemed to have found what I was searching for: A document of the Austrian National Library that gave short summaries of each letter written to Marx by Swiss composer and Marx pupil and friend Richard Flury. Here I found a letter in which Flury reported to Marx about the positive reactions to the performance of the symphony in his hometown in Switzerland. Was this a hint or even a proof for an existing recording in Switzerland? Couldn't it be possible that the symphony would have been performed in Switzerland in later years when recordings were frequently and usually made?





Joseph Marx - Richard Flury

I contacted several Swiss radio stations and finally the Swiss National Library that could give me the phone number of Richard Flury's son Urs Joseph Flury who also is a composing conductor and violinist. Urs Joseph Flury knew many things that I hadn't heard of so far since he had all original letters written between his father and Marx over five decades. He also had been searching for a recording of the Herbstsymphonie over a long time but at the end he had given up. Urs Joseph Flury insisted that the summary of that letter at the website of the Austrian National Library was definitely wrong. Finally he read the original letter to me, and indeed we found out that the information about the performance of the symphony refers not to the Herbstsymphonie but to a symphony composed by Flury himself. Urs Joseph Flury said that if a Swiss recording of the Herbstsymphony did exist at all he would know it.

Another important straw was a hint that I found in the Liess biography: The Herbstsymphonie had been performed in February 1925 in Germany by the well known Wuppertal Symphony Orchestra conducted by the Austrian Hermann von Schmeidel.

*

If you wish to see a photo of recording sessions of some of Marx's orchestral works in the above-mentioned concert hall "Stadthalle Wuppertal" that is **exactly the location where the Herbstsymphonie was performed for the last time in 1925**, [please click here!](#)

*

After I had contacted the organist and pianist Prof. Joachim Dorf Müller who is an expert on Wuppertal's music and concert history I knew what I had suspected before: The symphony hadn't been recorded when it was performed in 1925. This was confirmed by the German discographers and lexicographers who hadn't found anything about a recording of a Marx symphony in Germany.

It was then, after more than 200 phone calls and reading all the writings about Marx, that I definitely knew that I wouldn't find any recording of the **Herbstsymphonie**. Nevertheless, I can now claim that this work is by all accounts Marx's most striking work although most likely no living person has ever heard a second of it. The main biographer, Austrian musicologist Andreas Liess, emphasised that it is "**among the most polyphonic works ever written**", and he almost went into raptures when describing all the outstanding details of the score: "**A late romantic symphony of incredibly orgiastic euphony and voluptuous impressionism...**". These quotes are taken directly from the detailed description of the score that we can find in his biography written in 1943. These facts might be another reason why the symphony was never performed again since the late 1920s. Only a few conductors and orchestras were willing to tackle such a big challenge. An excellent performance of this work would most probably need extensive rehearsal and above all an orchestra and conductor who really have a special liking for this kind of large scale late romantic symphony. Furthermore, as far as I can say after having seen the conductor's score that runs to 281 pages, it should be performed with much sensitivity and not rushed.

"An ecstatic ocean of themes and motifs, polyphonic turnings, richness and variety." (Erik Werba)

"Why should a composer with such graphic abilities make use of a small instrumentation in order to describe the richness of the autumn? Which delightfully suggestive images of nature are being created by this gigantic orchestra! No matter whether this is indeed a symphony or a magnificent rhapsody..." (Hans von Dettelbach)

Joseph Marx: Partiturskizze aus der „Herbstsymphonie“, 1922 (S. 242)
Mit Genehmigung der Universal-Edition Dr. Johannes Verhull

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Für die deutsche Version bitte hier klicken



"Eine Herbstsymphonie" (Autumn Symphony)

by Joseph Marx

October 24 and 25, 2005 in Stefaniensaal/Graz

"recreation" - Großes Orchester Graz (Large Orchestra of Graz)

conducted by Michel Swierczewski

A REPORT BY BERKANT HAYDIN

Author and editor of www.joseph-marx.org

(Translated from the German by Alan Howe)



The Large Orchestra of Graz under the baton of Michel Swierczewski after the celebrated performance of the Herbstsymphonie on October 25, 2005 in Stefaniensaal/Graz where the last performance of this work had taken place 80 years ago

How the project came about

In 2004 Michel Swierczewski, the conductor of 'Recreation - Großes Orchester Graz' ('Large Orchestra of Graz'), who at that point knew and greatly admired the 1st Violin Sonata by Joseph Marx, set off in search of a special rarity which would be worthy of rediscovery. Thus he had the score of the Herbstsymphonie sent to him by Universal Edition. The 280-page, giant-sized score was subsequently examined by him and a series of orchestral musicians - with great reverence, they told me. When it eventually became clear to everyone that they were dealing with a very extraordinary, mammoth work, they discussed the matter with Mathis Huber, the manager of the 'Recreation' orchestra and the 'Styriarte' organisation. Because this great composition of Joseph Marx, himself a native of Graz, had not been heard for about 80 years, Mathis Huber eventually gave the green light for a performance in the autumn of 2005.

* **Michel Swierczewski** is a highly active French conductor and sound engineer (and as such, he has produced and released more than 100 CDs so far). Also, he is the developer and webmaster of the excellent website

www.micmacmusic.com

*

Visit the website of the Large "recreation" Orchestra of Graz

Visit the website of the Styriarte organisation

*

Mathis Huber

Michel Swierczewski



A symphony of superlatives with a complex structure

Before one says a single word about the musical and compositional qualities of the Herbstsymphonie and about the technical quality of the performance by the 'Recreation' Orchestra and its conductor Michel Swierczewski, one must - even as experienced critics - understand that it is impossible even for the practised ear to fathom and grasp the Herbstsymphonie in its entirety on first hearing, for it is too sophisticated in structure and at the same time too rich in sound, too polyphonic and too gigantic. For this reason a live performance of the Herbstsymphonie would almost certainly represent a great challenge to any orchestra in the world.

Stylistic relationship with great contemporaries

In order to gain a rough impression of the Herbstsymphonie, we should imagine the operas and richly orchestrated works of Schreker, Strauss and Korngold, as well as the symphonies of Bax, Howard Hanson and Vaughan Williams, also the most dazzling passages from works such as "La Mer", "Daphnis and Chloé", "The Poem of Ecstasy", "Prometheus - Poem of Fire" and "The Firebird"; then finally we should mix all this with Marx's own musical language and set it - in the manner typical of the composer - in a many-layered, logical and carefully designed structure. And so it must be evident that we are speaking here of a bewitching, sumptuous work of gigantic dimensions.

Masterly performed by conductor and orchestra

On both of the evenings, along with around one thousand people on each occasion, I was privileged to experience the lavishly scored 75-minute Herbstsymphonie played by an almost 100-strong orchestra under a conductor who combined ecstasy with absolute concentration and exemplary dedication. Even the most difficult, sometimes almost impossible passages in which the entire orchestra and percussion have technically to surpass themselves were mastered with great bravura. Yet the quieter, emotionally contemplative pages were also interpreted so expressively by the orchestra that significant numbers of the audience in the Stefaniensaal were quite obviously deeply moved. In the rows all around one could see many individuals sitting with eyes closed, smiling peacefully and allowing themselves to be swept along by the torrent of ecstatic music. Many must have realised that they had been witnessing a very special musical event.

A gigantic flood of sound

The sound world conjured up by Joseph Marx in his Herbstsymphonie - one which, with its countless majestic climaxes and examples of opulent symphonic development, is more like some breathtaking, awe-inspiring roller coaster ride through the Himalayas - plunged the Stefaniensaal into an almost unreal atmosphere. And so perhaps this is why the symphony is so difficult to fathom: even after several hearings of the entire work (the final rehearsal and the two performances of 24th and 25th October), it was virtually impossible for

myself and those with me (all of us with long experience of listening to the lushly orchestrated large-scale works of the late romantic period) really to take in what was flooding, indeed shaking our very senses, so stunned were we by the great waves of sound. I would describe it like this: the Herbstsymphonie is so astounding in its power, intensity and lavishness, so brimming with passion, and is as a result in the truest sense of the word so overwhelming that, faced with this wild roller coaster of emotions, anyone who hears it must soon acknowledge his inability to come to an immediate understanding of the piece. And the impression which might arise at this point that the Herbstsymphonie is without structure and thus, despite all its beauties, of little consequence turns out, on a third or fourth hearing - to be a great mistake: The score, woven around just four main themes, contains in fact a clear sense of progression and tension which, in the course of the individual movements that describe autumn in all its phases and emotions, is built logically and stretches from the first to the last minute of the symphony. Furthermore, the many completely unexpected changes of key, harmonic turns and switches between minor and major are evidence of the composer's unprecedented boldness and almost frightening powers of creativity - which took me, a Marx expert, entirely by surprise.

The journey does not end here

Thus, from a compositional as well as sonic and psychological point of view, the Herbstsymphonie turns out to be a most extraordinary phenomenon - one which I have never before encountered in such an unrestrained form in all my years of studying the large-scale late-romantic/impressionist works of many other composers. And therefore I find myself unable to describe in simple words the feelings which came over me during the two performances (of which the second of 25th October has remained in my memory as the "better one"). Deep emotions, set off by the virtually unending tone-painting and returning motifs which are hidden everywhere in the score alternated with thoughts and memories of the outset of my research into Joseph Marx which had begun five years ago with - and it must have been fate - my "quest of the Herbstsymphonie". For me things had to some extent come full circle: the initial objective of being able to hear the Herbstsymphonie sometime in my life and to see it recognised by the public has now been achieved, and it seems to me at this point in time virtually impossible to find something else in the sphere of music which will satisfy my thirst for absolute perfection in sound better than the Herbstsymphonie. So the question that arises is this: what will be next and how shall I proceed? What direction will this musical journey take now? Standing at this turning-point, I direct my attention to the choral works of Joseph Marx which were written years before the Herbstsymphonie and are the only orchestral works by the composer still awaiting rediscovery.

A personal thank you

After all this - and on behalf of the several thousand Marx fans from all over the world of whose existence I am aware - I would now like to offer my most sincere thanks and admiration to the courageous manager of the Large Orchestra of Graz and the Styriarte organisation, Mr Mathis Huber, and also to the fascinating and incredibly versatile conductor Michel Swieczewski, and to all of the esteemed members of the orchestra. I wish the orchestra and its management many further successes in the future and hope accordingly that the orchestral and choral works of Joseph Marx will be performed not only in the place of his birth, but also elsewhere in Austria, as well as in many other countries.

HOW THE GRAZ PERFORMANCES OF THE HERBSTSYMPHONIE WERE RECEIVED

Voices from the audience:

An old man said to me: *"Incredibly beautiful! I've never heard anything like it in my life!"*

A woman about 40 years to the gentleman with her: *"The opening bars of the symphony reminded me of film music!"*

An old lady said to me: *"I won't be listening to that again. It was much too extreme. That's not the Marx I know!"* (N.B. To most Austrian concert-goers Marx is only known as a song composer.)

Two young people whose conversation I overheard by chance: *"Absolutely fantastic!"*

A young lover of late-romantic music said to me: *"I'm overwhelmed."*

Quotes from Press Articles:

"Die Presse", 27.10.2005: DISCOVERIES - AUTUMNAL AND EXISTENTIAL

"The courageous rediscovery of the monumental Herbstsymphonie carried conviction because the 'Recreation' Orchestra of Graz, which in this performance had developed into a hundred-strong professional band, managed brilliantly to bring out in sound the luxuriant and voluptuous colours of this gigantic seasonal painting."

"...a 75 minute-long, four-movement tone poem, whose source of inspiration was the Lower-Styrian autumn landscape in its mythological, even existential aspects. In its best passages Marx unfolds cantilenas drenched in farewells, gloriously colourful, radiant arches of sound and literally intoxicatingly ecstatic sensuality."

"...the composition lacks an inner peace, in Goethe's words something like "an empty centre" in which the listener may find repose."

"The admirable conductor Michel Swierczewski gave a well-nigh perfect performance. He, the musicians who were in such wonderful form and the organisers all deserve an Oscar for their deserved success in rediscovering unjustly forgotten works of the Austrian symphonic repertoire."

"Kronen Zeitung", 27.10.2005 (Martin Gasser): EXUBERANT EUPHONY

"The 'Recreation' Orchestra in the Stefaniensaal under Michel Swierczewski plunged into a hot-tub of almost unbelievably opulent and beautiful sound. The successful first performance for 80 years of the Herbstsymphonie by the Graz composer, Joseph Marx, made it just about the concert of the year."

"In harmonies shimmering like gold Marx tells of a sun-filled autumn in sounds of almost incredible beauty. Melodies like ripe, sweet grapes signal a celebration of nature at its most opulent."

"Marx created music which bewitches and intoxicates, which literally seeks to by-pass the intellect and conjures up in us nature and beauty in apparently continuous, polyphonic streams."

"The music has such eccentrically wild features that it defies all ideological function. Marx is not creating some earthly reality, but at most building a dream world."

"...a credible rendering of this sensual, almost endless fabric of musical poetry. Tension was sustained over virtually the entire 74 minutes of the piece. The 'Recreation' Orchestra gave what was just about the concert of the year in their rediscovery of the extraordinary work of a brilliant eccentric."

"Kleine Zeitung", 26.10.2005 (Ernst Naredi-Rainer): MARX'S EXUBERANT REVELRY

"A score was revived whose monumental proportions link it to Anton Bruckner and Gustav Mahler, but without their richness of contrast. Marx revels in his exuberance - for 70 minutes."

"There can be no doubting the technical mastery of the composer. His handling of themes and his polyphony demonstrate more skill than is evident on first hearing."

"...the Herbstsymphonie gives the impression that the task of this composer and undaunted advocate of late-romanticism was to surpass the orchestral mastery of a Richard Strauss. However, the score, with its many beautiful solos and its gently shimmering palate of colours, never misses the target and is unfolded to suitable effect by Michel Swierczewski and his hundred-strong orchestra."

"Der Standard", 26.10.2005 (Peter Vujica): GURRELIEDER WITHOUT WORDS

"...occasionally almost deafening decibel levels."

"Because you have to work your way into Joseph Marx's sound world. Less than is the case with Korngold or Schreker, the kaleidoscopic harmony - mostly fluid in the ambiguous chromaticism upon which he builds his passionate melodies and through which he makes them sound continually new - offers the listener few of the traditional sonic clues."

"...Marx's unconventional compositional technique doesn't go to extremes in its sonic effects, but in respect of its structural density and its labyrinthine form. It seems that there are only two sequences of notes on which this four-part hymn to the autumn Styrian countryside is based."

“Anyone who is looking for idyllic folk music here is making a mistake. The sound world which Marx creates is trans-national in nature. He derives his vocabulary quite audibly from Debussy and in many nuances of instrumentation from Alexander Scriabin.”

“What is fascinating about the Herbstsymphonie is that, in spite of its massive dimensions, it consists of nothing more than four songs. And despite all its harmonic confusions, the way they are worked out through chord after chord which combine polyphonically with quotations from other themes, Marx always remains rigorous in the passages which only appear rondo-like and amorphous. The excesses which he permits himself with respect to the symphonic tradition are unprecedented.”

“The shimmering and hymn-like singing of the strings, the assaults by the percussion, the continuous noise into which Marx pitches the brass which never sounds bloated or insipid, and the sudden changes of colour unite into a continuous state of sonic intoxication with an endless series of ecstatic climaxes.”

“For any orchestra, performing this work naturally becomes a battle whose outcome is uncertain. The hundred-strong “Recreation” Orchestra under Michel Swierczewski was in every respect up to the challenge of the Herbstsymphonie.”

“Even if the sound world of Joseph Marx was not immediately comprehensible, either to performers or listeners, there was considerable applause and joy at its conclusion.”

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Complete list of orchestral, choral, chamber, piano, organ & vocal works

For latest news on recording projects and concerts see:

[Recording Projects & Concert Listing](#)

(opens a new browser window)

Vocal works

Choral works:

- **Ein Neujahrshymnus**(A New Year's Hymn) for mixed (or male) choir and orchestra (1914)
- **Berghymne**(Mountain Hymn) for mixed (or male) choir and orchestra (ca. 1910)
- **Herbstchor an Pan**(Autumn Chorus to Pan) for mixed choir, boys's choir, organ and orchestra (1911)
- **Morgengesang**(Morning Chant) for male choir and orchestra (1910)
- **Abendweise**(Evening Melody) for male choir, brass orchestra, timpani and organ (1912)
- **Gesang des Lebens**(Song of Life) for male choir and organ (1914)

Note: Some of these choral works are also available in other arrangements.

Songs/Orchestral songs:

- **approx. 150 Lieder**, some twenty of which are also available as orchestral songs (approx. one third of the 150 songs are still unpublished)
- **Verklärtes Jahr**(Transfigured Year) for medium voice and orchestra (song cycle, 1930-32; also available for voice and piano)

Instrumental works

Orchestral/Symphonic works:

- Eine Herbstsymphonie (Autumn Symphony, 1921)
- Eine symphonische Nachtmusik (Symphonic Nocturne, 1922)
- Idylle —Concertino über die pastorale Quart (1925)
- Eine Frühlingsmusik (Spring Music, 1925)
- Eine festliche Fanfarenmusik (Festive Fanfare Music) for brass orchestra, timpani and snare drum (1928)
- Nordland-Rhapsodie (Nordic Rhapsody, 1929)
- Alt-Wiener Serenaden (Old Vienna Serenades, 1941)
- Sinfonia in modo classico, for string orchestra (1944)
- Partita in modo antico, for string orchestra (1945)
- Feste im Herbst (Autumnal Revelries, 1946)

Concertos:

- Romantisches Klavierkonzert (Romantic Piano Concerto) in E Major (1919-20)
- Castelli Romani for piano and orchestra in E Flat Major (1929-30)

Other works:

- Three string quartets
- Three piano quartets
- »Trio-Phantasie«
- Two violin sonatas
- Works for cello and piano
- Six pieces for solo piano
- Ten more piano pieces (will be published in 2007)
- Ten organ pieces (will be published in 2007)
- A series of songs with chamber ensemble accompaniment

Books:

- Harmonielehre (Harmony) according to Joseph Marx. By his student Friedrich Bayer. Universal Edition, Vienna 1933
- Kontrapunktlehre (Counterpoint) according to Joseph Marx. By his student Friedrich Bayer. Universal Edition, Vienna 1935
- Betrachtungen eines romantischen Realisten. Collection of essays, articles and speeches of Joseph Marx. Published by Oswald Ortner. Gerlach & Wiedling, Vienna 1947
- Weltsprache Musik (Music as a universal language). Bedeutung und Deutung tausendjähriger Tonkunst. Austria-Edition, Vienna 1964

Joseph Marx (sometimes incorrectly spelled Josef Marx) has been an active composer over a time scale of almost 50 years. During the first third of this period he composed a major part of his 150 Lieder (works for voice and piano) for which he gained worldwide success. Many of his songs were also published in different other versions (with chamber ensemble/orchestra). ***In an interview (1952) Marx said that he -and also Hugo Wolf and Richard Strauss- actually wrote Lieder because it was the fashionable thing to do.***(see interviews in the section "Audio Samples..."). Despite his image as a "song composer", his true mastery and achievement is reflected in his works with orchestra most of which he wrote between 1919 and 1932. By composing these stunning orchestral compositions Marx finally brought to a quintessential summation all the complex symphonic ideas that he hadn't been able to express in his early works.



Most of the details below are the result of extensive investigations that took several months. As I have reported, only a handful of these works have ever been commercially recorded. This opus list was very difficult to compile since all existing lists that can be found in Marx biographies or music dictionaries are incomplete. After having evaluated almost every source that one can have access to, I am now able to present the **first and only complete list of all works** by Joseph Marx. (Please note that Marx didn't use opus numbers).

OVERVIEW OF THIS CHAPTER:

- **Orchestral/Symphonic works**
- **Other orchestral works of which the composing dates are not available or the scores couldn't be found or that are identical with movements/parts of larger orchestral works**
- **Works for voice and orchestra**
- **Choral works**
- **Vocal chamber music**
- **Non-vocal chamber music**
- **Piano pieces**
- **Organ pieces**
- **Lieder (Songs)**
- **NEW Works by Joseph Marx that were later arranged by other composers**

An excellent and complete German overview of Marx's works that was perfectly made by Johannes Hanstein and that is based on my below work list, [can be found here](#).

Orchestral works without voice/chorus:

1916-19:

1st piano concerto "Romantisches Klavierkonzert" (Romantic Piano Concerto) in E major, 37-43 minutes. This amazingly euphonic and extremely virtuosic work has been performed many times by **Angelo Kessissoglu** (who also performed its premiere), then frequently by the great **Walter Gieseking** and later in the 1970s and 80s by **Jorge Bolet** (who reported that he had discovered the score of his "favorite concerto" in the private music library of a friend), and it was eventually issued on a Hyperion CD (CDA66990) with super-virtuoso Marc-André Hamelin. The movements are:

1. **Lebhaft (Allegro moderato)**
2. **Nicht zu langsam (Andante affetuoso)**
3. **Sehr lebhaft (Allegro molto)**

Publisher: Universal Edition (UE 6018). A version for two pianos is also available.

The Austrian pianist Prof. Hans Petermandl who has performed Marx's 2nd piano concerto "Castelli Romani" twice (in 1978 with the Vienna Symphony Orchestra conducted by Karl Etti and in 1981 with the Munich Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Lior Shambadal) told me that one of his pianist friends met Jorge Bolet who could not help saying: "The Romantic Piano Concerto is my favorite concerto. It is so beautiful, so wonderful, you should play it!"

NEW

Detailed information on the Romantic Piano Concerto is available [here!](#)

1920/21:

Eine Herbstsymphonie (An Autumn Symphony) in B for large orchestra

Dedicated to Mrs. Anna Hansa, famous singer and Marx's Lied performer in the 1910s and 1920s and Marx's lifetime romance and partner from around 1910 until his death in 1964.

Marx began to compose his symphony in 1920 (just after having completed the Romantic Piano Concerto) and finished it 21 Nov 1921. He wrote it in a secluded countryhouse named "**Villa Grambach**" (Grambach is the name of a small village to the south of Graz). This house owned by Anna Hansa's family was **the place where Marx preferably spent the summer months and composed a major part of his music.**



Villa Grambach near Graz - The place where Marx composed a major part of his works and spent much time with his friends Franz Schmidt, Franz Schreker, Leopold Godowsky, Wilhelm Kienzl, Karl Böhm, Rudolf Hans Bartsch, Clemens Krauss, Anton Wildgans, Angelo Kessisoglu and many more. The guestbook of Villa Grambach shows the names of many composers and conductors of worldwide fame. If you want to view a couple of great photos of this house as it is looking today, please click [here to see my Travelogue](#)



A photo shot by Marx during World War 2 (found in a letter that he sent to Carl von Wiener).

It shows a "Wintry view from my study window!" In July 2003, I had the chance to [shoot a photo from this very window](#) in Marx's study where he has written almost all of his works

The available information sources about the duration of the symphony vary between "75 minutes" (Universal Edition's catalogue) and "more than two hours" (newspaper articles from the 1920s). Due to the score of the symphony and the duration of "Feste im Herbst" (see "Latest news"), I would estimate that the symphony should last about 80-90 minutes if performed not rushed.

Orchestration: more than 30 wind instruments, percussion, celesta, two harps, piano and large string orchestra. The movements are:

1. Ein Herbstgesang (An Autumn Chant) - Bewegt (Affetuoso)

2. **Tanz der Mittagsgeister (Dance of the Midday Spirits) - Sehr rasch (Allegro molto)**
3. **Herbstgedanken (Autumn Thoughts) - Ruhig (Tranquillo)**
4. **Ein Herbstpoem (An Autumn Poem; its original title was "Ernte und Einkehr" = "Harvest and Homecoming") - Sehr bewegt (Molto affetuoso)**

Publisher: Universal Edition (UE 7438 and 7439)

LATEST NEWS



After 1927 the final movement of the symphony ("Herbstpoem") was performed separately only one last time on 22 Oct 1934 by conductor Bernhard Paumgartner in Vienna (orchestra unknown, likely Vienna SO). This is the very last performance date of any unrevised part of the Herbstsymphonie that I could find at all. Austrian newspaper articles from the 1960s that were sent me by Marx pupil and expert Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Suppan say that the "Herbstsymphonie was re-performed in the 1950s under the title Feste im Herbst" (aka "Herbstfeier", Autumnal Revelries, published in 1946). This is not correct since I found out by chance (in other words: by receiving the inspiration to compare the score of Herbstpoem with my recording of Feste im Herbst!) that the masterwork **"Feste im Herbst" that was performed many times in Austria till the 1980s but never commercially recorded is nothing but a shortened and slightly revised re-issue of the Herbstsymphonie's final movement "Herbstpoem"!**

What is the **difference** between **"Feste im Herbst"** and **"Herbstpoem"**?

The score of Feste im Herbst runs to 100 pages while the score of the Herbstpoem includes 115 pages. Feste im Herbst is lighter orchestrated (less wind instruments, less strings, only one harp instead of two) and it includes several rhythmical and instrumental changes compared with the Herbstpoem. But aside from this, Feste im Herbst is mainly identical with the final movement of the symphony.

Hard to believe that no-one ever knew that the outstanding work "Feste im Herbst" is a slightly revised version of the final movement of the Herbstsymphonie. Ironically, the first three movements of the Herbstsymphonie that evidently contain a large amount of the composer's theme material of the earlier works (in 1921 Marx had already composed 120-150 Lieder and most of his chamber music) were never heard again since the 1920s.

Marx who has educated more than a whole generation of composers, conductors and musicologists from all over the world during his **43 (!) years as a teaching professor** in composition, harmony and counterpoint (he had **1255** students during this long period) most likely has never been happy about the fact that just his largest and most important work has never been performed completely again (let alone recorded) in his lifetime. **Hence, the world of classical music clearly needs a complete recording of the Herbstsymphonie.**

*"Though derived from the last movement of the **Autumn Symphony** of 1921 **"Feste im Herbst"** is best regarded as a symphonic poem in its own right. As such it must serve as an appetizer for the much longer parent work from which it is extracted. Hearing this work leads to tantalizing conjecture about how many of the themes, so fleetingly heard in the first part of the symphonic poem, might have been developed at length in the first three movements of the symphony. "Feste im Herbst", in its 1946 revision, marks both the high water mark of German Romanticism and its ebbing in the face of more modern and less lyrical developments. It is a vast confluence of multiple influences, from the Brahms of the second symphony and the Bruckner of the fourth, through Slavonic, even Dvorak-like, dance measures to the impressionism of Debussy. All these are welded together with a Latin lucidity that recalls Respighi. It is the genius of Marx that he weaves these desperate threads together into a design that is in the end totally his own. A great sonorous culmination of the romantic, the very Autumn of the genre. After this there could only come the bleak winter of atonalism and intellectualism. Yet it is a joyous farewell, a rich and glowing sunset that turns the leaves to gold as they fall." (John Rowland Carter)*



Joseph Marx in 1925, during the great success of his Autumn Symphony

1922-25

In this period Marx wrote three breathtakingly impressionistic works that are also known as "**Naturtrilogie**", "**Natur-Trilogie**" or "**Natur-Suite**" (**Nature Trilogy or Nature Suite**):

- **Symphonische Nachtmusik** (1922; **Symphonic Night Music**; its original title was **Mondnacht = Moon Night**) for large orchestra (about 26 minutes)
- **Idylle - Concertino über die pastorale Quart** (1925; aka "**Idylle - Pastoralphantasie**", **Idyll - Concertino on the pastoral fourth**) for orchestra (about 15 minutes)
- **Eine Frühlingsmusik (A Spring Music)** for large orchestra (1925) (about 23 minutes)

NEW

[Detailed information on the Idyll is available here!](#)

NEWS: A truly gorgeous recording of this "Nature Trilogy" has been **released on ASV!** For more information on **Vol. 1 of the "Complete Orchestral Music"** series [please click here](#).

Publisher: Universal Edition

Symphonische Nachtmusik: UE number not available.

Idylle: UE 8461

Eine Frühlingsmusik: UE number not available.

1928:

Festliche Fanfarenmusik (Festive Fanfare Music) in B major for 22 brass instruments and small percussion set. About 4-5 minutes.

Publisher: Universal Edition (UE 18731)

1929:

Nordlands-Rhapsodie (Nordic Rhapsody). About 30-35 minutes. Based on Pierre Loti's novel "An Iceland Fisherman" (1886) about an Icelandic love tragedy, and that's how this remarkable work sounds like. The movements are:

1. **Stürmisch (Allegro pathetico)**
2. **Andantino**
3. **Sehr lebhaft (Poco presto)**
4. **Ruhig fließend (Tranquillo)**

Publisher: Universal Edition (UE 11598)

1929-30:



2nd piano concerto "Castelli Romani" in E flat major: Three pieces for piano and orchestra. 30-35 minutes. Marx had always been inspired by the beautiful landscapes and monuments of Italy since he had been travelling to Italy many times as a child (because of his mother who was half Italian). This stunning work is one of Marx's most delightful declarations of love to Italy and its beauty.



Walter Gieseking performed the premiere of this virtuoso concerto and also was the soloist in numerous later performances till the 1950s. Castelli Romani has besides been performed in the United States and in several European countries (among others in England for the BBC) at least till the late 1950s. The Austrian pianist Frieda Valenzi has given many performances of this work with various Austrian orchestras in the 1950s and 60s. Later, in 1978 and 1981, another Austrian pianist, Hans Petermandl, performed the work twice, while the German pianist Julius Bassler frequently performed its 3rd movement with several German radio orchestras from the end of the 1960s to the end of the 1970s. The most recent performance of "Castelli Romani" took place on March 28/29, 1982, in the Stefaniensaal of Graz (pianist Alexander Jenner and the Grazer Philharmonisches Orchester conducted by Peter Schrottner). The movements are:

1. **Villa Hadriana. Allegro (ma non tanto)**
2. **Tusculum. Andante**
3. **Frascati. Presto**

Publisher: Universal Edition (UE number not available). A version for two pianos is also available.

NEWS: The two piano concerti "Romantisches Klavierkonzert" (Romantic Piano Concerto) and "Castelli Romani" were recorded by the Label ASV with the American virtuoso David Lively as Vol. 4 of the Complete Orchestral Music series. For further information [please click here](#).

1941-42:

Alt-Wiener Serenaden (Old Vienna Serenades) for large orchestra. About 17-21 minutes. Dedicated to the Vienna Philharmonics on the occasion of their 100th anniversary. Composed within his tendency to classicism, in a style between Haydn and Schubert but it also includes Marx's characteristic elements of impressionism. Marx wrote it during his final work period in which he also composed his string quartets. The movements are:

1. **Allegro moderato ma deciso (Intrada)**
2. **Andante appassionata (Aria)**
3. **Tempo di menuetto**
4. **Scherzo con marcia (Presto)**

Publisher: Universal Edition (UE 11358)

1944:

"Sinfonia in modo classico" for string orchestra. About 26 minutes. This is a string orchestra version of his own "Quartetto in modo classico" (not yet recorded in this string orchestra version). **Publisher: Doblinger, Vienna. Score available.** The movements are:

1. **Allegro con brio**
2. **Adagio ma non troppo**
3. **Tempo di minuetto**
4. **Poco presto**

1945:

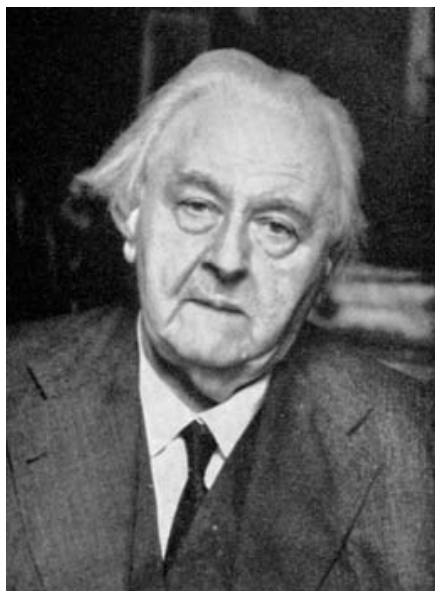
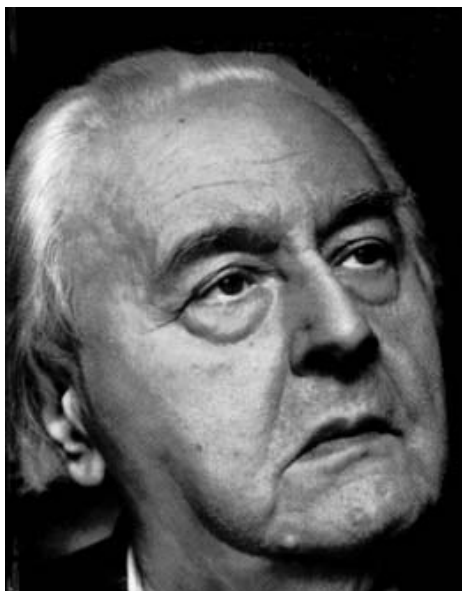
"Partita in modo antico" for string orchestra. About 26 minutes. This is a string orchestra version of his own "Quartetto in modo antico" (not yet recorded in this string orchestra version). **Publisher: Doblinger, Vienna. Score available.** The movements are:

1. **Allegro poco moderato**
2. **Presto**
3. **Adagio molto**
4. **Vivace**

NEWS: The above three orchestral works in traditional style were recorded as Volume 3 of the series (ASV). For further information [please click here](#).

1946:

"Feste im Herbst" (also known as "Herbstfeier"; "Autumnal Revelries") for large orchestra. About 25 minutes. **Is practically identical with the final movement of the Herbstsymphonie** (for details see "Latest news" above where also an analysis of this work is given). Marx published this work in 1946 obviously as a reaction to the sad fact that the Herbstsymphonie hadn't been performed again over the last 10-15 years (the first three movements of the symphony even hadn't been performed for 20 years). The score is available at Universal Edition but one should note that this work is almost identical with the final movement of the Herbstsymphonie that has never been completely performed since the 1920s. Hence, a world premiere recording of "Feste im Herbst" should by all means bring on a first recording of the whole symphony.



Joseph Marx at his home in Vienna, Traungasse 6 (1963).

For more photos of this house [please click here](#)

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Other orchestral works of which the composing dates are not available or the scores couldn't be found or that are identical with movements/parts of orchestral works listed above:

Symphony No. 1 (1901)

Symphony No. 2 (1906)



My knowledge of these two symphonies is based on a letter written by Marx after the premiere of the Herbstsymphonie. There he wrote: "In fact, this symphony is my third symphony since I always kept secret my first symphony that I composed at the age of 19 and also my second one that I wrote at the age of 24." Due to the Liess biography one of these youth symphonies is in C sharp minor (I couldn't figure out which one, likely No. 2). Fact is that Marx reused themes of the adagio part/movement of the C sharp minor symphony later in his Herbstsymphonie.

One of the two youth symphonies is known as "Symphony in one movement for orchestra" and due to the Austrian National Library it has indeed an adagio part. These youth symphonies have never been published as Universal Edition doesn't have their scores. However, the score (a rough draft of 11 pages) of the unfinished "Symphony in one movement for orchestra" (that might be identical with the "Symphony in C sharp minor" that is mentioned in the Liess biography since they both include an adagio part) can be found at the Austrian National Library. Due to the first page of the score this symphony is Marx's 4th work (it's titled "opus 4" although Marx didn't use opus numbers. Perhaps Marx used opus numbers only for his earliest works and then gave up numbering after he had begun to compose his first huge series of Lieder.)

Piano Concerto. The score (a rough draft of 13 pages) can be found at the Austrian National Library. One might assume that this is the rough draft of his first piano concerto, the Romantisches Klavierkonzert that was written in 1919.

Fragmentary rough draft of a work for string orchestra(4 pages, Austrian National Library). No more information available.

Unidentified stage play, obviously never continued nor finished:On 4 Apr 1926 a journalist asked Marx about his current composing projects. Marx answered: "At the moment I am composing the Nordic Rhapsody and a **stage play**that is **notan** opera." Unfortunately I couldn't find out which work Marx was referring to. None of the rough drafts of Marx's orchestral works at the Austrian National Library can be connected with that obscure stage play.

Rough draft for a fanfare music(10 pages; Austrian National Library).

"Island-Suite" (1927-28, "Iceland Suite"). The unfinished score (a rough draft of 34 pages) of this work can only be found at Austrian National Library. In order to find out if "Island-Suite" is the rough draft of Marx's next work "Nordlands-Rhapsodie" one would have to compare the two scores. However, the fact that the "Nordlands-Rhapsodie" is based on the novel "Iceland Fisher" by Pierre Loti might be an indication of this assumption.

"Symphonische Rhapsodie" (Symphonic Rhapsody) for large orchestra(1929). About 9 minutes. **This work is identical with the 1st movement of the Nordlands-Rhapsodie**(see above).It was sometimes performed separately.

"Symphonische Tänze" (Symphonic Dances) for large orchestra.About 9 minutes. It seems to be a short version or a kind of variation on several themes from "Feste im Herbst" (see above; also see "Latest news" above) or a variation on themes that are directly taken from the "Herbstpoem" (final movement of the Herbstsymphonie). None of the sources has the score of this work of which I have an old recording. I guess that the score got lost after the work was performed and recorded by the Austrian radio station. Performance details due to the announcement at the beginning of my recording: Vienna Symphony Orchestra conducted by **Karl Etti**who was one of the main conductors of Marx's orchestral works besides **Max Schönherr**and **Karl Böhm**.

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Works for voice and orchestra:

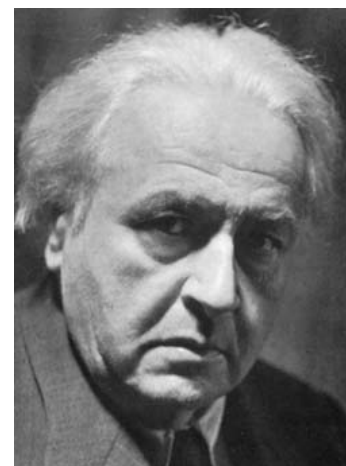
Since Universal Edition was unable to provide a list of all "official" English titles (esp. regarding Marx's vocal works that were mainly translated by John Bernhoff), the English titles shown below were translated by myself and are therefore supplied without liability for errors.

(The scores of the following works for voice and orchestra/chamber ensemble can all be obtained at Universal Edition. The English lyrics are also available at UE for most of these works.)

NEWS:The works for voice and orchestra were recorded for ASV (as Vol. 2 of the CD series) with the soloists Angela Maria Blasi (soprano) and Stella Doufexis (mezzo-soprano). For more information [please click here](#).

"Verklärtes Jahr" (Transfigured Year) - A song cycle for medium voice and orchestra(1930-32). About 18-21 minutes. This is the last work of Marx's main "orchestral period" (1919-1932). Its version for voice and piano has already been commercially recorded by FY Solstice (see "Discography") but one can hear an enormous difference between the sound worlds created by these two different versions. This orchestral **Song Symphony** is one of the most evident proofs for the fact that Marx had never been able to realise his complex ideas before in his works for voice and piano although the phenomenal pianistic virtuosity of their piano parts creates a huge variety of impressionistic effects that we won't hear in the piano parts of songs written by any other Lied composer. Some critics even wrote that Marx's songs for voice and piano were nothing but "Piano concertos with voice obligato". "Verklärtes Jahr" in its miraculous orchestral version brings together a number of the greatest "sound effects" that Marx has ever composed. Its five movements are:

1. **Abschied**(A farewell, lyrics by K. M. Fofanow)
2. **Dezember**(December, lyrics by Otto Kernstock)
3. **Lieder**(Songs, lyrics by Christian Morgenstern)
4. **In meiner Träume Heimat**(In the land of my dreams, lyrics by Carl Hauptmann)
5. **Auf der Campagna**(In Campania [an Italian landscape], lyrics by Joseph Marx)





Marx with some of his renowned Turkish students (Vienna, 1931):

Necil Kazim Akses (left), Marx, an unidentified person and Hasan Ferit Alnar

NEW

Orchestral scores of some of the following **Orchestral Songs** were used as film music in the movie "Cordula" (1950). More information and pictures of this movies's cinema magazine [can be found here](#)

Marx orchestrated most of the following songs in the 1930s.

"Am Brunnen" (At the Fountain) for medium voice and string orchestra(1912). About 1 minute. Lyrics by Paul Heyse. Also available in a version for voice and string quartet.

"Barcarole" for high voice and orchestra(1910). About 6 minutes. Lyrics by A. F. von Schack.

"Begegnung" (The Encounter) for medium voice and string orchestra(1912). About 2 minutes. Lyrics by Paul Heyse. Also available in a version for voice and string quartet.

"Der bescheidene Schäfer" (The unassuming Shepherd) for high voice and string orchestra(1910). About 2 minutes. Lyrics by Christian Weisse. Also available in a version for voice and string quartet.

"Der (Die) Liebste spricht" (The Darling is speaking) for medium voice and string orchestra(1912). About 1 minute. Lyrics by Paul Heyse. Also available in a version for voice and string quartet.

"Erinnerung" (Memory) for medium voice and orchestra(1911). About 3 minutes. Lyrics by Joseph von Eichendorff.

"Hat Dich die Liebe berührt" (If love hath entered thy heart) for high or low voice and orchestra(1908). About 3 minutes. Lyrics by Paul Heyse.

"Japanisches Regenlied" (Japanese Rain Song) for medium voice and orchestra(1909). About 2 minutes.

"Jugend und Alter" (Youth and Age) for medium voice and orchestra(1909). About 2 minutes. Lyrics by Walt Whitman.

"Maienblüten" (May Blossoms) for high voice and orchestra(1909). About 2 minutes. Lyrics by Ludwig Jacobowsky.

"Marienlied" (Song of Mary) for high voice and orchestra(1910). About 3 minutes. Lyrics by Novalis.

"Piemontesisches Volkslied" (Piemontesian Folk Song) for high voice and string orchestra(1911). About 1 minute. Lyrics by Max Geissler. Also available in a version for high voice and string quartet.

"Selige Nacht" (Blessed Night) for high voice and orchestra(1913/14). About 3 minutes. Lyrics by Otto Erich Hartleben.

"Sendung" (The Message) for medium voice and string orchestra(1912). About 1 minute. Lyrics by Paul Heyse. Also available in a version for voice and string quartet.

"Sommerlied" (Summer Song) for high voice and orchestra(1909). About 1 minute. Lyrics by Emmanuel Geibel.

"Ständchen" (Serenade) for high voice and string orchestra(1912). About 2 minutes. Lyrics by Paul Heyse. Also available in a version for high voice and string quartet.

"Und gestern hat er mir Rosen gebracht" (He brought me roses yesterday) for high voice and orchestra(1908). About 2 minutes. Lyrics by Th. Lingen.

"Venetianisches Wiegenlied" (Venetian Lullaby "Nina Ninana") for medium voice and orchestra(1912). About 3 minutes. Lyrics by Paul Heyse. Also available **"Venetianisches Wiegenlied" for medium voice and string orchestra with harp**. Additionally available in a version **for medium voice and string quartet with harp**. At the Austrian National Library besides available in a version for for voice and string quartet.

"Waldseligkeit" (Bliss in the Woods) for high voice and string orchestra(1911). About 3 minutes. Lyrics by Richard Dehmel. Also available in a version for high voice and string quartet.

"Wofür" (For what) for medium voice and string orchestra(1912). About 1 minute. Lyrics by Paul Heyse. Also available in a version for voice and string quartet.

"Zigeuner" (Gipsy) for high voice and orchestra(1911). About 3 minutes. Lyrics by Max Geissler.



Besides, Marx **arranged** five songs by Hugo Wolf for voice and orchestra:

- **"Heimweh" by Hugo Wolf**. Lyrics by Joseph von Eichendorff. Published by **Edition Peters**.
- **"Ich hab in Penna einen Liebsten wohnen" by Hugo Wolf**. Lyrics by Paul Heyse. Published by **Edition Peters**.
- **"Verborgenheit" by Hugo Wolf**. Lyrics by Eduard Mörike. Published by **Edition Peters**.
- **"Hochbeglückt in Deiner Liebe" by Hugo Wolf**. Lyrics by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe. Published by **Universal Edition**.
- **"Tretet ein, hoher Krieger" by Hugo Wolf**. Lyrics by Gottfried Keller. Published by **Universal Edition**.
 - According to the website www.recmusic.org, Marx has arranged his song **"Toskanischer Frühling"**(1908; after the text by Otto Erich Hartleben) for medium voice and orchestra. Since this version is apparently unavailable at Universal Edition, it is currently impossible to provide more information on this version.

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Choral works with/without orchestra:

(Scores are available at UE. **Not yet recorded.**)

My following article was issued in the monthly newsletter of European Cultural Services (Editor: Heinz Prammer, Vienna) that is sent to thousands of choral societies in Europe. [Click here to visit the website of European Cultural Services.](#)

Renaissance of Joseph Marx's outstanding choral works

Written in German and translated to the English

by BERKANT HAYDIN

Joseph Marx (1882-1964) who was sometimes called the "**most significant lyric composer of 20th century Austrian music**", made a name for himself not only as one of the father figures of Austrian tonal music, but also as an ingenious vocal composer who wrote a huge number of famous songs which earned him an international reputation. During his successful years as a celebrated song composer, Marx wrote **six magnificent choral works (1910-14)** that are available in different arrangements at Universal Edition, Vienna: the mythologically inspired, impressionistic cantata **Herbstchor an Pan (Autumn Chorus to Pan)** for mixed chorus, boys' chorus, orchestra and organ (after Rudolf Hans Bartsch), the symphonically powerful miniature **Berghymne (Mountain Hymn)** for mixed chorus and orchestra (after Alfred Fritsch), **Morgengesang (Morning Chant)** for male chorus and orchestra (after Ernst Decsey), **Abendweise (Evening Melody)** for male chorus, brass orchestra, timpani and organ (after Ernst Decsey), **Gesang des Lebens (Song of Life)** for male chorus and organ (after Otto Erich Hartleben) and, as the culmination of his "choral music period", the highly romantic **Neujahrshymnus (A New Year's Hymn)** for mixed chorus and orchestra (after Joseph Marx) that can also be performed as a sacred work. These gems of choral music literature were performed frequently by the leading Austrian choral societies before they unjustly fell into oblivion after Marx's death.

However, this situation might change now that a group of celebrities of Viennese musical life founded the first **Joseph Marx Society** in April 2006, concentrating on the most neglected works of this composer, which particularly implies a **revival of Marx's choral works**. The **founding members** of the society were Friedrich Cerha (who completed Alban Berg's opera "Lulu"), the admired composer Kurt Schwertsik, Haide Tenner (President of the Vienna RSO), Peter Vujica (music critic) and the Joseph Marx expert and actual founder of the society, Berkant Haydin. **Further famous members** of the Society are the celebrated baritone Thomas Hampson, the renowned Mozart expert and Marx pupil Gernot Gruber, Wilhelm Sinkovicz (President of the Franz Schmidt Society), the music critics Rob Barnett (British Music Society) and Michel Fleury (Paris), and Heinz Prammer, President of European Cultural Services and Editor of this newsletter.

The scores of Marx's choral works can be obtained from Universal Edition, Vienna. *) Requests regarding the Joseph Marx Society or Marx's choral works should be directed to the General Secretary, Berkant Haydin (Web: www.joseph-marx.org; Mail: office@joseph-marx.org)

©Berkant Haydin

Works for mixed chorus:

- o "**Herbstchor an Pan (Autumn Chorus to Pan) for mixed choir, boys' choir, orchestra and organ**(1911). About 20 minutes, lyrics by



Rudolf Hans Bartsch. The subtitle of this symphonic poem is: "***In memory of a luminous autumn day in the South Steiermark***". Due to Liess's biography this work **creates a glimmering world of impressionism and makes intensive use of the art of counterpoint**. With its powerful sonority and effective polyphony this treasure is said to be the **precursor of the Herbstsymphonie**. Furthermore, Marx here reuses elements of the main theme of "**Windräder (Wind Mills)**" that is said to be his most brilliant song at all. No performance dates available at all. Seemingly never been performed again since its year of origin. **DECEMBER 2001: As reported by Dr. Roman Rocek from the Austrian Richard Maux Society, there has been a performance of "Herbstchor an Pan" in the 1950s in the Musikverein. [Note: Richard Maux, 1893-1971, a vastly neglected Austrian late romantic who was friends with Marx and composed in a similar style.] Due to the piano scores of "Herbstchor an Pan" and "Morgengesang", Marx's charmingly romantic impressionism was here developed to its utmost level only surpassed later in his Herbstsymphonie. I hereby call upon all**

choirs to cooperate with their orchestras in order to perform or record these two masterworks of romantic choral music.

- o "**Ein Neujahrshymnus (A New Year's Hymn) for mixed choir and orchestra (1914)**. In Autumn 2004, this work was orchestrated by Stefan Esser and Berkant Haydin (author of this website; see red info box below). Text: Joseph Marx. Duration: approx. 10 minutes. A majestic, stirring hymn to life. Due to the highly inspired text of Joseph Marx, this work can also be performed as a sacred work. Film music

composers arranged fragments of it for mixed choir and orchestra in the year 1950.

- o **"Berghymne" (Mountain Hymn) for mixed choir and orchestra**(possibly written in 1910). Text: Alfred Fritsch. Duration: approx. 4 minutes. The original score of this dazzling rarity is available as a "particell" (reduced score) i.e. a kind of extended piano score including choral voices (unison) and a few basic orchestral voices. It was fully arranged by Stefan Esser and Berkant Haydin for mixed choir and orchestra in 2005.

*** NEW PROJECT ***

"A New Year's Hymn" and "Mountain Hymn"

by Joseph Marx

Orchestrated by Stefan Esser and

Berkant Haydin (the author of this website)!

*** * * published by Universal Edition * * ***

[Click here for detailed info, music samples \(MP3\) and score pages](#)

Works for male chorus:

- o **"Morgengesang" (Morning Chant) for male choir and orchestra**(1910; orch. 1934 by A. Wassermann). About 8 minutes, lyrics by Ernst Decsey. Also available in a version for male choir, brass instruments and organ, and besides in another version for male choir and brass orchestra. "Morgengesang" was originally written for male choir and orchestra in 1910. In the summer of 1932, Marx arranged it for brass orchestra on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of Goethe's death. The latest performances of which I know have been in 1947 (Wiener Schubertbund and the Vienna Symphony Orchestra conducted by Prof. Viktor Keldorfer) and in 1951 (in Switzerland), and also by the Wiener Schubertbund in 1954 (with organ), in 1956 performed by the Niederösterreichisches Tonkünstlerorchester conducted by Leo Lehner and in 1969 conducted by Heinrich Gattermeyer (without orchestra).
- o **„Morgengesang" for male choir, brass orchestra and organ.**
- o **„Morgengesang" for male choir and brass orchestra.**
- o **"Ein Neujahrshymnus" for male choir and organ.**
- o **„Abendweise" (Evening Melody) for male choir, 4 horns, 2 trombones, tuba, timpani and organ**(1912). Duration: 14 minutes. Text: Ernst Decsey.
- o **"Gesang des Lebens" (Song of Life) for male choir and organ**(1914). This work is dedicated to the famous Austrian chorus master Viktor Keldorfer and the Wiener Schubertbund (Vienna Schubert Choral Society). Duration: 6 minutes. Text: Otto Erich Hartleben (from "Diogenes"). This work is also available at Universal Edition in another version for medium voice and piano.

Unpublished (unfinished) choral works (score drafts available at the Austrian National Library):

- o **„Reiters Morgengesang" (Morning Chant of the Horseman) for chorus and orchestra**
- o **An untitled work for male chorus, baritone and organ**

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Non-vocal chamber music:

(Scores are available at UE. **Partially recorded.**)

Works for violin and piano:

1stsonata for violin and piano in A major(1913). About 55-65 minutes. **Already recorded, see "Discography"**.The movements are:

1. Bewegt und frei im Vortrag

2. Rasch und markiert
3. Ruhig
4. Schwungvoll bewegt. Fuga: Moderato

(The 4th movement was also released as "Phantasie und Fuge" for violin and piano.)



2ndsonata ("Frühlingssonate", "Spring Sonata") for violin and piano in D major(1945). About 19-23 minutes. The existing recording (see "Discography") is nothing but a re-issue of a performance from almost 50 years ago. Though composed during the final composing period in which Marx turned towards classicism this enjoyable sonata is rather written in the colorful style of most of his chamber music from around 1910-1915. Here one can be witness of Marx's tendency to reusing memorable theme material from his own earlier chamber and vocal works and developing it within his later orchestral and other works, sometimes even if these were written decades later. So this sonata from the mid 1940s begins with a remarkable tune that can also be heard at the beginning of the opening movement of his first violin sonata from 1913, and we can also hear other short sequences that were used in the first half of "Feste im Herbst" from 1946 (or in the final movement of his Herbstsymphonie (1920/21) that is practically identical with "Feste im Herbst" as shown above).

Brief excursion into the topic "Reuse of material": **Prokofiev** often reworked material in several forms, so did **Vaughan-Williams**. **Mozart** and others arranged their opera tunes for wind band. **Debussy's** piano music is arranged for orchestra. Numerous other composers wrote an opera and a ballet by the same name and used the same material. A hundred years ago most composers transcribed opera and orchestral music for piano. **Mahler** movements were often performed alone. The ballets of **Peter Tchaikovsky** were filleted to make shorter works with other names and plots. The **Khachaturian** violin concerto exists in a near note for note version for flute and orchestra. **Korngold** re-used many of his Hollywood film music themes in his late orchestral works. There are plenty of even more striking examples, e.g. **Elgar** who is known for having extensively repeated a few themes.

The movements of Marx's "Spring Sonata" are:

1. Allegro espressivo
2. Allegretto (im Serenadenton)
3. Moderato

Works for cello and piano:

Suite for cello and piano in F major(1914). About 35 minutes. **Already recorded, see "Discography"**. The movements are:

1. Präludium
2. Fuge
3. Menuett
4. Finale

"Pastorale" for cello and piano(1914). About 6 minutes. **Already recorded, see "Discography"**.

Works for trio ensemble (not yet recorded):

"Trio-Phantasie" (Trio Fantasy) for violin, cello and piano in G minor(1913/14). About 40 minutes. **Not yet recorded**. The movements are:

1. Schwungvoll, aber nicht zu schnell
2. Adagietto: Sehr ruhig
3. Scherzando: Presto
4. Tanz-Finale: Vivace

Works for piano quartet (not yet recorded):

"Klavierquartett in Form einer Rhapsodie" (Piano Quartet in rhapsodic form)(1911). Score: 53 pages. Duration approx. 35 min.

"Ballade (Ballad) for violin, viola, cello and piano" in A minor(1911). Duration approx. 17 min.

"Scherzo for piano quartet"(1911). Score: 33 pages. Duration approx. 15 min.



Joseph Marx - Anna Hansa

Works for string quartet:

String Quartet in A major(1936). This is the original version of the "Quartetto chromatico".

"Quartetto chromatico"(1936, rev. 1948). Duration approx. 29 min. This is a shortened and revised version of the "String Quartet in A major" from 1936. **Already recorded, see "Discography"**.The movements are:

1. Allegro cantabile
2. Scherzo sehr lebhaft
3. Sehr langsam und ausdrucksvoll
4. Allegro

"Quartetto in modo antico"(1937/38). Duration approx. 26 min. **Already recorded, see "Discography"**.Its string orchestra version is available at Doblinger. The movements are:

1. Allegro poco moderato
2. Presto
3. Adagio molto
4. Vivace

"Quartetto in modo classico"(1940/41). Duration approx. 25 min. **Already recorded, see "Discography"**.Its string orchestra version is available at Doblinger. The movements are:

1. Allegro con brio
2. Adagio ma non troppo
3. Tempo di minuetto
4. Poco presto

Rough draft of a work for string quartet(only 3 pages; Austrian National Library)

Works for other chamber ensembles of which the scores are not available:

"Grand Duo" for two cellos(titled "opus 5")

"Adagio for cello"

(My knowledge of these two works is based on documents that are about 50 years old. No more information available.)

UPDATE: These two works (Grand Duo for two cellos and Adagio for cello) were written by another composer named Joseph M. Marx (1792-1836): *JOSEPH M. MARX, born in 1792 at Wurzburg, where he also received his musical education, began his artistic career as member of the Theatre orchestra at Frankfurt-on-the-Main, whence he went to Vienna, in order to study under Merk. Later on he worked in the Stuttgart orchestra, until he was appointed first Violoncellist at Karlsruhe. He finally was musical director there, and died while working in this capacity on November 11, 1836. His daughter, Pauline, made her appearance on the stage as a singer during the years 1880-40.*

Chamber works that are identical with movements of chamber works listed above:

"Phantasie und Fuge" (Fantasy and Fugue) for violin and piano. This is **identical** with the final (4th) movement of the Sonata for violin and piano in A major from 1913 (see above) that has already been recorded (see "Discography"). Its score is separately available.

"Menuett" for cello and piano. This is **identical** with the 3rd movement of the Suite for cello and piano in F major (1914, see above) that has already been recorded (see "Discography"). Its score is separately available.



Franz Schmidt - Joseph Marx - Alexander Wunderer (1923)

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Vocal chamber music:

(Scores are available at UE. **Major part not yet recorded.**)



BILDNIS DES DICHTERS
(AUFGENOMMEN VON JOSEPH MARX
IM JAHRE 1926)

4 Lieder with various small chamber ensemble written in 1916 and based on lyrics by Anton Wildgans (1881-1932) who was one of Marx's closest friends (photo shot by Marx in 1926):

- o "Pan trauert um Syrinx" (Pan mourns for Syrinx) - A mythological scene for high voice, flute and piano. About 8 minutes.

- o **"Adagio"** for medium voice, cello and piano.About 4-5 minutes.
- o **"Du bist der Garten"** (You are the Garden) for medium voice, violin and piano.About 4 minutes.
- o **"Durch Einsamkeiten"** ("Through lonely places" or "Through desert lands") for medium voice, viola and piano.About 3 minutes.



Joseph Marx and Anton Wildgans - As a result of a vein disease in the last period of his life Anton Wildgans required a vehicle for country excursions (caricature by Rudolf Hirschenhauser)



Anton Wildgans and Joseph Marx on August 20, 1924

Works for voice and piano quintet:

"Valse de Chopin" for medium voice and piano quintet.About 4 minutes. Lyrics by Albert Giraud (from "Pierrot Lunaire").

Sommerlied "O Sommerfrühe, blau und hold" (Summer Morning Song) for voice and piano quintet.Lyrics by Emmanuel Geibel. The score of this work is only available at the Austrian National Library.

Works for voice and string quartet:

6 Lieder for voice and string quartetthat are also available in versions for voice and string orchestra (see above):

- o **"Die Begegnung"** (The Encounter) for medium voice
- o **"Der (Die) Liebste spricht"** (The Darling is speaking) for medium voice
- o **"Am Brunnen"** (At the Fountain) for medium voice
- o **"Sendung"** (Message) for medium voice
- o **"Der bescheidene Schäfer"** (The unassuming Shepherd) for high voice
- o **"Wofür"** (Why) for medium voice

[On 25 Jan 2001 IldikóRaimondi and the Artis Quartet performed these six Lieder for voice and string quartet in a version for soprano at the concert hall of the Wiener Musikverein. Here we can see the living popularity of Marx's vocal compositions, at least regarding his songs for voice and piano/ chamber ensemble as these are being performed occasionally.]

"Piemontesisches Volkslied" (Piemontesian Folk Song) for high voice and string quartet(1911). About 1 minute. Lyrics by Max Geissler. Also available in a version for high voice and string orchestra.

„Ständchen" (Serenade) for high voice and string quartet(1912). About 2 minutes. Lyrics by Paul Heyse. Also available in a version for high voice and string orchestra.

"Waldseligkeit" (Bliss in the Woods) for high voice and string quartet(1911). About 3 minutes. Lyrics by Richard Dehmel. Also available in a version for high voice and string orchestra.

"Venetianisches Wiegenlied" (Venetian Lullaby "Nina Ninana") for medium voice and string quartet with harp(1912). About 3 minutes. Lyrics by Paul Heyse. **Also available in two other versions: for medium voice and orchestra or string orchestra with harp (at UE)**. At the Austrian National Library additionally available in a version **for voice and string quartet**.



Felix Weingartner - Joseph Marx - Wilhelm Kienzl (1936)

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Piano pieces:

Six incredibly gorgeous piano pieces from 1916 of which the scores are available at UE and that have already been recorded (see "Discography"):

1. **Albumblatt in E major**
 2. **Humoreske in F sharp minor**
 3. **Arabeske in E flat major**
 4. **Ballade in D minor**
 5. **Präludium and Fuge in E flat minor**
 6. **Rhapsodie in B minor**
-

News

Universal Edition reported that the above six piano pieces will be made available in November 2005 as "Digital Download" at the following web sites:

www.sheetmusicnow.com

www.universaledition.com/downloads

The following ten piano pieces (undated and not yet recorded) will hopefully be published by UE. I'm grateful to the pianist Jonathan Powell who has been evaluating all scores that I sent him in 2004. If UE should publish them, it is thanks to him.

- o **Die Flur der Engel (The Lea of the Angels) - A Tone Poem for piano.**Based on lyrics by H. Frischauf.
- o **Canzone in D major (also available for organ)**
- o **Albumblatt in F major ("Romanze"/"Moderne Klavierstudie")**
- o **Herbstlegende (Autumn Legend)in B minor**
- o **Klavierstück (Piano piece) in C minor / A flat major**
- o **Phantasiestück Intermezzo (Fantasy piece) in F sharp minor**
- o **Nachtstück (Carneval)**

- Klavierstück in G major (3/4)
- Klavierstück in G major (2/4)
- Schmetterlingsgeschichten (Butterfly stories):
 1. Präambulum
 2. Von der Waldglockenblume
 3. Von alter Sehnsucht

And these are the remaining unpublished piano pieces that were declared by Jonathan Powell to be juvenile works or unusable incomplete drafts:

- Ballade in C sharp minor
- Intermezzo in F sharp minor
- Nachtstück (Night Piece) in C minor
- Oriental (Oriental piano piece) in C sharp minor
- Präludium (Prelude) in D major
- Romanze (Romance) in F major
- Walzer Caprice (Waltz Caprice) in F major
- Rough draft of a piano work (no more information available)

Corona-Collection No. 93, Universal Edition:

The "Corona-Collection No. 93", published by Universal Edition, includes Marx's own piano transcriptions of his following seven songs (the collection also includes his piano piece "Albumblatt" from 1916):

- Ein junger Dichter denkt an die Geliebte
- Japanisches Regenlied
- Wie einst
- Wanderers Nachtlied
- Abends
- Sendung
- Die Liebste spricht

Also, the Austrian National Library has the scores of Marx's piano transcriptions of the following two works:

- "Prelude in d minor for organ, BWV 539/1" (Johann Sebastian Bach)
- "Italienische Serenade" ("Italian Serenade"; Hugo Wolf), reduced score or for two pianos



Joseph Marx - Erich Schenk

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Organ pieces:

On behalf of the author of this website, the German organist Arno Hartmann is currently working on an edition of the unpublished organ works by Joseph Marx, with the intention of having them published by Universal Edition as soon as possible.

The choral works with organ are listed above, see "Choral works with/without orchestra".

(The scores of the following organ pieces are only available at the Austrian National Library. **Not yet recorded.**)

"Symphonischer Prolog" (Symphonic Prologue) for organ(1904).

Undated organ pieces:

- **"Variationen/Fantasie über ein norwegisches Volkslied" (Variations or Fantasy on a Norwegian Folk Song)**
- **Canzone in D major**(original version is for piano)
- **Chaconne in E minor**
- **"Choralvorspiel (Choral Prelude) `Alle Menschen müssen leiden, leiden'" in F minor**
- **"Choralvorspiel (Choral Prelude) `Es wird Abend werden'" in A flat major**
- **Memento in B minor**
- **Präludium (Prelude) in C minor**
- **Toccata in C major**

Besides, Marx arranged the following piece for solo organ of which the score is only available at the Austrian National Library:

- **"Melodie (Erinnerung), op. 11 No. 3"**(Roderich von Mojsisovics)

Marx also wrote two works for high voice and organ of which the scores are available at UE:

- **"Marienlied"**(lyrics by Novalis)
- **„Ich hatte viel Bekümmernis"**(Johann Sebastian Bach; arranged by Marx)

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Lieder (Songs)

- **1901:**
 - »Im Frühling«(H. Vogeler), UE 5188 [*Catalog No. at Universal Edition, Vienna*]
 - »Traum durch die Dämmerung«(A. Fritsch)
- **1902:**
 - »Leuchtende Tage«(L. Jakobowski), UE 5189
- **1903:**
 - »Auftrag«(H.Ch. Hölty)
 - »Wie einst«(E. Triebnigg), UE 5177
- **1904:**
 - »Peregrina V«(E. Mörike), UE 5191
 - »Tuch der Tränen«(P. Wertheimer), UE 5190
 - »Con sordino«(H. Hesse), UE 5594
- **1905:**
 - »Lied«(A. de Musset), UE 5163
 - »Schließe mir die Augen beid«(Th. Storm), UE 5598
 - »Schönheit«(C. Busse), UE 5192
- **1906:**
 - »Septembermorgen«(E. Mörike), UE 5171
 - »Wanderers Nachtlied«(J.W. v. Goethe), UE 5193
 - »Windräder«(O. Falke), UE 5178
- **1907:**
 - »Bitte«(H. Hesse), UE 5179
 - »Der Gast«(Th. Fontane), UE 5194
 - »Der Gefangene«(M. Graf), UE 5596
 - »Der Kuckuck ruft«(Königsbrunn - Schaup), UE 5599
 - »Liebe«(P. Heyse), UE 5215 [All other songs from the »Italienisches Liederbuch«were written in 1912.]
 - »Lob des Frühlings«(L. Uhland), UE 5164
- **1908:**
 - »Christbaum«(A. Christen), UE 5151

- »Der Denker«(W. Calé), UE 5154
 - »Ein Fichtenbaum steht einsam«(H. Heine), UE 5195
 - »Ein goldenes Kettlein«(M. Graf), UE 5595
 - »Hat dich die Liebe berührt«(P. Heyse), UE 5160, also with orchestra (UE 6557)
 - »Hochsommernacht«(M. Greif), UE 5161
 - »Im Maien«(J. v. Rodenberg), UE 5197
 - »Serenata«(M. Graf), UE 5597
 - »Toscanischer Frühling«(O. E. Hartleben), UE 5196
- **1909:**
- »Barcarole«(A. F. v. Schack), UE 5150, also with orchestra
 - »Dein Blick«(P. Mongré), UE 5152
 - »Der Ton«(K. Hamsun), UE 5186
 - »Die Elfe«(J. v. Eichendorff), UE 5155
 - »Die Violine«(A. Giraud), UE 5156
 - »Ein Drängen ist in meinem Herzen«(St. Zweig), UE 5202
 - »Ein junger Dichter denkt an die Geliebte«(chinesisches Gedicht; Chinese poem), UE 5157
 - »Erinnerung«(J. v. Eichendorff), UE 5180, also with orchestra (UE 1911)
 - »Frage und Antwort«(F. Rückert), UE 5158
 - »Gesang des Lebens«(O. E. Hartleben), UE 5201
 - »Herbstzeitlose«(Schönaich - Carolath), UE 5198
 - »Hochsommernacht«(M. Greif), UE 5161
 - »Japanisches Regenlied«(Japanese poem), UE 5162, also with orchestra (UE 6555)
 - »Jugend und Alter«(W. Whitman), UE 5199, also with orchestra
 - »Kolumbine«(A. Giraud), UE 5187
 - »Lenzfahrt«(C. F. Meyer), UE 5200; *Autograph can be found at the Stadt-und Landesbibliothek (city library), Vienna*
 - »Maienblüten«(L. Jakobowski), UE 5165, also with orchestra
 - »Marienlied«(Novalis), UE 5166, also in a version with organ and besides for orchestra (1910,UE 6559)
 - »Neugriechisches Mädchenlied«(E. Geibel), UE 5168
 - »O süßer Tod«(A. v. Platen), UE 5169
 - »Pierrot Dandy«(A. Giraud), UE 5170
 - »Sommerlied«(E. Geibel), UE 5172, also with orchestra
 - »Und gestern hat er mir Rosen gebracht«(Th. Lingen), UE 5174, also with orchestra (UE 6553)
 - »Valse de Chopin«(A. Giraud), UE 5175, also with piano quintet (UE 6035)
 - »Warnung«(Gortler), UE 5176
- **1910:**
- »An einen Herbstwald«(W. v. Hartlieb), UE 5183
 - »Dem Genius des Augenblicks«(P. Mongré), UE 5153
 - »Der bescheidene Schäfer«(Chr. Weisse), UE 5181
 - »Der Rauch«(H. Bartsch), UE 5184
 - »Gebet«(G. Falke), UE 5159
 - »Lied eines Mädchens«(W. v. Hartlieb), UE 5182
 - »Nachtgebet«(E. H. Hess), UE 5204
 - »Regen«(P. Verlaine), UE 5185
 - »Sonnenland«(A. Ritter), UE 5173
 - »Traumgekrönt«(R. M. Rilke), UE 5203
- **1911:**
- »Nocturne«(O. E. Hartleben), UE 5205
 - »Piemontesisches Volkslied«(M. Geissler), UE 5211, also with orchestra
 - »Sancta Maria«(A. Mombert), UE 5207
 - »Schlafend trägt man mich«(A. Mombert), UE 5208
 - »Vergessen«(A. Holz), UE 5209
 - »Waldseligkeit«(R. Dehmel), UE 5206, also with orchestra
 - »Wanderliedchen«(M. Geissler), UE 5210
 - »Zigeuner«(M. Geissler), UE 5212, also with orchestra
- **1912:**
- »Selige Nacht«(O. E. Hartleben), also with orchestra
 - »Italienisches Liederbuch«(P. Heyse; composed within only 8 days):
 - Part I:
 1. »Liebe«(was already composed in 1907), UE 5215
 2. »Ständchen«, UE 5216

3. »Der Dichter«, UE 5217
4. »Am Brunnen«, UE 5218, also with string quartet
5. »Die Liebste spricht«, UE 5219, also with string quartet
6. »Abends«, UE 5220
7. »Die Lilie«, UE 5221
8. »Wofür«, UE 5222, also with string quartet
9. »Sendung«, UE 5223, also with string quartet

Part II:

10. »Es zürnt das Meer«, UE 5224
11. »Die Begegnung«, UE 5225, also with string quartet
12. »Die tote Braut«, UE 5226
13. »Wie reizend bist du«, UE 5227
14. »Am Fenster«, UE 5228
15. »Die Verlassene«, UE 5229
16. »Nimm dir ein schönes Weib«, UE 5230
17. »Venetianisches Wiegenlied«, UE 5231, also with orchestra (UE 6551)

o **1914:**

- »Herbst«(J. Marx), UE 5593

o **1915:**

- »Isolde«(B. Frank), UE 5592

o **1916:**

- »Adagio«(A. Wildgans), additionally with cello, UE 5838
- »Du bist der Garten«(A. Wildgans), additionally with violin, UE 5836
- »Durch Einsamkeiten«(A. Wildgans), additionally with viola, UE 5837
- »Pan trauert um Syrinx«(A. Wildgans), additionally with flute, UE 5839

o **1930 –1932:**

- »Verklärtes Jahr«(orchestral song cycle):
 1. »Ein Abschied«(K. M. Fofanow), UE 10690
 2. »Dezember«(O. Kernstock), UE 10691
 3. »Lieder«(Chr. Morgenstern), UE 10692
 4. »In meiner Träume Heimat«(C. Hauptmann), UE 10693
 5. »Auf der Campagna«(J. Marx), UE 10694

o **1935:**

- »Gleich einer versunkenen Melodie«(Chr. Morgenstern), Hofmeister - Figaro 37.455
- »Nachts«(Chr. Morgenstern), Hofmeister - Figaro 37.455

o **1944:**

- »Spaziergang«(A. Mombert), Hofmeister - Figaro 74.154

o **»Lieder und Gesänge. First Volume«(Schuberthausverlag Vienna, 1910)**

1. Barcarole
2. Christbaum
3. Dein Blick
4. Dem Genius des Augenblicks
5. Der Denker
6. Die Elfe
7. Die Violine
8. Ein junger Dichter denkt an die Geliebte
9. Frage und Antwort
10. Gebet
11. Hat dich die Liebe berührt
12. Hochsommernacht
13. Japanisches Regenlied
14. Lied
15. Lob des Frühlings
16. Maienblüten
17. Marienlied
18. Neugriechisches Mädchenlied
19. O süßer Tod
20. Pierrot dandy
21. Septembermorgen
22. Sommerlied

23. Sonnenland
24. Und gestern hat er mir Rosen gebracht
25. Valse de Chopin
26. Warnung
27. Wie einst
28. Windräder

◦ **»Lieder und Gesänge. Second Volume«(Schuberthausverlag Vienna, 1911)**

1. Bitte
2. Erinnerung
3. Der bescheidene Schäfer
4. Lied eines Mädchens
5. An einen Herbstwald
6. Der Rauch
7. Regen
8. Der Ton
9. Kolumbine
10. Im Frühling
11. Leuchtende Tage
12. Tuch der Tränen
13. Peregrina V
14. Schönheit
15. Wandrers Nachtlid
16. Der Gast
17. Ein Fichtenbaum steht einsam
18. Toskanischer Frühling
19. Im Maien
20. Herbstzeitlose
21. Jugend und Alter
22. Lenzfahrt
23. Gesang des Lebens
24. Ein Drängen ist in meinem Herzen
25. Traumgekrönt
26. Nachtgebet

◦ **»Lieder und Gesänge. Third Volume«(Schuberthausverlag Vienna, 1912)**

1. Nocturne
2. Waldseligkeit
3. Sancta Maria
4. Schlafend trägt man mich
5. Vergessen
6. Wanderliedchen
7. Piemontesisches Volkslied
8. Zigeuner
9. Selige Nacht
10. Isolde
11. Herbst
12. Con sordino
13. Ein goldenes Kettlein
14. Der Gefangene
15. Serenata
16. Schließe mir die Augen beide
17. Der Kuckuck ruft

◦ **Undated songs (in alphabetical order):**

- »Abend«(Greif)
- »Abendläuten«(Chr. Morgenstern)
- »Abendlied«(G. Keller)
- »Alte Burg«(A. Fritsch)
- »Auf einem Kirchhof«(A. Fritsch)
- »Berghymne«(A. Fritsch)
- »Der alte Holunderbaum«(R. Graf)
- »Der Dornstrauch«(St. Zweig)

- »Der Mond«(H. Vogeler)
- »Der Ocean«(Müller)
- »Der Waldbach rauscht Erinnerung«(C. Morgenstern)
- »Die Sängerin«
- »Ein Brettellied im Volkston«
- »Erscheinung«(E. v. Schönaich - Carolath)
- »Erstorbner Wald, kein Blättchen bebt«
- »Frühe Nacht«
- »Frühlingsliedchen«(A. Fritsch)
- »Gedenkst du noch«
- »Geständnis«(G. Falke)
- »Gott«(L. Jakobowski)
- »Grabschrift«(Th. Fontane)
- »Heilige Fahrt«(Mahr)
- »Herbstabend«(C. Busse)
- »Impression V«(A. Fritsch)
- »In der Nacht«(J. Bierbaum)
- »Jasmin«(Gödel)
- »Knabe und Bächlein«(A. Fritsch)
- »Lange Liebe«(A. Fritsch)
- »Largo«(A. Fritsch)
- »Leise weht durch die Natur«
- »Lorbeer und Rose«(A. Fritsch)
- »Mädchens Maiklage«(A. Fritsch)
- »Märchen«
- »Melancholie«(Arent)
- »Morgengruß«(H. Vogeler)
- »Nach Hause (L. Jakobowski)
- »Nimmersatte Sehnsucht«(A. Fritsch)
- »Noch blühen Rosen«(Vanselow)
- »Phantasie«(R. Graf)
- »Requiem«(C. F. Meyer)
- »Sang des Schiffermädels«(J. Bierbaum)
- »Sehnsucht«(L. Jakobowski)
- »Spätsommerliedchen«(A. Fritsch)
- »Spielmannslied«(E. v. Schönaich –Carolath)
- »Stirb!«(J. H. Mackay)
- »Traumbild«(Stiglic [possibly a maternal ancestor])
- »Traum einer Toten«(A. Fritsch)
- »Über den Bergen«(C. Busse)
- »Über Tag und Nacht«
- »Vale Carissima«(Stieler)
- »Verklärung«(R. Graf)
- »Vita somnium breve«(R. Graf)
- »Wäsche im Wind«
- »Warte noch«(Rodenberg)
- »Wie einst«(A. Fritsch)
- »Wiegenlied«(G. Falke)
- »Winter«(Cale)
- 2 Lied drafts

(List compiled by: Dr. A. Holzer)

Works by Joseph Marx that were arranged by other composers

- According to a report by a former musician of the Graz Philharmonic Orchestra, the Austrian composer and conductor **Johann Wilhelm Ganglberger**(1876-1938) who was friends with Joseph Marx, has **orchestrated a couple of Marx songs**. These orchestral songs were performed in the 1970s by the Graz Philharmonics under Gustav Cerny or Ernst Märzendorfer (the performances must have been organized by the Musikverein für Steiermark, Graz). Unfortunately, this information has not been confirmed yet.

- As reported to me by Dr. Steven Harlos (University of North Texas), there exists an **orchestration of the "Menuett"** (third movement of Marx's "Suite for Cello and Klavier" in F Major of 1914) in the music library of the above-mentioned university (Music Special Collections). According to Dr. Harlos, this arrangement by **Emil Bauer** which consists of 15 orchestral parts (including harmonium) appears to be a free adaptation, and the cello is not featured as soloist. It is from a collection of arrangements which were used for radio broadcasts in the 1920s and 30s, and it has never been performed at the University. The other listings by the name Emil Bauer show that he has also arranged works by Richard Strauss, Anton Bruckner, Carl Goldmark and others. [Please click here to view the library's catalog entry.](#) The same arrangement can be found in the [music collection of the Austrian National Library](#).
- Heinz Sandauer and Willy Schmidt-Gentner arranged parts of several **orchestral songs** of Joseph Marx ("Marienlied", "Hat Dich die Liebe berührt", "Und gestern hat er mir Rosen gebracht", "An einen Herbstwald") for the Film "**Cordula**" (1950, with Paula Wessely; Director: Gustav Ucicky; after the epic poem "Kirbisch" by Anton Wildgans). The movie also features an orchestrated part of Marx's "**String Quartet in modo classico**" arranged by the same musicians. However, their most striking arrangement of a Marx work in this movie seems to be the stunning orchestration of Marx's **choral work "Ein Neujahrshymnus" ("A New Year's Hymn", arr. for mixed chorus, organ and orchestra!)**, which can be heard at the beginning of the film (approx. 2 minutes) and also at the end (for another 30 seconds): [Neujahrshymnus-1950.mp3](#)
- In 2004, **the composer Stefan Esser and I (the author of this website)** orchestrated the above mentioned work "**Ein Neujahrshymnus**" (original version for male choir and organ) **by arranging it for mixed choir and orchestra**. Universal Edition, Vienna, has already confirmed the **publication** of our arrangement. [For detailed information \(incl. MP3 samples\) please click here.](#)
- In January/February 2004, **Stefan Esser and I** also orchestrated Marx's reduced score of "**Berghymne**" ("**Mountain Hymn**") by arranging it for mixed choir (unison) and orchestra. [Click here for detailed info including a complete Demo recording as an MP3 file.](#)
- In 1934, the choral work "**Morgengesang**" (Morning Chant) was arranged for male chorus and orchestra by A. Wassermann (published by Universal Edition).
- Marx's song "**Nocturne**" (1911; Otto Erich Hartleben) was **arranged for solo piano by Dr. Franz Spieler** (any information about Spieler would be welcomed).
- Marx's piano piece "**Prelude in e flat minor**" (which he composed in 1916 together with the "Fuge") was **arranged for 2 pianos by Louis Ree**.

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 Für die deutsche Version bitte hier klicken 

www.joseph-marx.org

Stefan Esser



Berkant Haydin



Overview of the orchestration projects completed by Stefan Esser and me (Berkant Haydin, the author of the Marx website):

 ["EIN NEUJAHRSHYMNUS", arr. for mixed choir and orchestra \(2004\)](#) 

 ["BERGHYMNE", arranged for mixed choir and orchestra \(2005\)](#) 

News

[February 23rd, 2005:](#) The publisher Universal Edition, Vienna, confirms the publication of our

orchestral arrangement of "EIN NEUJAHRSHYMNUS".

September 21st, 2005: Universal Edition now also confirms the publication of our orchestral arrangement of "BERGHYMNE".

Autumn 2007: After negotiations with Berkant Haydin, the Label Chandos und the conductor of the BBC Symphony Orchestra (Jiri Belohlavek) confirm a CD recording of all choral-orchestral works including our arrangements of "Ein Neujahrshymnus" and "Berghymne" to be coupled with all orchestral songs for high voice (soprano: Christine Brewer). Date of recording: May/June 2008

**"Ein Neujahrshymnus" ("A New Year's Hymn")
by Joseph Marx (1914)**

available at Universal Edition, Vienna

Arranged for mixed choir and orchestra (2004)

by Stefan Esser & Berkant Haydin (author of the Joseph Marx Website)

Early in 2004, I received a message from Prof. Wolfgang Bulla (Graz, Austria) who told me that most of the film music of the [Austrian film "Cordula" \(1950\)](#) consists of orchestral arrangements of non-orchestral works by Joseph Marx. According to the copy of the movie that I obtained thereupon, the film music had been arranged by Willy Schmidt-Gentner and Heinz Sandauer specifically for this film, i.e. they had orchestrated parts of a couple of Marx works. However, it was mainly the theme music at the beginning and during the final credits which attracted my attention. After several days of investigation, I realized that this music was Marx's choral work "**Ein Neujahrshymnus**" ("**A New Year's Hymn**", 1914; **originally written for male choir and organ**), presented in the movie in a gorgeous version for mixed choir and orchestra. As I learned later (from some letters exchanged between Marx and the arrangers in 1950), Marx authorized the orchestral arrangements of his works that were created for the movie.

*

Some time later, I reported to the [composer Stefan Esser](#) about my find. He too was extremely enthusiastic about the wonderful film version of this work and spontaneously suggested that we should orchestrate it ourselves by using the original score of 1914 (written for male choir and organ). But beforehand, I wanted to find the scores and tapes that must have been used for the film in 1950. Therefore, I contacted a huge number of Austrian film institutes, archives, libraries and even the heirs of the movie makers and arrangers of the film music. Finally, I had to see that **the complete material that was used for the film (including scores and tapes) is lost without a trace**. On the other hand, I was able to find out that the arrangers had orchestrated only those parts of the work that are actually audible in the movie (and as mentioned before, the music samples on the movie's soundtrack are equivalent to only one fourth or fifth of the original score of 1914). Important note: The arrangers of the film music version not only made severe cuts on the original score, they even splittet some of the few parts of the score which they used into fragments and pasted these fragments together in a totally different sequence than can be seen in Marx's original score.

*

It was after this very discovery that Stefan Esser and I decided to completely and unchangedly arrange the original score for mixed choir and orchestra. First, in May 2004, we obtained the necessary permission from Universal Edition, Vienna, where the original score of 1914 is published. Then, Stefan Esser started the orchestration of the original score of 1914. I (the author of the website) began to join in some time later. In Summer/Autumn 2004, we spent a part of our spare time working on the score until, on November 26th, 2004, we considered the work finished. Our orchestration is loosely based on the fragmentary film soundtrack (as mentioned, the music audible in the movie represents only a small fraction of the complete original score of 1914).

A live performance of our work will take approx. 10 minutes.

To the best of my knowledge and belief and in my capacity as Marx biographer and expert on Marx's entire oeuvre, I can assure that our orchestration is the closest possible to what Marx would have created if he had orchestrated it himself.

Please view some pages of our score (private print). You can get larger pictures by clicking the thumbnails:

Cover:




Arrangement:



After the actual project seemed to be finished, I had the idea of making **a synthesized recording of our score that should sound as "realistic" as possible**. After 70 hours of work, I was able to present a synthesized recording about which I can claim that the orchestral sound is unexpectedly close to the sound world created by a real orchestra. You can now listen to a couple of **samples of this Demo as MP3 files**. The samples are offered in slightly lowered quality (due to legal reasons) but please rest assured that this will NOT spoil the pleasure of listening to them! Each of the MP3 files provides approx. 30 seconds of music and the files are small enough so that everyone (even those who use a slow modem) will have the chance to **enjoy these samples**:

 **MP3 Sample 1**
(249 KB)

 **MP3 Sample 3**
(439 KB)

 **MP3 Sample 5**
(313 KB)

 **MP3 Sample 2**
(418 KB)

 **MP3 Sample 4**
(371 KB)

 **MP3 Sample 6**
(742 KB)

*(Note: Instead of clicking these MP3 files, you can also download them by **right-clicking** and selecting "Save target as" or "Save link target as".)*

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"Berghymne" ("Mountain Hymn") by Joseph Marx

available at Universal Edition, Vienna

Arranged for mixed choir and orchestra (2005)

by Stefan Esser & Berkant Haydin (author of the Joseph Marx Website)

Early in January 2005, I ordered a copy of Marx's unpublished work "Berghymne" from the Austrian National Library, a work which previously had been listed in my Discography section as an "unfinished draft of a work for

choir and orchestra").

Surprisingly, the score turned out to be a finished "Particell" (a reduced score), i.e. a kind of extended piano score including choral voices (unison) and a few basic orchestral voices. On the top of page 1 of the score, Marx had included the headline "Berghymne for choir and orchestra". Hence, Marx obviously wanted this piece to be worked out for choir and orchestra on a later occasion, and so he captured the essentials in this Particell score, but although his score already includes the outline, he never made the orchestration, perhaps due to lack of time. Also, aside from Marx's unpublished organ and piano pieces and his also unpublished five orchestral songs after Hugo Wolf, "Berghymne" is the only finished work among his unpublished manuscript scores. For these reasons, and since Stefan Esser and I had just completed the orchestration of "Ein Neujahrshymnus" (see above), we immediately knew that it was literally necessary to orchestrate "Berghymne", too. Our arrangement of "Berghymne" for mixed choir and orchestra was completed on March 5th, 2005.

"Berghymne" is a very short piece but still amazingly symphonic why it absolutely deserves to be titled "Hymn". There's no need to mention that this unpublished work has never been performed. Unfortunately, it was impossible to trace the year of origin of Marx's Particell score. However, due to the stylistic resemblance to Marx's other choral works, we have to assume that he wrote it **between 1910 and 1914** which is the period when all of his other choral works were composed.

"Berghymne" is actually one of those rare curiosities of music history leaving behind some mysteries that will most likely remain unrevealed forever. Due to some obvious similarities, one can compare "Berghymne" to "**Der Sturm**" **by Erich W. Korngold**, which is another unique gem for mixed choir and orchestra: Both works are very short; both were written in the very same period; both remained unpublished and were never performed and never mentioned by the composer. It was the producer *Miguel Kertsman* (who is also producing ASV's "Complete Orchestral Music of Joseph Marx" series) who made possible world premiere recordings of "Der Sturm" and other Korngold works that are now available on four Korngold CDs produced by Mr. Kertsman for ASV.

Since a performance of "Berghymne" will take only 3 minutes, the chances of being performed by itself are low. Fortunately, the compositional structures of "Berghymne" allowed us to use almost exactly the same instrumentation as for "Ein Neujahrshymnus", so that **these two works can be performed or recorded successively without the necessity of adding or rearranging instruments or choir members between the two works** (a live performance of "Ein Neujahrshymnus" and "Berghymne" performed successively would take approx. 15 minutes).

Cover:



Arrangement:



Just as I did with "Ein Neujahrshymnus", I made a **synthesized recording** of "Berghymne". **Enjoy the complete piece as an MP3 file:**

 **Berghymne: Complete Demo (MP3)**

(2.4 MB)

Conductors, choirmasters, choir members, musicians and of course any other visitor of this website: I'm looking forward to reading your mail:
office@joseph-marx.org **Thank you!**


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Recording Projects & Concert Listing

REQUEST TO THE READER:

If you should have knowledge of scheduled or already performed concerts or recordings of Marx's music anywhere in the world, I would very much appreciate receiving a message. This kind of interactive support allows me to update and to complete this chapter of my website.

 office@joseph-marx.org

OVERVIEW OF THIS CHAPTER:

- [Recording Projects](#)
 - [ASV's Marx series \(discontinued after 4 CDs\)](#)
 - [cpo's Marx series](#) **NEW**
 - [Chandos's Marx series](#) **NEW**
 - [Other CD projects in the pipeline and latest news](#) **NEW**
- [Concert Listing](#)

Recording Projects

ASV's Marx series (discontinued after 4 CDs):

GENESIS OF THIS PROJECT:

- In June 2001, I was contacted by Andrea Kleibel-Kertsman, Artist Manager and former Sony Classical Record Executive. She informed me that the British label ASV would like to produce a CD presenting some orchestral works by Marx and Korngold. While this concrete project was kept in the pipeline (and, by the way, was never realised), Mrs. Kleibel-Kertsman brought my correspondence with her to the attention of her husband Miguel Kertsman, a record producer and recording executive ([visit his website](#)). Later, in October 2001, I coincidentally contacted Miguel Kertsman without realising the connection between him and Mrs. Kleibel-Kertsman, and drew his attention to my website. When I suggested him to produce a CD series with the complete orchestral works of Joseph Marx, he was highly interested so that I started to provide to him any information that could be required for such a huge project, which also included a **complete schedule of how the CD series could be optimally compiled from Volume 1 to the end.**
- **In February 2002**, i.e. only four months after the beginning of our contact, Miguel Kertsman was able to present the news that the label **ASV, London**, had agreed to undertake the project of a complete orchestral works series with the **Bochumer Symphoniker conducted by Steven Sloane**.
- **In March 2002**, Miguel Kertsman informed me that the **first recording session** would be in **June 2002**, and this is a story of how dreams can

come true...

* * *

VOLUME 1:

The Complete Orchestral Music series starts with the challenging work **Natur-Trilogie (Nature Trilogy) for large orchestra**. The recording sessions took place on June 12-14, 2002 in the Maximilianhalle in Hamm, Germany. I was invited there and so had the chance to be witness to the world premiere recording of this absolutely stunning **masterpiece of impressionism**, revived by the great Bochumer Symphoniker with their brilliant conductor Steven Sloane in co-operation with an excellent recording team (the recording's producer Miguel Kertsman as recording engineer under the assistance of second sound engineer Johannes Müller). This is not only the **first commercial recording of this work at all but also the premiere recording of the uncut original scores** of the trilogy as a whole, since Part 1 (Eine Symphonische Nachtmusik) and Part 3 (Eine Frühlingsmusik) of the trilogy had been performed in shortened versions when they were last played 40-50 years ago. Further details on this CD [can be found here](#).



The Bochum Symphony Orchestra and their conductor Steven Sloane during a recording session of Volume 1 ("Natur-Trilogie" for large orchestra) in the Maximilianhalle in Hamm, Germany between June 12 and June 14, 2002 (photo shot by the author of the website on June 14, 2002). The famous British label ASV already released the highly praised three string quartets by Joseph Marx and will soon record the piano quartets, as well (see below).

*

VOLUME 2:

The second release of ASV's Complete Orchestral Music series presents the **Orchestral Songs including the song cycle "Verklärtes Jahr" (Transfigured Year)** recorded in **September 2003** in the Stadthalle Wuppertal, Germany (a picture of this location can be seen below; it is exactly the location where the Herbstsymphonie was performed for the last time in 1925). The soloists are **Angela Maria Blasi (Soprano) and Stella Doufexis (Mezzo-Soprano)**. The photo was shot by the author of this website (on Sep. 24, 2003) and shows the producer [Miguel Kertsman](#) (left), Stella Doufexis, Angela Maria Blasi and the conductor [Steven Sloane](#) (right) after a long but very fruitful recording session. Further details on this CD [can be found here](#).



*

VOLUME 3

On my suggestion, it was decided to couple the **orchestral works in classical style** (written around 1940) on the third volume of the ASV series: Alt-Wiener Serenaden (Old Vienna Serenades) and the string orchestra arrangements of his own beautiful string quartets "in modo antico" and "in modo classico". The recording sessions took place in the famous historical Stadthalle Wuppertal, Germany, in April 2003. **This gorgeous concert hall is EXACTLY THE LOCATION WHERE MARX'S HERBSTSYMPHONIE WAS PERFORMED FOR THE LAST TIME IN 1925!**



The Bochum SO with their conductor Steven Sloane and the producer Miguel Kertsman during the recording sessions of Volume 3 in Stadthalle Wuppertal, Germany (photo shot by the author of the website in April 2003).

*

VOLUME 4:

Volume 4 as one of the most fascinating projects of this series presents a recording of Marx's piano concertos (the "**Romantic Piano Concerto**" and the 2nd concerto "**Castelli Romani**", of which the latter will be a first recording). This time I had no time to attend the recording sessions but fortunately, I was witness to the most sensational concert I've ever been in my life: Live performances of both concertos in the Schauspielhaus Bochum on January 8 and 9, 2004, just a few days before the recording sessions started. Steven Sloane and the Bochum SO played with much transparency and sensibility, while the phenomenal **pianist David Lively** seemed to be one with the piano and blessed the audience with an unforgettable demonstration of virtuosity. David Lively played the concertos, both of which are indeed very difficult to perform, in a way that was totally new and surprising even for myself. His emotionally powerful and passionate playing was absolutely incredible. The artists were rewarded with thunders of applause by an audience that was obviously electrified. A German newspaper review of one of these performances [can be found here](#).

A brief introduction to the works, and the pianist with the conductor after the performances (please [click the thumbnails to enlarge](#) the photos that were shot by the author of this website on January 8 and 9, 2004):



Artists who contributed to ASV's CD series "The Complete Orchestral Music of Joseph Marx":

The Orchestral Songs...

For more information on these magnificent singers just click the pictures

Stella Doufexis
(Mezzo-Soprano)



Angela Maria Blasi
(Soprano)



The Piano Concertos...

For more information on the American-born virtuoso David Lively just click his picture

David Lively



ALL RELEASES OF THE ASV SERIES

VOL.	WORKS	RECORDED	RELEASED
1	Natur-Trilogie (Nature Trilogy) for orchestra	June 2002	April 2003
2	The orchestral songs and "Verklärtes Jahr" ("Transfigured Year") for mezzo-soprano & orchestra. The soloists are Angela Maria Blasi (soprano) and Stella Doufexis (mezzo-soprano).	Sept. 2003	June 2004
3	"Vienna Serenades" - The works in traditional style: "Old Vienna Serenades" and the string orchestra arrangements of his string quartets "in modo antico" and "in modo classico"	April 2003	Nov. 2004
4	The two piano concerti: "Romantisches Klavierkonzert" (Romantic Piano Concerto) and "Castelli Romani". The soloist is the American virtuoso David Lively whose repertory also includes the large-scale piano concertos by Furtwängler and Busoni.	Jan. 2004	May 2005
5 or 6	All choral works (two third of which are with orchestral accompaniment; partially orchestrated by the author of this website and the composer Stefan Esser)	Project discontinued in 2004	---
5 or 6	Herbstsymphonie (Autumn Symphony) and Nordland-Rhapsodie (Nordic Rhapsody) for large orchestra, to be released on a double disc set	Project discontinued in 2004	---

* * *

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cpo's Marx series

In 2006, cpo has released a recording of Marx's three string quartets (performed by the Thomas Christian Ensemble, Austria). Berkant Haydin, the author of this website, gained knowledge of this recording when cpo asked him to write the booklet notes. Before the CD was released, Berkant spoke with cpo's manager Mr. Burkhard Schmilgun and suggested several other CD projects. Mr. Schmilgun indicated great interest and contacted Mrs. Haide Tenner from the ORF (Austrian Broadcast Company) who is also the President of the Vienna Radio Symphony Orchestra. Subsequently, Mr. Schmilgun confirmed the following CD projects:

- CD of three symphonic poems by Joseph Marx: "Eine Frühlingsmusik", "Idyll" and, as a world premiere recording, "Feste im Herbst" (Autumnal Revelries; which Marx has formed as a symphonic poem by re-working the final movement of the Herbstsymphonie). The CD was recorded by the

Vienna Radio Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Johannes Wildner in March 2007. It will be released in September 2008.

- CD of the rare songs for medium voice, to be performed by Ms. Angelika Kirchschrager (mezzo-soprano) and the pianist Anthony Spiri. The recording will take place later this year or in Spring 2009.
- CD of the organ works (world premiere recording), to be performed by Arno Hartmann.
- CD of the three piano quartets (world premiere recording).
- CD of the Trio-Phantasie (world premiere recording) and the 2nd violin sonata (premiere commercial recording for the past 50 years).
- In September 2007, Stefan Esser (Vice President of the Joseph Marx Society) met the Finnish conductor Ari Rasilainen who is mainly working in Germany. A few months earlier, Mr. Rasilainen already had received a mail presenting the Herbstsymphonie. Mr. Rasilainen was extremely enthusiastic when he saw the score and could easily persuade Mr. Schmilgun (cpo) of doing a studio recording of this work in conjunction with previous live concerts.

* * *

Chandos's Marx series

In November 2005, Berkant Haydin sent Chandos a couple of scores and archival recordings of works by Joseph Marx and suggested a Vocal Music CD that should include the choral works. Mr. Ralph Couzens, Managing Director of Chandos, was already interested in Marx since he had negotiated with the American soprano Christine Brewer to record Marx's orchestral songs. Mr. Couzens was very interested in Berkant's suggestion to produce a CD of the choral works as a world premiere recording and the orchestral songs. He contacted Jiri Belohlavek, chief conductor of the BBC Symphony Orchestra. In August 2007, finally, the orchestra confirmed to do this project so that Chandos, in the meantime, has scheduled the following CDs:

- All works for choir and orchestra as a world premiere recording ("Herbstchor an Pan", "Ein Neujahrshymnus", "Berghymne" and "Morgengesang") coupled with all 12 orchestral songs for high voice. Recording date: Mai/June 2008. The CD is being produced with sponsorship kindly granted by the Telekom Austria, while many other requirements of the project (for instance, paying for computer set orchestra parts of "Herbstchor an Pan" and providing the booklet notes in two languages) are being supplied by the Joseph Marx Society. Performers' names are mentioned under the photograph below.
- Also, in July 2008, Chandos has released a CD of Marx's piano music including four unpublished peaces, performed by Tonya Lemoh. The CD can already be seen in our "Discography" section.



June 27th 2008: The BBC Symphony Orchestra & Chorus, the Apollo Voices and the Trinity Boys' Choir conducted by Jiri Belohlavek during a rehearsal session of the world premiere recording of Marx's choral works at Watford Town Hall. Nearly 260 musicians were part of this non-public recording of the

label Chandos. The CD is to be released in January 2009. It will include all orchestral songs for high voice, performed by the soprano Christine Brewer.



June 29th 2008: From left to right: Assistant Engineer Jonathan Cooper and Managing Director Ralph Couzens (Chandos) with Producer Rachel Smith (Ophelia Productions) and Stefan Esser, Vice President of the Joseph Marx Society, after having finished the world premiere recording of the choral works in Watford Town Hall. The photo was taken by Berkant Haydin, author of this website and General Secretary of the Joseph Marx Society.

* * *

Other CD projects in the pipeline and latest news

- On the initiative of Mrs. Haide Tenner, the ORF (Austrian broadcast company) in January 2008 released a CD of historical recordings of Marx's songs and orchestral songs with the composer accompanying his own piano songs, see "Discography" section.
- The German cellist Michael Schlechtriem and the pianist Noriko Kitano will record Marx's "Pastorale" for cello and piano in January 2009 with the German label [Genuin](#). The CD will also present cello works by Frederick Delius, Erich Wolfgang Korngold and Stefan Esser, Vice President of the Marx Society.



Listing of concerts and informative events

OVERVIEW:

- **Upcoming** concerts and informative events
- **Archived** concerts and informative events

February 28th 2011 and March 1st 2011: The Austrian pianist **Markus Schirmer** will perform Marx's piano concerto "**Castelli Romani**" in Graz, Austria (promoter: Musikverein für Steiermark).

Spring 2009: On the recommendation of Berkant Haydin and the soprano **Angela Maria Blasi**, the conductor **Zubin Mehta**, the **Vienna Philharmonic** and Ms. Blasi will perform **Orchestral Songs** by Joseph Marx on February 18th, 2009 in Vienna (Musikverein), February 28th, 2009 in New York (Carnegie Hall) and March 3rd 2009 in Los Angeles (Disney Hall). The program will include orchestral songs by Hugo Wolf and Franz Schubert.



December 7th, 2008: On the recommendation of Berkant Haydin, the conductor **Leon Botstein** and the **American Symphony Orchestra** will perform the **Herbstsymphonie (Autumn Symphony)** at the Avery Fisher Hall, Lincoln Center, **New York**.

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Audio samples of the unknown orchestral works & original interviews

OVERVIEW OF THIS CHAPTER:

-  **5 chronological audio samples of broadcast interviews with Joseph Marx (Josef Marx) from Mai 10, 1952 (incl. text versions) in several audio formats including mp3**
-  **Numerous audio samples of Marx's orchestral works, also available in several audio formats including mp3**
- **Technical notes on the audio files (including support for beginners)**

Original broadcast interviews with Joseph Marx

Sample 1:

Marx talking about his childhood and youth and about his everlasting love to mother nature which he expressed by composing works like "Herbstsymphonie", "Eine Frühlingsmusik" and many of his Lieder:

Interview-Sample01

[download](#) (377,1 kB)

[stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)

[stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)

TEXT VERSION:

"Ja, es sind alle möglichen Geschichten, die einem da durch den Kopf gehen. Und man muß sich besonders davor hüten, eventuell so zu tun, als wäre man - wie es die Eltern häufig von ihren Kindern meinen - ein besonderes Genie, besonders begabt. Sie wissen, bis zum siebenten Jahr ist ja jedes Kind so ungeheuer originell, und dann später verliert sich diese Originalität immer mehr, und man muß froh sein, wenn man einen Teil dieser Ursprünglichkeit in die weitere Zukunft rettet. Ich kann aus meiner Kindheit gar nicht viel Wichtiges berichten, außer daß ich natürlich gerne unter dem Klavier saß, wenn die



Mutter ihre Konzertstücke übte. Oder daß ich zum Beispiel sehr gerne zuhörte, wenn der Vater Walzer spielte; daß ich in den Noten blätterte, ohne die Noten zu kennen, und vor allem sozusagen die Passagen rein optisch würdigte, ohne eine blasse Ahnung zu haben - was man ja von einem 3-4jährigen Kind auch nicht verlangen kann. Ohne eine Ahnung davon zu haben, was das eigentlich alles bedeutet; ich sah da Gebirge, Abstürze, sogar manchmal wilde Löwen, das war das Pedalzeichen. Das schaut ja wirklich einem Löwen ähnlich, wenn man eine kindliche Phantasie hat und diese wilden Tiere nur aus dem Bilderbogen kennt. Das Merkwürdige ist, daß - wie Sie wissen - man sich in der Jugend für alles interessiert und daß die Begabungen sich sozusagen erst später spezialisieren. Man hat für alles Interesse. Ich hab' als junger Mann gemalt, merkwürdigerweise gemalt, und zwar äußerst schlecht natürlich. Ich habe keinen ordentlichen Unterricht gehabt, hab' herumgebatzt, und erst kürzlich, dadurch, daß ich einen Freund meiner Jugend, der damals Untergymnasiast war, getroffen hab', und der sich nach dem Verbleib meiner Gemälde erkundigt hat, bin ich mit Schrecken erinnert worden, daß ich Bilder verfaßt habe, Bilder gemalt und angestrichen habe, aber es war natürlich eine schauerliche Kleckserei. Das Interesse für diese Kunst war auch irgendwie wach geworden, ebenso für die Dichtkunst. Ich habe natürlich auch gedichtet, aber nicht Mädchen angedichtet, keine Liebesgedichte, sondern Naturgedichte gemacht, und diese Freude zur Natur ist mir auch später geblieben, mit dem Hinweis darauf, daß ich dann "Herbstsymphonie" komponierte und "Eine Frühlingsmusik" und daß ich Liebeslieder machte, in denen die Natur eine wesenhafte Rolle spielt."

Sample 2:

Chronological autobiography including some information about his special link to Italy:

Interview-Sample02

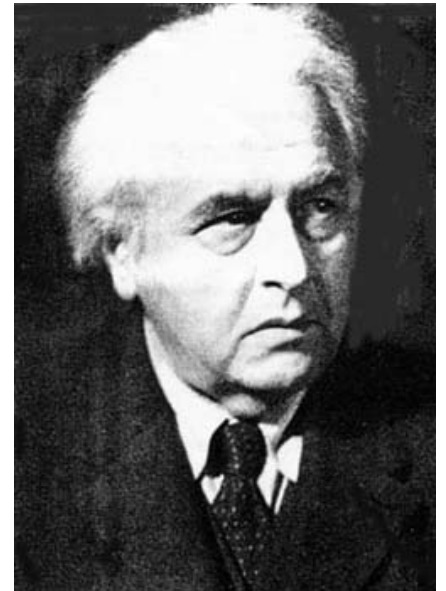
[download](#) (309,3 kB)

[stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)

[stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)

TEXT VERSION:

"Ich wurde am 11. Mai 1882 als Sohn eines Arztes geboren, studierte auch in Graz, machte das philosophische Doktorat, erhielt von der Fakultät einen ersten Preis für eine musikwissenschaftliche Arbeit. Ich beschäftigte mich natürlich nebstbei viel mit Musik, die bald mein Hauptberuf wurde. Angefangen habe ich als Komponist mit Orgelwerken. Mein erstes, mit Erfolg aufgeführtes Werk war ein Orgelstück, eine "Chaconne", die in Brünn von dem sehr bekannten und bedeutenden Organisten Burckert aufgeführt wurde. Eine Skizze einer Symphonie, Klavierstücke, alle möglichen Kompositionsformen beschäftigten mich, bis ich mich dann einige Zeit ganz der Liedkomposition zuwandte, vielleicht auch beeinflusst - und stark beeinflusst - dadurch, daß ich eine Liedersängerin fand, die meinen Stil und meine künstlerischen Absichten voll verstand: Frau Anna Hansa. Ich bin viel nach Italien gefahren, ich bin ein mediterraner Mensch. Ich habe die bekannte, altgermanische Sehnsucht nach dem Süden immer gehabt, schon als junger Mann. Auch dadurch vielleicht beeinflusst und begeistert, weil meine Großmutter eine gebürtige Italienerin war und uns schon als Kindern viel von Italien erzählte. Im Jahr 1914 bekam ich eine Berufung an die Musikakademie. Dort setzte ich mich als Komponist durch, und auch als Lehrer. Später wurde ich 1922 der Direktor der Anstalt, und ebenso später der Rektor, im Jahre 1925. Ich wurde dann auch mehrmals in geheimer Abstimmung von sämtlichen Lehrern einstimmig gewählt."



Sample 3:

Detailed information about his students (list of names) who later worked in the field of serious/light music.

Interview-Sample03

[download](#) (342,1 kB)

[stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)

[stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)

TEXT VERSION:

"Ich habe viele Schüler unterrichtet, und zwar Schüler in den verschiedensten Sparten. Ich habe ernste Komponisten ausgebildet, und sehr begabte Komponisten der Unterhaltungssparte. Unter den ernstesten Komponisten, die in meiner Schule gesessen sind, brauche ich nur beispielsweise den Armin

Kaufmann zu erwähnen, der im vergangenen Jahr den Strauss-Preis bekommen hat. Ich könnte noch den David [Anm.: Johann Nepomuk David] erwähnen, der in Stuttgart jetzt - wie ich weiß, soviel ich weiß - Direktor der Anstalt ist, einer der führenden modernen Musiker. Ich könnte unter den Dirigenten den Horenstein [Jascha Horenstein] erwähnen, der jetzt in den USA wirkt. Ebenso einen Schüler, den Dr. Deutsch Dorian, der in Pittsburgh Universitätsprofessor ist und der mir gerade einen reizenden Brief geschrieben hat, wie ich ja wirklich aus der ganzen Welt Briefe bekam, aus Neuseeland ebenso wie aus Amerika. Ich habe mich gefreut, manchmal Namen zu hören, die mir eigentlich schon ziemlich in Vergessenheit geraten waren. [Ab hier über seine Schüler aus der Unterhaltungsmusik.] Nun, da zählt vor allem, nicht wahr, Kattnigg und Melichar, obwohl diese beiden Musiker auch ernste Musik, und zwar sehr begabte ernste Musik geschrieben haben, und ich vermute, daß sie fallweise noch immer in die Sparte dieser ernstesten Kunst übersiedeln werden. Aber auch Sandauer ist ein Schüler von mir, Zelibor ist ein Schüler von mir. Ebenso ist mein Schüler der Hagen - der Köstelbauer -, der hier in einem benachbarten Radio wirkt. Ich habe in der Unterhaltungssparte unter den Filmkomponisten, auch unter den Schlagerkomponisten, eine Anzahl von begabten Künstlern ausgebildet, und ich freue mich, denn auch dieser Zweig der Musik - soweit er wienerisch ist und soweit er unsere klassische Unterhaltungsmusik fortsetzt - ist besonders wichtig für das musikalische Weichbild von Österreich."



Sample 4:

About his life and work as a music critic.

Interview-Sample04

[download](#) (198,3 kB)

[stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)

[stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)

TEXT VERSION:

"Ich habe als ganz junger Mann schon Musikkritiken geschrieben, und zwar angeleitet und entdeckt von dem Dr. Decsey, der ein ausgezeichnete Bücherschreiber und auch Kritiker war. Da hab' ich in der Jugend viel von ihm lernen können. Später schrieb ich im Wiener Journal durch eine Reihe von Jahren Kritiken und bin jetzt wieder kritisch tätig an der amtlichen Wiener Zeitung. Nebstbei schrieb ich natürlich in vielen Fachzeitschriften Abhandlungen über Musiktheorie, über gewisse wichtige Fragen, wie zum Beispiel die Anordnung der Stimmen in einem Klavierauszug und ähnliches mehr. Auch ein Band meiner Kritiken wurde vor einigen Jahren von einem leider verstorbenen Schüler, dem Dr. Ortner, veröffentlicht, ein dicker Band, in dem eigentlich ein ziemlich ausgiebiger Abriß über das Musikleben der letzten zehn oder zwölf Jahre vor 1938 enthalten ist. Ebenso hat ein Schüler meine theoretischen Kurse irgendwie - unter meiner Hilfe natürlich - genauer fixiert und meine ... [unverständlich] verwendet und ein kurzes Lehrbuch für Harmonie und ein kurzes Lehrbuch für Kontrapunkt herausgegeben. Auch weitere diesbezügliche Publikationen sind sozusagen am Wege."



Sample 5:

About his compositions and his basic philosophy as a composer.

Interview-Sample05

[download](#) (210,1 kB)

[stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)

[stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)

TEXT VERSION:



"Ich habe mich als Lyriker, gerade zwischen den Jahren 1920 und 1930, besonders beschäftigt. Später habe ich nur fallweise wieder Lieder komponiert. Und es ist bekannt, daß man eigentlich in diesen Zeiten den sogenannten Liederfrühling mitmacht. Dasselbe gilt für Wolf, dasselbe gilt auch für Richard Strauss. Später habe ich mich der Kammermusik zugewendet, habe sinfonische Werke geschrieben, zwei Klavierkonzerte, drei Streichquartette, verschiedene Stimmungsbilder, Naturbilder, in Musik gesetzt, und mich dann wieder etwas mehr klassizistisch betätigt, nicht so impressionistisch gemalt, überschwänglich mit Farben gespielt, sondern mehr dem klassischen, maßvollen



Schaffen mich zugewendet, wobei natürlich gelegentliche Rückfälle immerhin eintreten können und hoffentlich auch eintreten werden, denn im Grunde genommen bin ich ein begeisterter, trotz meines Alters noch immer überschwenglicher Mensch, der das Schöne in der Kunst sucht und an das Positive des Leben glaubt, und deshalb auch in seinem Schaffen als Ehrlicher sozusagen bekennt, was er fühlt."

[🔗 Back to the overview of this chapter](#)

Audio samples of his orchestral works

Almost none of the following works - aside from the "Romantic Piano Concerto" of which I here present three excerpts from a *Jorge Bolet* performance - has ever been recorded on LP or CD. In other words, this is the **only chance to become witness to Marx's great mastership** beyond his known Lieder and chamber music.

The following music samples have an average duration of 60-80 seconds and an average size of 500 KByte which means that a **56K modem** should need **about 90-120 seconds for downloading each music sample**.

"Ein Neujahrshymnus" ("A New Year's Hymn") for mixed choir, organ and orchestra (1914). The orchestrated version that is available for download here was arranged by Heinz Sandauer and Willy Schmidt-Gentner for the film "[Cordula](#)" (1950; with Paula Wessely):

Neujahrshymnus-1950

[download](#) (1520,2 kB)

[stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)

[stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)

"Ein Neujahrshymnus" ("A New Year's Hymn") for mixed choir and large orchestra, in the new version orchestrated in 2004 by Stefan Esser and Berkant Haydin (the author of this website). Our version is now published by Universal Edition. Click here for more information on this work: [Neujahrshymnus](#)

Here you can listen to six samples representing typical parts of our 2004 orchestration. The synthesized recording sounds unexpectedly real. Enjoy especially the last two samples (5 and 6) that sound amazingly gorgeous!

Neujahrshymnus-2004__Sample1

[download](#) (248,7 kB)

[stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)

[stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)

Neujahrshymnus-2004__Sample2

[download](#) (438,5 kB)

[stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)

[stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)

Neujahrshymnus-2004__Sample3

[download](#) (312,8 kB)

[stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)

[stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)

Neujahrshymnus-2004__Sample4

[download](#) (417,6 kB)

[stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)

[stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)

Neujahrshymnus-2004__Sample5

[download](#) (370,7 kB)

[stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)

[stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)

Neujahrshymnus-2004__Sample6

- [download](#) (741,2 kB)
 - [stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)
 - [stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)
-

"Berghymne" ("Mountain Hymn") for mixed choir and large orchestra, in its new version orchestrated in 2005 by Stefan Esser and Berkant Haydin (the author of this website). Our version is now published by Universal Edition. Click here for more information on this work:

[Berghymne](#)

Now you can listen to the full 2005 version. Its a synthesized recording as well but let me just say: If you enjoyed the synthesized samples of "Neujahrshymnus" (above), then you will LOVE this one!

Berghymne

- [download](#) (2448,6 kB)
 - [stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)
 - [stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)
-

"Feste im Herbst" aka "Herbstfeier" ("Autumnal Revelries") for large orchestra (1946; is almost identical with the 4th movement of the Herbstsymphonie from 1921):

Feste-im-Herbst__Sample1

- [download](#) (295,4 kB)
- [stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)
- [stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)

Feste-im-Herbst__Sample2

- [download](#) (438,2 kB)
- [stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)
- [stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)

Feste-im-Herbst__Sample3

- [download](#) (416,6 kB)
- [stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)
- [stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)

Feste-im-Herbst__Sample4

- [download](#) (290,9 kB)
- [stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)
- [stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)

Feste-im-Herbst__Sample5

- [download](#) (520,0 kB)
- [stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)
- [stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)

Feste-im-Herbst__Sample6

- [download](#) (468,6 kB)
- [stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)
- [stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)

Feste-im-Herbst__Sample7

- [download](#) (593,8 kB)
 - [stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)
 - [stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)
-

"Romantic Piano Concerto" (1916-19; here performed by Jorge Bolet):

Romantic-Piano-Concerto__Sample1

[download](#) (589,3 kB)

[stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)

[stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)

Romantic-Piano-Concerto__Sample2

[download](#) (657,9 kB)

[stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)

[stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)

Romantic-Piano-Concerto__Sample3

[download](#) (619,8 kB)

[stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)

[stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)

"Nature Trilogy" - Three impressions for large orchestra (1922-25):

Symphon-Nachtmusik

[download](#) (529,6 kB)

[stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)

[stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)

Idylle

[download](#) (661,6 kB)

[stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)

[stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)

Fruehlingsmusik

[download](#) (623,6 kB)

[stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)

[stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)

"Nordic Rhapsody" for large orchestra (1929):

Nordland-Rhapsodie__Sample1

[download](#) (765,7 kB)

[stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)

[stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)

Nordland-Rhapsodie__Sample2

[download](#) (646,4 kB)

[stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)

[stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)

Nordland-Rhapsodie__Sample3

[download](#) (641,4 kB)

[stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)

[stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)

Nordland-Rhapsodie__Sample4

[download](#) (623,6 kB)

[stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)

[stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)

2nd piano concerto "Castelli Romani" (1929-30):

Castelli-Romani__Sample1

[download](#) (651,4 kB)

[stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)

[stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)

Castelli-Romani__Sample2

[download](#) (626,1 kB)

[stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)

[stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)

Castelli-Romani__Sample3

[download](#) (682,0 kB)

[stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)

[stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)

Song Symphony "Verklärtes Jahr" (Transfigured Year) for alto and orchestra (1930-32):

Verklaertes-Jahr__Sample1

[download](#) (560,7 kB)

[stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)

[stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)

Verklaertes-Jahr__Sample2

[download](#) (395,0 kB)

[stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)

[stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)

Verklaertes-Jahr__Sample3

[download](#) (493,4 kB)

[stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)

[stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)

Verklaertes-Jahr__Sample4

[download](#) (254,1 kB)

[stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)

[stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)

Verklaertes-Jahr__Sample5

[download](#) (279,5 kB)

[stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)

[stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)

Verklaertes-Jahr__Sample6

[download](#) (392,5 kB)

[stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)

[stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)

"Old Vienna Serenades" for large orchestra (1941-42):

Alt-Wiener-Serenaden__Sample1

[download](#) (641,4 kB)

[stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)

[stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)

Alt-Wiener-Serenaden__Sample2

[download](#) (632,5 kB)

[stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)

[stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)

Alt-Wiener-Serenaden__Sample3

[download](#) (632,5 kB)

[stream](#) (MIME: audio/x-mpegurl)

[stream](#) (MIME: application/x-mplayer2)

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Technical notes

All audio samples were encoded using LAME.

Encoding settings for the interview files:

- 24 kbit/s
- 11.025 kHz
- --voice
- mono-aural

Suitable for streaming (requires 33k or faster connection) or downloading.

Encoding settings for the music files:

- 56 kbit/s
- 22.5 kHz
- joint-stereo

Suitable for streaming (requires 64k/ISDN or faster connection) or downloading.

Streaming: If the settings of your browser are correct, a click on *stream* will start a helper application for playing this track while it downloads.

With *MIME: audio/x-mpegurl* it is most likely that your favourite MP3-player starts e.g. WinAmp.

With *MIME: application/x-mplayer2* MediaPlayer2 (freeware of Microsoft) will launch.

If this fails, you can use the following method: right-click on a *download*-link, choose »*copy link location*« and paste it into e.g. WinAmp under »*play location*«.

Download: If you have a slow connection, you can right-click on a *download*-link and choose »*save file as...*« and play it from your local disk after the download.

Here is the raw directory of our audio-files: www.Joseph-Marx.org/audio-samples/

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Joseph Marx and the Third Reich

(Translated from the German by Dr. Brian Pfaltzgraf)

Excerpted from a letter sent to Joseph Marx by Ernst Fischer (a famous Austrian politician and renowned [Karl] Marxist) on 11 May, 1962, celebrating Marx's 80th birthday:

"Your music reflects the Austrian landscape: the vineyards, the golden leaves of autumn, the brilliant sky overhead, melancholy and kindness, vitality and life, a dream, romantically bewitching Austria. Your strength of character cannot be contained by the borders of this land; you rejected all devils' bargains, and made no concession to conquerors and rulers. Your imagination is not a retreat from reality, and

what rings the truest, is a courageous heart. It is also the wellspring of your mood, which is in opposition to Austrian sloppiness, namely attacks against all overblown, disrespectful dialog about authority. Your rapier wit always complements your gentlest music. You not only have rhythm; you've also got guts. And that, in this place, is to be praised above all else. Therefore, thank you, dear Sir, for your artistry and your courage."

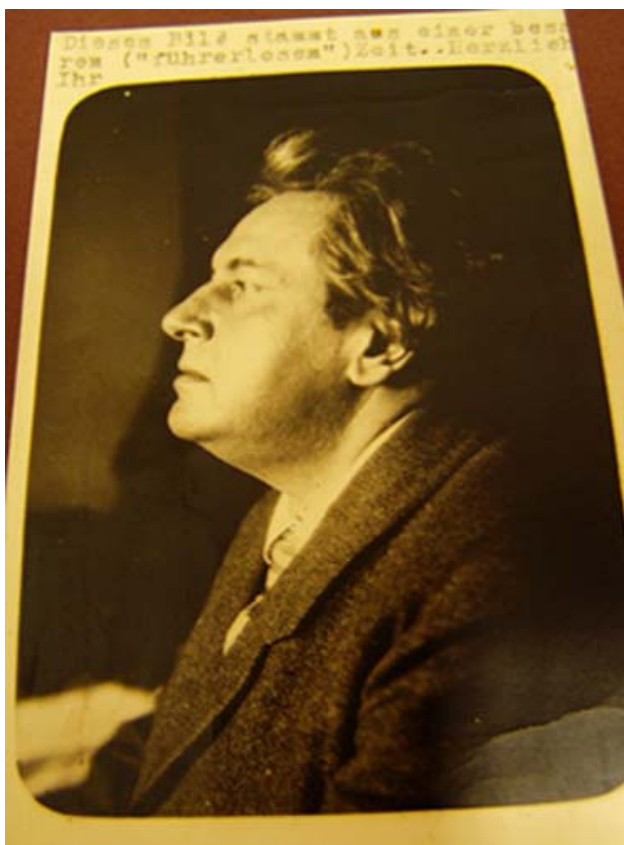
It isn't widely known outside Austria that for decades in his homeland, Joseph Marx has been closely associated with the Nazi regime. This belief led to "denunciations" as well as labels such as "Marx, the Nazi boot-licker" or "Nazi-lover." Some even believe Marx was a card-carrying Nazi.

Artists such as Richard Strauss, Wilhelm Furtwängler, Hans Pfitzner, Walter Gieseking or Oskar Sala have also been connected to the Nazi regime. Each case has its own unique circumstances. A fundamental lack of information concerning the events and background of the times, paired with a reluctance to air out the veil of history in an attempt to unearth unorthodox truths, and to examine each issue from all sides, is often at fault. Also the modern, widespread tendency toward political correctness as well as the temptation - mainly out of laziness - to be in agreement with the majority, has as its unavoidable result, that an unbiased discussion of such a subject is practically impossible.

The following observation is presented in the form of a comparison of questions and facts that will serve as clarification of not only this subject, but can also be partly transferred to other artists of that era, and should help the reader form an objective opinion. The information collected here is drawn from the biographies and writings listed in the "Bibliography," and also relies heavily on dozens of interviews I conducted with persons who worked and interacted privately with Joseph Marx. In addition, I will use the contents of over one hundred letters written over a period of fifty years by Marx himself as a basis for my future updates. A final discussion will close this chapter.

Was Marx a Nazi sympathizer or at least, a conformist?

As an outspoken individualist and completely devoted to art and music, Marx never in his life joined a specific political movement. Based on his conservative views of tonality and composition, and his long-established position as one of the leading music teachers in Austria it was in the Ministry of Propaganda's best interests to exploit Marx for specific political purposes (as it happened with many other artists and cultural figures of the time). This is most evident in that Marx presented lectures in which he especially praised the performance activity and the multi-faceted nature of musical life in the Nazi state. It must be noted that in these lectures Marx avoided concrete political pronouncements and limited himself to the evaluation of efforts in the musical arena particularly in the areas of cultural and musical heritage and suggestions pertinent to that; in other words, to themes over which he could exercise his own judgment.



This photo accompanied a letter that Marx wrote to a friend whose identity can no longer be determined. One should note the greeting that Marx typed above the photograph:

"This photo was taken in a happier (Führerless) time".

Numerous sources (either letters, or oral anecdotes) substantiate that Joseph Marx never made a secret of his attitude toward National Socialism and its effect on Austria.

In the interests of self-preservation, Marx, a well-respected figure throughout Austria long before the Nazi seizure of power, had to conduct himself diplomatically and tread a very dangerous balancing act. The Ministry of Propaganda had the means and the power to place uncooperative artists in the worst possible situations, in which performances or exhibitions of their works would be banned. Far-reaching measures were in place, through which people could simply be removed from their jobs and their assets seized, and all too often notes and manuscripts would be confiscated; compositions and literary works by many non-Jewish artists were also burned or otherwise destroyed and lost forever.

The opposite happened to many artists during World War II (Berger, David, Egk, Gerster, Kurt Hessenberg, Höffer, Höller, Pepping, von Reznicek, Trapp, Weismann, Zilcher) - including Marx - contributions were paid them, in an effort to keep them working and to use their reactions for political purposes (compare to "Musik im NS-Staat" by Fred Prieberg, p. 267). The possibility that Marx accepted this contribution as payment for his lectures is not evident in any extant sources. It is all too often forgotten that at that time, Marx the composer, who for decades was the ambivalent central figure of tonal music in Austria, was under constant threat of displacement by proponents of the rapidly developing Avant-garde. It can be deduced that he sought to use his lectures as a platform for the advancement of his own musical viewpoint, with which he went so far as to try to be a positive legislative influence on the cultural development of the populace. This, from Marx's point of view, had nothing to do with the current political system, rather he stood - independent of political world-views - only for the maintenance of cultural, artistic and spiritual interests.

This must be drawn from one decisive point: that between 1935-45, Marx - precisely during the time in which central Europe, under the influence of the Third Reich was slowly being dragged in a warlike direction far removed from artistic and sensitive climate (which Marx recognized early on) - composed in a purely traditional style ("... in modo antico", "... in modo classico", Old Vienna Serenades), not only in reaction to the music of the Avant-garde and as a pedagogical guide for young composers, but also because he believed that in this way he could protect and bring through a dark age the high spiritual standards which he had always championed.

In light of this situation, it is interesting that Marx, in the final days of the Nazi regime, turned down numerous invitations to speak with patently absurd excuses that were completely unacceptable to the Reich Propaganda Office, for example, "I have to administer a test" or better still, "I don't have any money for carfare," to which the propaganda office, by the way, promised to send him a train ticket.

From my conversations with Marx's surviving friends the following impression is formed. Marx had to have been a charismatic and free-spirited non-conformist, who in meetings with Nazi functionaries "spoke his mind" with no regard for consequences and "in no way allowed himself to be taken advantage of". One of my interviewees told me a number of anecdotes that proved beyond all doubt that Marx was a master of irony and was not afraid to make Nazi functionaries "look like fools". Also, in many of his letters Marx indicated his displeasure about Austria being swallowed by the Nazi regime.

Additionally, in the last part of his life after World War II Marx repudiated much of what he had said during his service in the Nazi regime's propaganda program. If from this one gathers that Marx always sought to conform and subordinate himself to the current political landscape - a further assumption - , with respect to the above arguments and in light of the era's overall complex obligations between politics and art only one conclusion can be reached. It allows one thing to be said with certainty, namely that in the fifties, Marx began a slow retreat from public life and focused himself on his never-conquered inner connection with nature and its mystical connection with art. Marx described this directly in the revealing ORF interviews from 1952, saying that he had remained fundamentally connected with Nature during his entire life, and this connection had sustained his well-known effusiveness. Also his many private papers from the 1950's prove that he always sought to propagate music and culture as innate and undeniable expressions of personal and artistic human freedom. And as it will be shown later, there was yet another, more convincing reason, that in some situations Marx acquiesced to party plans for the development of culture and music.

At this point it should be briefly mentioned that even before his philosophical studies, Marx already had a metaphysical worldview. In many private letters Marx, who placed a high demand on the cultural level of a nation and was universally recognized as a literary and artistically educated person, expressed his sorrow over the rampant decay of values between the two world wars and the accompanying waning of concern for ethics and spiritual matters. It should also be noted here that in the majority of his letters Marx expressed the heartfelt wish to see his distant friends more often, so that finally, they could again have the deep discussions that he treasured so much.

Is it coincidence that many representatives of the Avant-garde, whom Marx ignored or attacked in his role as music critic, were Jews?

Marx constantly strove to meet the high ideals of "lofty art" in the manner of the traditional masters he revered: Mozart, Haydn, Schubert, Beethoven, Brahms, etc. His famous motto "Not everything that has been composed should be called music" is indicative of his viewpoint that music should play within the borders of tonality, although he did expand those borders somewhat, and not only in selected passages of his own work, but ironically also in the evaluation of modern works, as Marx also praised the works of those Modern composers who at least included tonal elements in their pieces (it is interesting in this situation that he once sought to bring Schönberg to the Vienna Academy of Music). His extreme criticism of the Avant-garde manifested itself long before the birth of the anti-Semitic Nazi regime.

On the other hand, Marx had many friends among atonal composers that went much deeper than a "peaceful coexistence". Many of his students who had already broken away from the tonal System during their educations, later reported that their relationship with their teacher Marx was always marked by mutual respect and understanding, and they were grateful for the comprehensive musical education that he provided. Marx's students and other survivors told me that many Jews were also among his large circle of friends and acquaintances.

When questioned about it specifically, they maintained that Marx showed absolutely no tendency toward racism or anti-Semitism, but that there was never a more open-minded, dearer man, for whom a person's race or origins made no difference. Erich Wolfgang Korngold, as we know, who throughout his lifetime was a friend of Marx's, happened to be Jewish - as was Franz Schreker, who likewise belonged to Marx's closest circle of colleagues and friends. In addition, the titles of Marx's compositions and his song texts contain not even the remotest hint of Nazi, or indeed anti-Semitic sentiment. Further, I have in my possession a collection of letters in which enduring friendships between Marx and numerous colleagues and friends who were persecuted and expelled for their Jewish beliefs are documented.

Yet another interesting example of Marx's versatile personality is found in a conversation with a family with whom Marx had been close friends for many years, and who told me that he used his position as district music director, as was his official title for a while, to help Jews.

New information, supported by countless letters and documented evidence readily found in the collections of the National Library casts him in a completely different light - that Marx constantly did all in his power to reestablish performances of the works of Jewish composers in Austria's concert halls.

This would have been a further reason for his occasional acquiescence to the plans of Nazi functionaries; if he had openly rebelled against them, he could have certainly kissed his influential position in the music world goodbye, that had made it possible for him to assist those countless (not a few from Jewish refugees) inquiries. Korngold is the best-known example, but there are many letters from Jewish artists, who sought assistance from Marx even long after World War II. The sheer number of requests and thank-you letters shows that Marx had to have been not only the court of last resort, but the first for his Jewish colleagues and students. One can only guess at the difficult and likely critical situations in which Marx had to maneuver himself, as he showed the countless artists who had flown Austria or had been driven out by the Nazis ways to regain a foothold in their homeland.

A definitive impression begins to form of Joseph Marx's character, for as has already been mentioned in his biography, Marx gave extra lessons to many of his students who needed them, indeed often holding private, free sessions during his free time. Based on his enormous willingness to help and the high esteem in which he was held, it is all the more astounding, indeed almost unbelievable that he has been labeled a Nazi sympathizer for so long.

A further piece of highly interesting information: As it was related to me by a number of Marx's surviving students, his Jewish students especially revered Marx. Not a few of his Jewish students and friends traveled from America back to Austria after the war solely to visit their highly-regarded teacher and friend Joseph Marx, as was the case with Herbert Zipper. That Marx was revered by the great majority of his students and was honored up until his death with countless letters and visits from all parts of the world is already known, but from whence his enormous esteem for his Jewish students comes, is uncertain. I was unable to find absolutely clear evidence of Jewish ancestry in Marx' family. My research cannot confirm or deny evidence of a Jewish forefather; if one exists, it must be in the distant past.

In the meantime, a newly disclosed packet of letters has brought to light that Marx assisted numerous Jewish families who enlisted his aid by securing homes and positions in foreign lands, which means that he has rescued them from deportation. In addition Marx, as evidenced by his letters, constantly did all in his power to see to it that combat soldiers whom he knew personally (for example, his students), and their units would be entertained, among other things by the organization of musical events that the troops attended, and in which they often participated.

Update!

Marx's house maid who experienced him in the years 1938-43 (Austria was taken over by the Nazi regime in March 1938), reported to me that Marx never supported those Austrians who followed the Germanizing of Austria by the Nazi propaganda machinery. The "Hitler salute" was not tolerated in Marx's house. Also, the Austrian National Library possesses numerous letters of the conductor and composer Roderich Mojsisovics-Mojsvár, all of which are signed with "Heil Hitler!", except for those written to Marx!

There is more: Letters from the Polish music theorist Zofia Lissa to Marx indicate that following World War II, he also sought with extreme dedication to reestablish Polish musical life, that had suffered so terribly under the Nazis. As a reminder: We are discussing the same person who is still branded a Nazi collaborator in many poorly informed circles of the Austrian music world!

Is it not an indication of a nationalistic viewpoint that the beauty of Austria is the subject many of the songs written by Marx, and in his lectures and writings he many times spoke of the meaning of "German Culture"?

As is suggested above, Marx spoke highly of the great worth of "German Culture". Could one from this, at least, deduce a tendency towards a national socialistic viewpoint? This point is mentioned, only because Marx was first and foremost an artist and creative person, who owed much of his inspiration to Austrian culture and, indeed, the entire realm of German-speaking poets, composers and thinkers.

It is a generally recognized and acknowledged fact today, that because of the politically charged atmosphere of that decade, not only Marx, but many other important artists, musicians and literary figures of his time were persuaded to mouth the party line, without being accused of having an overly zealous association with the Nazis. If this is a legitimate question, would it not be analogous, for example, to reach the grotesque conclusion that also the etymologists and assorted clubs who for years have sought to preserve the purity of the German language, should also be accused of having a strong nationalistic, perhaps even Nazi Attitude?

If one considers that the bulk of his songs were written long before the rise of the Nazi party, many of the poems that Marx set to music are about brotherly and mystic love, as well as a profound connection to Nature. In addition, Marx also composed songs to poems in which allegiance to the Fatherland plays an important role. Is it a legitimate deduction from this, at least, that Marx could have been sympathetic to the Nazi cause? Marx's patriotism was also limited in this case to the homage of natural beauty, and the already discussed cultural inheritance imparted by German speaking poets of earlier eras, that he himself so often praised and that one can recognize in his works; Marx always placed the quest for "Beauty" in the forefront and dismissed any composition that relied solely on intellect as "non-art". Therefore the inspiration for his vocal works, that is, the poem, had to meet his high standards. He supported self-imposed high expectations of his works in the midst of their Impressionistic tonal world, that are especially evident in his hymns for Autumn (his favorite season), and in the enthusiastic descriptions of his impressions of his many visits to Italy. Marx himself mentioned a decided affinity for the Mediterranean many times in the ORF interviews (partly because one grandmother was Italian, and his mother was half-Slavic), as well as his preference for composers like Albéniz and Respighi hints that, in Marx's case, the accusation of overdeveloped patriotism is overblown and unfounded.



Herbert Zipper, der Komponist des Dachauliedes (re.), 1956 zu Besuch bei seinem einstigen Lehrer Joseph Marx in Wien.

Jewish composer Herbert Zipper (survivor of the Nazi concentration camp in Dachau) who wrote the famous "Dachau-Lied", travelled from the USA to Austria in 1956 only with the intention of seeing again his "revered teacher and friend" Joseph Marx. Remember: This is the same Joseph Marx who in Austria has been publicly accused of having been a powerful Nazi. Please try to imagine a renowned Jewish composer and concentration camp survivor travelling thousands of miles in order to visit a former Nazi celebrity. The postwar Jewish generation unquestionably knew the truth which is -for the first time- exposed in this article.

Update!

So what really happened in Austria between the two world wars and after World War 2, and what has this got to with the neglect of Marx's music during the last couple of decades?

The main problem has two sides: Musicology and cultural policy.

Musicology: In the years 1905-09, Marx has made huge experiments by working with thousands of subjects of different ages and different levels of education. These experiments showed him that tonality most probably is a universal law deeply connected with human perception and psychology. His scientific argumentation in his dissertations and other articles about the human perception of the triad and other structures of harmony, and about the tendency of the human mind to automatically "transform" dissonances to euphonic chords like the Major triad is, by the way, quite convincing and was later partially confirmed not only by modern science but also by the fact that tonal triads can be found in all musical cultures of the world including the "primitive" tribes. Marx's experiments that were unprecedented until that time and that widely developed Riemann's theories of the 19th century, were worked out with Alexius von Meinong and Vittorio Benussi who were among Austria's leading experimental psychologists of that era. After evaluating all the results in 1909, Marx literally HAD TO believe that all atonal, polytonal and other possible ways of "intellectual construction" of tone structures must be "against a universal principle". Therefore, he was scientifically and musicologically convinced that tonality is the only valid system, and he remained

true to these principles until his death, although he was himself very flexible with dissonant harmonies, not only in some of his own works that include many dissonant chords but also as a jury member in competitions when he occasionally praised works by composers of the Avantgarde. Marx allowed dissonances and even atonality as long as the "composed atonal structure at least created an interesting sound effect", which was, in his opinion, true with the latest works of Scriabin, for instance.

Nevertheless, it was certainly unfair of him that he sometimes abused his authority to put obstacles in the way of young Avantgarde musicians, but one should be aware that Marx was just one of the leading figures of a whole Austrian generation who did that. And so we have to talk about the second side of the problem: Cultural politics. The Austrian music between 1922 (when Marx became powerful and at the same time the twelve-tone music was founded) and approximately 1960, was divided into two groups, the tonalists and the members of the Second Viennese School of Arnold Schoenberg (including their following younger generation). The atonalists (many of which, ironically, were formerly taught by Joseph Marx!) were also powerful. They also had important representants in functionary roles of Austria's cultural and musical life. There was an open battle between the two groups.

Eventually, there are two things Marx can be accused of:

1. He occasionally abused his authority in order to suppress the Avantgarde in the open battle between tonal and atonal Austrian musicians.
2. He allowed the Austrian ultra-nationalist government (1933-38) and the Nazi regime (after 1938) to abuse his high position to some extent. And he used some opportunities of giving speeches in order to recommend a return to tonal music and traditional values that are connected with this music.

However, let's take a look at Strauss, Furtwangler, Karajan, Clemens Krauss and many many others. In the "Archive of Documentation" of the "Austrian Resistance" against the Nazi regime (this archive is generally accepted as the most important database serving to decide whether any person between 1933 and 1945 was "politically innocent" or not), there are a hundred pages exposing proof of the "guilt" of EACH of these composers and conductors. Amazingly, the archive doesn't mention a single negative word about Marx. Nevertheless, parts of the Austrian music scene still believe that Marx was a powerful Nazi sympathizer, and this mistake was intentionally created by an Avantgarde generation after Marx's death who then suppressed performances of his music and spread around Nazi accusations against him although everything untrue (as you can read in the other parts of this article) and although he, already dead, was unable to defend himself. And this was shameful of THEM.

Huge parts of the Austrian music scene still believe the Nazi lies about Marx, but why? Because Austria has a HUGE problem with its own Nazi history of the period after 1938 (when Austria was taken over by Nazi Germany). Almost every Austrian has or had relatives who became an active Nazi after Austria had been "swallowed" by the Nazi regime in March 1938. Austria never resolved this moral issue until today. So this topic still is a kind of taboo in Austria, and it's totally different from Germany where the last two generations have accepted and exposed all of the guilts of their fathers and grandfathers by making hundreds of TV documentations, exhibitions and other stuff.

As one can see, the frequency of performances of Marx's music in the last five or perhaps even six decades is directly connected with a serious political-historical problem in Austria that is still unsolved, and the open battle between tonalists and atonalists that was won by the atonalists after Marx's death in the 1960s, made it even worse. Today, Austria is a country of "political correctness". Cultural institutions get almost frightened when they hear the word "traditionalist" because for them, this word is connected with the bad image of an "Austrian ultra-nationalist", "Nazi bootlicker" etc. Only in the last few years, Austria became more relaxed; one can say that there is now a kind of "renaissance" of late-romantic tonal music in Austria, which had been actively suppressed over decades after the second world war and especially after the tonalists lost their power with Marx's death, who was apparently the last one among the powerful representatives of the tonal Austrian composers born in the 19th century.

This is why many open-minded Austrians wrote to me that they are so grateful that someone supports this process of "freeing the mind" and exposes the truth about Joseph Marx after such a long time of lies and unconfirmed rumors. And each of them says: "Unfortunately, a website like yours is a typical German product. It would still be impossible to do that in Austria." (One must know that I live in Germany).

Finally, the high quality of Marx's music -no matter if we're talking about his Lieder, his piano and chamber music or his orchestral works- has always, until today, been undisputed among musicologists, critics and performers of all eras, even among the atonalists many of which were taught by Marx and admired him for his enormous knowledge and mastery, although he was their biggest opponent! However, due to the worldwide success of his Lieder in the first half of the 20th century, he widely remained known as a "song composer", and nobody asked if he has ever composed anything else, which was, as already indicated, due to the fact that there has been no active promotion of his music in Austria in the last four or so decades because of the huge power of Austria's second Avantgarde generation who suppressed all tendencies to a renaissance of traditionalist/purely tonal music. Eventually, my website as the first internationally available source of information about Marx's entire work, changed these things a little bit and made Marx "presentable" in today's Austria, and hopefully it will also re-establish his fame as one of the most interesting symphonists of the entire late-romantic era whose works have been performed by the greatest conductors of the 20th century (Clemens Krauss, Fritz Reiner, Arthur Nikisch, Ferdinand Löwe, Felix Weingartner, Oswald Kabasta, Robert Heger, Karl Böhm, Zubin Mehta, Marek Janowski and many others).

CONCLUSION

The preceding evidence shows that the accusations against Joseph Marx are based largely on a distortion, or at least ignorance of, many factors. One gains the impression that those who laid the foundation for these accusations did not take into account the entire course of events, but rather had to have pulled events out of context. This may have been done with the intent to sow a specific opinion about Marx that the true circumstances of his time can hardly reflect, and cannot in any way do a complex personality like Marx justice. But one must also guard against judging those instigators of these widely held, rash beliefs in a similar, biased manner: After all, prior to the establishment of this Internet site, there existed no comprehensive, published body of research in which all of the above facts were assembled and available in their entirety. It is for exactly this reason that I have written this essay: to enlighten and recall that the quest for truth is always the best way to illuminate and observe things from all sides, to remain ready to challenge long-held beliefs, even to completely reconsider them. At any rate, one occasionally has to throw some old ways of thinking overboard and thus remain open to abandon accepted truths, rather than to choose to believe only what makes us comfortable. And, ironically, many find this unbearably difficult. But to summarize objectively: Who would want to be trade places with someone who, already long before the rise of National Socialism, had led a public life, and was automatically under pressure after the takeover of the Nazi regime? Is it possible to render an objective verdict on people like Joseph Marx for the difficult decisions such as what they had to make in that time, the weight of which we today can't comprehend, in some way judge them? Now is the time for Joseph Marx to receive the well-deserved praise that Austrian music of the 20th century, as well as uncounted musicians the world over, owe him.

With heartfelt thanks to Mrs. Rosemary Hilmar from the Austrian National Library (Manuscript Collection) for her untiring work in the development of the collections of musicians' correspondence administered by the National Library, Vienna. For further investigations, check out her incredibly large

[🔗 Database of musicians' correspondence.](#)

This section of the website was translated from the German by Dr. Brian Pfaltzgraff.

[🔗 Back to top of page](#)

Discography

For latest news on current recording projects and concerts see:

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(opens a new browser window)

Important note:

- I will not receive any economic benefit in case somebody should click one of the links (e.g. to Amazon) and order a CD from there. These non-profit links to the CD stores are available merely as a service to help you quickly find CDs that you wish to buy.
 - Some of the CDs listed in this discography are certainly not available anymore. However, it might still be possible to obtain a copy by trying the links that I provided for each CD.
 - Special thanks to Dr. Peter Ackermann for his invaluable help in providing all required information on the song discs.
 - Also, I wish to thank Mr. Marko Ikonik, webmaster of www.cinemusic.de, for providing links to a couple of reviews of the Marx Orchestral Works series.
-

OVERVIEW OF THE DISCOGRAPHY:

- **Symphonic & orchestral music / Orchestral songs** [9 CDs]
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- **Herbstsymphonie (Autumn Symphony)** **not yet recorded**
- **Chamber music / Songs with chamber accompaniment** [6 CDs]
- **Solo piano music** [4 CDs]

- Organ works **not yet recorded**
- Songs (works for voice & piano) [33 CDs]

NEW

1.



CHAN 10505 [approx. 72'00]: **The complete choral-orchestral works and the complete orchestral songs for high voice by Joseph Marx.**

4 choral works (world premiere recordings; total time: 40 minutes): "Herbstchor an Pan", "Ein Neujahrshymnus", "Berghymne" and "Morgengesang", coupled with 12 orchestral songs (total time: 32 min.).

The BBC Symphony Orchestra conducted by Jiri Belohlavek, with Christine Brewer, soprano (orchestral songs) and the BBC Symphony Chorus (choral works).

Recorded in May/June 2008, to be released in January 2009.

RELEASED AS "DISK OF THE MONTH"

To learn everything about the genesis of this project [please click here!](#)

LIST OF REVIEWS FOR THIS CD:

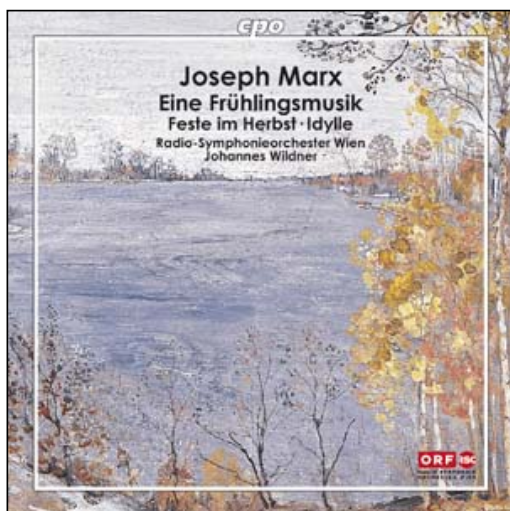
	Reviews will be available as of January 2009!
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NEW

2.



cpo 77732022 [63'06]: **Three Symphonic Poems by Joseph Marx:** "Feste im Herbst" (World Premiere Recording: this symphonic poem is based on the final movement of the HERBSTSYMPHONIE!), "Eine Frühlingsmusik" and "Idylle". Vienna Radio Symphony Orchestra conducted by Johannes Wildner. Recorded in March 2007, released in September 2008.

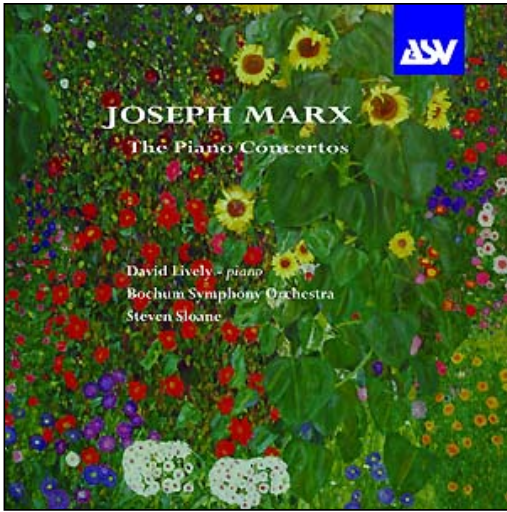
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	Reviews will be available soon!
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3.



ASV CD DCA 1174 [72'46]: **Complete Orchestral Music Vol. 4, "The Piano Concertos"**: "Romantisches Klavierkonzert" (Romantic Piano Concerto) and "Castelli Romani" for piano and orchestra. Performed by David Lively (piano) and the Bochum Symphony Orchestra conducted by Steven Sloane. Recorded in January 2004 (Producer: Miguel Kertsman).

The liner notes (booklet) that were originally written by the author of this website in his mother language (German) are [available here](#). Information on the **genesis of this CD** can be found [here](#).

LIST OF REVIEWS FOR THIS CD:

	NEW Review by Michel Fleury (Classica - Repertoire, Sept. 2005) - written in French. The German translation of this review is available here
	NEW Review by Rob Barnett (MusicWeb, June 2005)
	NEW Review by Jonathan Woolf (MusicWeb, July 2005)
	NEW Review by Jed Distler (Classics Today)
	NEW Review by Abeille Musique Classique (French)
	NEW Review in Cherwell, No. 21 (Charles Markland, May 20, 2005) (Note: The critic Charles Markland mistakenly claims that Marx "found fame writing film scores", which is incorrect; Marx never wrote film music.)
	NEW Review in Columns - Sound and Music (June 2005) (Italian)
	NEW Review by Scott Morrison at amazon.com (July 8, 2005)
	NEW Review by Michael J. A. Brough on amazon.co.uk (June 8, 2005)
	NEW Review by Gerald Fenech on Classical Net Review
	More reviews will be available soon!

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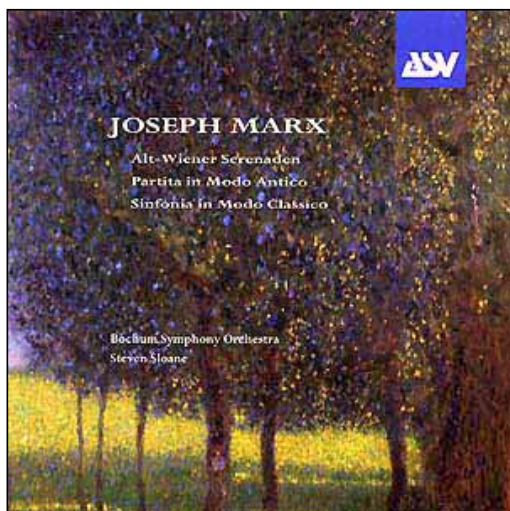
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4.



ASV CD DCA 1158 [76'45]: **Complete Orchestral Music Vol. 3: "Alt-Wiener Serenaden"** ("Old Vienna Serenades") for large orchestra and the two string orchestra works "**Partita in modo antico**" and "**Sinfonia in modo classico**" performed by the Bochum Symphony Orchestra conducted by Steven Sloane. Recorded in April 2003 (Producer: Miguel Kertsman). The works for string orchestra are Marx's own arrangements of his exquisite string quartets "in modo antico" and "in modo classico".

The liner notes (booklet) that were originally written by the author of this website in his mother language (German) are [available here](#). Information on the **genesis of this CD** can be found [here](#).

LIST OF REVIEWS FOR THIS CD:

	NEW Review by Michel Fleury (Classica - Repertoire, Sept. 2005) - written in French. The German translation of this review is available here
	NEW Review by Bob McQuiston (Tower Records)
	NEW Review in the German magazine Fono Forum, June 2005 Issue (Jörg Hillebrand)
	NEW Review in the Fanfare Magazine, 2005/28, No. 6 (July/August 2005) (Barry Brenesal)
	NEW Review in Gramophone 2/2005 (John Warrack)
	NEW Review by Scott Morrison at amazon.com (March 16, 2005)
	NEW Review on Audiophile Audition, April 2005
	Review by MusicWeb UK (Rob Barnett, Nov. 2004)
	Review by MusicWeb UK (Jonathan Woolf, Dec. 2004)
	Review by Abeille Musique Classique (French)
	Review on Soundandmusic.com (Italian)
	More reviews will be available soon!

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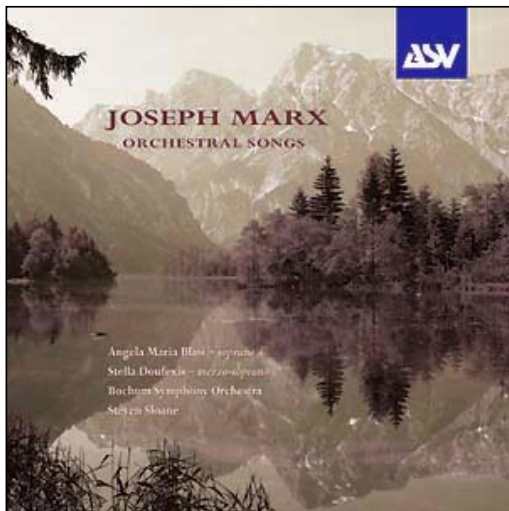
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5.



ASV CD DCA 1164 [56'35]: **Complete Orchestral Music Vol. 2: "The Orchestral Songs"**. Angela Maria Blasi (soprano) and Stella Doufexis (mezzo-soprano) with the Bochum Symphony Orchestra conducted by Steven Sloane. Recorded in September 2003 (Producer: Miguel Kertsman).

The orchestral scores of some of these songs were used as film music in the movie "Cordula" (1950). More information and pictures of this movie's cinema magazine [can be found here](#).

The liner notes (booklet) that were originally written by the author of this website in his mother language (German) are [available here](#). The booklet includes the English translation of my notes and the song texts (German and English). Information on the **genesis of this CD** can be found [here](#).



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	NEW Review by Gerald Fenech on Classical Net Review
	NEW Review by Schott International (Kathrin Feldmann)
	NEW Review in the Fanfare Magazine, 2005/28, No. 3 (Jan/Feb) (Barry Brenesal)
	NEW Review in the German magazine Fono Forum, January 2005 Issue (Christoph Vratz)
	NEW Review by the American Record Guide, Jan/Feb 2005
	Awarded "Recording of the Month" by MusicWeb UK (Rob Barnett, Nov. 2004)
	BBC Music Magazine: Four Star review in the Oct. 2004 issue
	Review in Diapason France (December 2004 issue; French). Please click here to read the German translation of this review .


	Review on Soundandmusic.com (Italian)
	Review by Bob McQuiston (Tower Records) "...one of the most memorable Lieder discs released this year"
	Review by the Guardian (Andrew Clements, who is known to be not a fan of this sort of music)
	Review by Abeille Musique Classique (French)
	The CD is one of the top recommendations of the month at Records International (July 2004)
	Review on iclassics.com (July 2004)
	Review on classicalcdreview.com (August 2004)
	Review on klassik.com (Oct. 2004)
	Review by the classical music magazine RONDO (Oct. 2004)
	Review by The Yorkshire Post (July 2004)
	Review by International Record Review (Christopher Cook, Sep. 2004)
	Review by M. J. A. Brough at amazon.com (Dec. 10, 2004)
	Review by Scott Morrison at amazon.com (Oct. 14, 2004)
	More reviews coming soon!

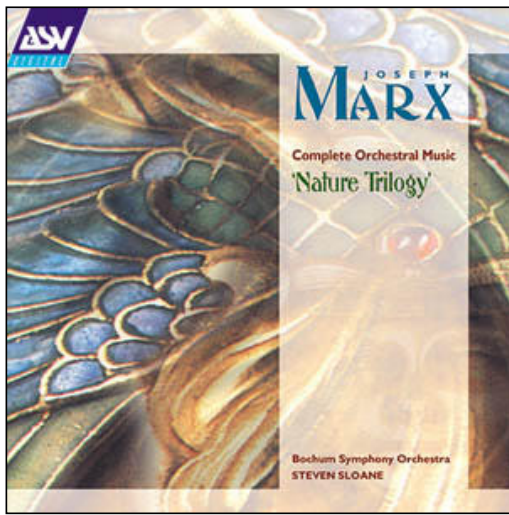
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Steven Sloane. Recorded June 12-14, 2002 (Producer: Miguel Kertsman). The liner notes (booklet) were written by the author of this website in his mother language (German) and are [available here](#). English and French translations are included. Information on the **genesis of this CD** can be found [here](#)

LIST OF REVIEWS FOR THIS CD:


	Review on Soundandmusic.com (Italian)
	Review on Cinemusic (Michael Boldhaus)
	BBC Music Magazine (Erik Levi): Five Star review in the July 2003 issue. "...a performance of stunning beauty and conviction supported by suitably opulent engineering."
	Review in Gramophone, June 2003, page 45 (John Warrack)
	Review in the Fanfare Magazine, Issue 2003/27, No.1 (Barry Brenesal)
	Review in the Neue Musikzeitung, Issue 7-8/2004
	Review by Christoph Schlüren in "Prisma", a programme on the German classical music radio channel BR 4 (broadcasted on June 21, 2003. (Incidentally, the author of this website was also mentioned in this broadcast.)
	5 Stars out of 6 in Diapason France (July/August 2003 issue; French). The "Golden tuning fork" (6 stars) is virtually impossible to reach for late-romantic music of the 20th century. Please click here to read the German translation of this review .
	Review in the German magazine Fono Forum, September 2003 Issue (Michael Kube)
	Awarded "Recording of the Month" by MusicWeb UK (Rob Barnett). According to the reviewer, this music is "unambiguously the work of a nature ecstatic. The music is discursively rhapsodic, sunny, bold, soused in melody and eloquent with the voices of nature. An impressionistic South German voice soaked in the quintessence of lyrical expression."
	Transcript of a review by Andrew McGregor on BBC Radio 3 ("CD Review")
	Top recommendation of the month at Records International (April 2003)
	Review by Scott Morrison at amazon.com (Sep. 18, 2003)
	Review by Don Satz at MusicWeb. This review reminds me of those typical hatemails. I can't see what Don Satz is talking about. Does he and all the other reviewers who are represented here, talk about the same CD? I can't tell you. Decide for yourself...
	Review by the Guardian (Andrew Clements, who is known to be not a fan of this sort of music)
	Review by Bob McQuiston (Tower Records)

	Review by Rob Cowan on BBC Radio 3 ("CD Review"). Click here to listen to an MP3 (1 MB) of this 4 minute review 
	Review by Calum MacDonald (International Record Review)
	"Sloane conducts Marx - A major rediscovery". Interview of icclassics.com with the conductor Steven Sloane
	Review by Classics Today (David Hurwitz)
	Review by Abeille Musique Classique (French)
	Review by Colin Scott-Sutherland (MusicWeb UK)

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Excerpt from ASV's website:

This superb disc of world-premiere recordings showcases the lush Viennese orchestral music of Joseph Marx.

Hailed on his 70th birthday as "the most prestigious Austrian composer of this era", Marx was a hugely popular composer during his lifetime, but has been unjustly neglected since. Volume 1 in ASV's new series of Marx's Complete Orchestral Music demonstrates why his music was so well-loved, and so deserving of attention now: the heady, picturesque sound-world is truly intoxicating.

The *Nature Trilogy* was written during the inter-war years just as Schoenberg's 12-tone technique was emerging, but Marx rejected serialism and pursued a more sensuous style, reminiscent of Richard Strauss's tone-poems and the orchestral colours of Debussy. The result met with great acclaim at the time and is still hugely appealing today.

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7.

HYPERION CDA66990 [64'39]: The "**Romantisches Klavierkonzert**" (**Romantic Piano Concerto**) in E major [36'39], coupled with the Piano Concerto in C sharp for the left hand (1922, 27'35) by Erich Wolfgang Korngold (1897-1957), performed by Marc-André Hamelin (piano) and the BBC Scottish SO conducted by Osmo Vänskä, recorded 19/20 June 1997.

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8.

Preiser 89031 [74'18]: **1 orchestral song ("Marienlied")**, coupled with songs and arias by Mozart, J. S. Bach, Händel, Strauss, Flies, Mahler and Schumann. The "Marienlied" is performed by Elisabeth Schumann (soprano) with Vienna State Opera Orchestra conducted by Karl Alwin. Recorded in 1928.



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9.

TESTAMENT SBT 0132 (10 CDs): **The EMI Record of Singing Vol. 3 (1926-1939), including 1 orchestral song ("Marienlied") by Marx**, coupled with songs and arias by a huge number of other composers. The "Marienlied" is performed by Elisabeth Schumann (soprano) with Vienna State Opera Orchestra conducted by Karl Alwin. Recorded in 1928. The recording of Marx's orchestral song is the same as on the disc above.



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10.

GEMM CD 9379: **Elisabeth Schumann sings Richard Strauss, Reger, Händel and Marx, including 1 orchestral song ("Marienlied") by Marx**. The recording of Marx's orchestral song is the same as on the two discs above.



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- [Elisabeth Schumann Website](#)

NEW

11.

cpo 777 066-2 [75'06]: **New recording of the three String Quartets: „Quartetto in modo antico”, „Quartetto in modo classico” and „Quartetto chromatico”**. Thomas Christian Ensemble, Vienna. Recorded in December 2005. The booklet notes were written by the author of this website.

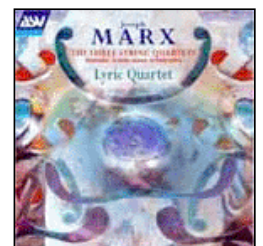


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12.

ASV CD DCA 1073 [79'22]: **The Three String Quartets "Quartetto Chromatico" (1936-37 rev. 1948), "Quartetto in Modo Classico" (1940-41) and "Quartetto in Modo Antico" (1937-38)**, performed by the Lyric Quartet, recorded 4-6 May 1999.



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NEW

13.

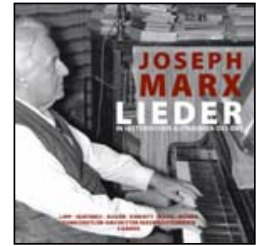
ORF-CD 3013 LC 114281 [70'40]: **Joseph Marx: Songs and orchestral songs in historical recordings of the Austrian radio ORF, many of which accompanied by the composer.** With Joseph Marx, Wilma Lipp, Waldemar Kmentt, Irmgard Seefried, Arleen Augér, Tonkünstlerorchester Niederösterreich and the conductor Miltiades Caridis.



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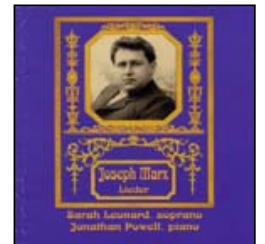
NEW

14.

Altarus Records AIR-CD-9061 [68'16]: **First complete recording of the Italian Song Book after Paul Heyse (17 songs), coupled with 12 other Marx songs.** Sarah Leonard, soprano; Jonathan Powell, piano. Recorded in 2005.

FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

- [Amazon Germany](#)
- [Amazon USA](#)
- [Amazon UK](#)
- [Crotchet International](#)



15.

Nimbus Records [???]: **John Charles Thomas in Opera & Song,** including two songs by Marx and songs and arias by many other composers. Marx songs recorded on June 2nd, 1938 (Matrix: BS 030513-1).

FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

- [Amazon Germany](#)
- [Amazon USA](#)
- [Amazon UK](#)
- [jpc Germany](#)



NEW

16.

Preiser 90701 [48'00]: **"Songs of the Jugendstil era"**. Three out of four Marx songs after poems by Anton Wildgans, one with violin, the second one with viola and the third one with cello. Coupled with songs by Schreker, Mahler and R. Strauss. Performers: Brigitte Prammer (soprano), Manfred Schiebel (piano), Bernhard Biberauer (violin), Gerhard Marschner (viola), Raphael Flieder (cello) and Hermann Ebner (horn). Recorded in September 2005.

FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

- [Amazon Germany](#)
- [Amazon USA](#)
- [Amazon UK](#)
- [jpc Germany](#)



NEW

17.

PAVANE RECORDS ADW 7388 [??'??]: **Spring Sonata (Sonata No. 2) in D Major for violin & piano (1945)** and **6 piano pieces (1916)**. Tobias Ringborg (violin) and Daniel Blumenthal (piano).

FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

Unsure if this CD (that was recorded many years ago) will ever be released...

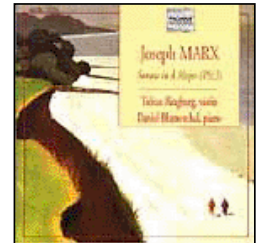
 [Crotchet International](#)

18.

PAVANE RECORDS ADW 7378 [58'36]: **Sonata in A major (Sonata No. 1) for violin & piano (1913)**, performed by Tobias Ringborg (violin) and Daniel Blumenthal (piano), recorded 19-20 Nov 1996.

FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

-  [Amazon USA](#)
-  [Amazon UK](#)
-  [Amazon Germany](#)
-  [Tower Records USA](#)
-  [jpc Germany](#)



19.

PODIUM POL-1005-2 [61'16]: **Sonata No. 2 ("Frühlingssonate", "Spring Sonata") for violin and piano in D major (1945)** [ca. 19 min., recorded 2 April 1954], coupled with "Four Romantic Pieces" for violin and piano by Antonin Dvorak, parts of the "Sonata No. 3 for solo violin BWV 1005" by Johann Sebastian Bach, the "Adagio" movement from the Violin Concerto No. 1 in D major op. 6 and the "Sonatine" in E minor op. 3 No. 6 for violin and piano by Nicolo Paganini; performed by the legendary **Vasa Prihoda** (violin), Otto A. Graef (piano) and the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra conducted by Werner Schmidt-Boelcke, recorded between 1952 and 1954. The information about the name of the sonata (correct: Frühlingssonate), year of origin (correct: 1945) and the key (correct: D major) given in the CD cover sheet and in the booklet are incorrect since the producers obviously thought that Marx had only written one sonata in 1913 in A major.

FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

-  [Amazon Germany](#)
-  [Podium Orders by !\[\]\(a79895cf95fd5d796d2cde6fe68d761c_img.jpg\) email to Podium](#)



20.

NEW CLASSICAL ADVENTURE NCA 60118-215 [76'24]: **"Rossignol, mon Mignon" - Love Songs of the Belle Epoque und the late romantic era for Soprano, Flute and Piano**, including Marx's **"Pan trauert um Syrinx" (Pan mourns for Syrinx; 1916)**. Coupled with works by André Caplet, Maurice Ravel, Camille Saint-Saens, Léo Delibes, Jan Brandts-Buys, Georges Hùe, Albert Roussel, Philippe Gaubert, Jacques Ibert, Cécile Chaminade and Oldrich Flosman. Performed by Trio Rossignol: Heidrun Kordes (soprano), Thomas Richter (flute) and Erika La Roux (piano). Recorded 4-7 Sept. 2000.

FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

-  [jpc Germany](#)



21.

CAPPRICIO 10 462 [66'26]: **"Durch Einsamkeiten" ("Through lonely places" or "Through desert lands") for mezzo-soprano, viola and piano**, coupled with other songs for mezzo-soprano, viola and piano by R. Strauss, Johannes Brahms, Adolf Busch, Charles Martin Loeffler, Alexander Sergejewitsch Dargomyshski, Hermann Reutter and Charles Gounod. Performed by Mitsuko Shirai (mezzo-soprano), Tabea Zimmermann (viola) and Hartmut Höll (piano), recorded in 1993/94.





FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

- [Amazon USA](#)
- [Amazon UK](#)
- [Amazon Germany](#)
- [Tower Records USA](#)
- [jpc Germany](#)

NEW

22.

Chandos CHAN 10479 [54'38]: **Tonya Lemoh plays Joseph Marx. Six pieces for piano (1916) and four unpublished piano pieces.**

FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

- [Amazon USA](#)
- [Amazon UK](#)



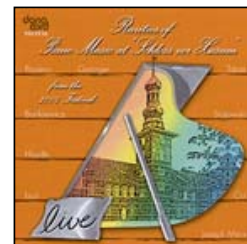
NEW

23.

DANACORD DACOCD 649 [74'53]: **Unpublished piano piece "Schmetterlingsgeschichten" ("Butterfly Stories")** on the CD "Rarities of Piano Music at Schloss vor Husum, from the 2004 Festival", coupled with pieces by Haydn, Chopin, Sciarrino, Goosens, Poulenc, Grainger, Vivaldi, Liszt, Cui, Stojowski, Bortkiewicz and Harrington Gibbs. The Marx piece (first recording) was performed by Jonathan Powell, and the other pianists were Edna Stern, Marc-André Hamelin, Anatol Ugorski, Igor Kamenz, Boris Bloch, Elena Kuschnerova and Jonathan Plowright. The live performances were recorded August 21-28, 2004.

At the Piano Festival of Husum, Jonathan Powell not only performed the unpublished Marx piece that is recorded here, but he also premiered two other unpublished Marx pieces ("Die Flur der Engel" and "Herbstlegende"). Please click here to see the full programm performed by Jonathan Powell:

[Jonathan Powell performs Marx and other rarities at the Husum Festival 2004"](#)



FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

- [jpc Germany](#)
- [CD details on Danacord Website](#)

24.

FY SOLSTICE SOCD 104/5 [CD1: 72'34, CD2: 79'10]: CD1: **28 songs** (works for voice and piano), performed by Marie-Paule Milone (mezzo-soprano), Denis Pascal (piano) and Françoise Gnieri (alto); CD2: **6 piano pieces (written in 1916), Suite in F major for cello & piano and Pastorale for cello & piano**, performed by Marie-Paule Milone (cello) and Denis Pascal (piano), recorded 15-18 Dec 1992 (CD1) and 8-10 Feb 1993 (CD2).

FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

- [Amazon USA](#)
- [Amazon UK](#)
- [Amazon Germany](#)



25.

CORONA (FERMATE) FER 30005 [65'14]: **"Recital - Emmy Best-Reintges plays works for solo piano**, including Marx's **"Albumblatt in E Major (1916)**. Coupled with solo piano works by Max Reger, Cyril Scott, Wassyl Barwinskyj, Alexander Grechaninov and Kurt Hessenberg. Recorded 1961-67.

FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:



- [Amazon UK](#)
- [Amazon Germany](#)
- [jpc Germany](#)



26.

NAXOS 8.111093 [78'51]: "**Lotte Lehmann: Lieder Recordings Vol. 1 (1935-37)**, including one song by Joseph Marx and songs by Mozart, Schubert, Schumann, Brahms, Wolf, Balogh, Grechaninov, Worth, Sodero, Cimara, Beethoven, Hahn, Gounod, Pfitzner, Franz and Jensen. Recorded in the years 1935-37. Performed by Lotte Lehmann, soprano, and Erno Balogh, piano.

FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

- [Amazon UK](#)
- [Amazon Germany](#)
- [jpc Germany](#)



27.

Mitra CD [60'42]: **13 songs by Joseph Marx and 11 songs by Wilhelm Kienzl**. Performed by Kazumi Kohno (soprano) and Jürgen Glauss (piano). Recorded on July 29/30, 2004.

FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

For the present, this CD can only be ordered from the producer, Mr. Eco Rau. **Price: 15,- Euros plus postage.**

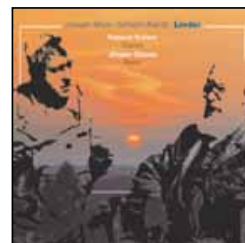
Here's his postal and email address:

Eco Rau

Holzweg 10

53819 Neunkirchen-Seelscheid, Germany

Email:  [Email to Mr. Eco Rau](mailto:eco.rau@mitra-records.de)

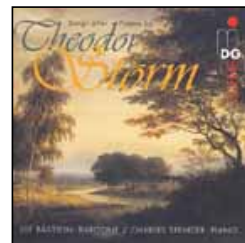


28.

MDG MDG60312342 [???]: Songs after poems by Theodor Storm, **1 song by Marx**, coupled with songs of Berg, Blome, Brahms, Carrière, Détélfesen, Eggert, Eyken, Hermann, Jenner, Mandl, Marx, Mottl, Reger, Reutter, Schoeck, Schreker, G. Stolz and Trunk. Performed by Ulf Bästlein (baritone) and Charles Spencer (piano). Recorded ???.

FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

- [Amazon USA](#)
- [Amazon UK](#)
- [Amazon Germany](#)
- [Crotchet International](#)
- [Presto Classical UK](#)
- [jpc Germany](#)



29.

LINN RECORDS CKD 238 [58'33]: **4 songs**, coupled with songs of Bruno Walter and Richard Strauss. Performed by Emma Bell (soprano) and Andrew West (piano). Recorded April 5-7, 2004. This CD is a SACD ("Super Audio CD") but can be played on any standard CD player.

FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

- [Amazon UK](#)
- [Crotchet International](#)
- [Amazon Germany](#)
- [jpc Germany](#)



30.

FY SOLSTICE SOCD 904 [58'57]: **22 songs**, performed by Marie-Paule Milone (mezzo-soprano) and Denis Pascal (piano). This CD is a shortened re-release of CD1 of the difficult-to-obtain "FY SOLSTICE SOCD 104/5" double CD set (see above).

FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

 [FY Solstice](#)



31.

DECCA 467 697-2 [72'59]: **"Night Songs"**. **4 songs by Joseph Marx**, coupled with songs by Fauré, Debussy, Richard Strauss and Rachmaninov. **Renée Fleming (soprano) and Jean-Yves Thibaudet (piano)**. Recorded in New York in November 2000/January 2001.

FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

 [Amazon USA](#)

 [Amazon UK](#)

 [Amazon Germany](#)

 [Tower Records USA](#)

 [jpc Germany](#)



32.

BMG RCA 09026 68425 2 [78'03]: Leontyne Price - Return to Carnegie Hall, **2 songs**, coupled with songs by Georg Friedrich Händel, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Richard Strauss, Giuseppe Verdi, Francis Poulenc, Hector Berlioz, Henri Duparc, Reynaldo Hahn, Lee Hoiby, Giacomo Puccini, George Gershwin, Francesco Cilea and Samuel Augustus Ward. Performed by Leontyne Price (soprano) and David Garvey (piano), recorded January 26, 1991 (live) at Carnegie Hall, New York City.

FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

 [Amazon USA](#)

 [Amazon UK](#)

 [Amazon Germany](#)

 [jpc Germany](#)



33.

Sony Classical CD 62866, 2 CD set: **Masterworks Heritage - Ljuba Welitsch (The Complete Columbia Recordings)**, including **2 songs by Marx**, coupled with songs and arias by numerous other composers. Performed by Ljuba Welitsch (soprano) and Paul Ulanowsky (piano).

FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

 [Amazon USA](#)

 [Amazon UK](#)

 [Amazon Germany](#)

 [Tower Records USA](#)



34.

Preiser 90476, 2 CD set [???]: **The Art of Ljuba Welitsch**", including **2 songs by Marx**, coupled with songs and



arias by numerous other composers. The Marx songs are performed by Ljuba Welitsch (soprano) and Paul Ulanowsky (piano). Recorded 1947-1950.

FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

- [Amazon USA](#)
- [Amazon UK](#)
- [Amazon Germany](#)
- [Tower Records USA](#)



35.

BellaVoce BLV 107.013 [75'07]: **6 songs performed by Joseph Marx himself**, coupled with songs by Brahms, Schubert and Schumann, **performed by Ljuba Welitsch (soprano) and Joseph Marx (piano)**, recorded for the Austrian Radio in 1947/48.

FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

- [Amazon USA](#)
- [Amazon UK](#)
- [Amazon Germany](#)
- [Tower Records USA](#)
- [jpc Germany](#)



36.

CBC Musica Viva, MVCD 1162 [??'??]: **1 song**, coupled with songs by Anton Webern, Franz Grothe, Mischa Spoliansky, Theo Mackeben, Frederick Hollander, Robert Schumann, Alexander von Zemlinsky, Arnold Schoenberg and Kurt Weill. Performed by Jean Stilwell (mezzo-soprano) and Robert Kortgaard (piano).

FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

- [Tower Records USA](#)



37.

Claremont (Saf) 785072 [??'??]: **1 song**, coupled with songs by a huge number of other composers. The Marx song is performed by Florence Easton (soprano) and Gerald Moore (piano).

FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

- [Amazon USA](#)
- [Amazon UK](#)
- [Amazon Germany](#)



38.

Marston Records MA 52033, 2-CD-Set: **1 song**, coupled with songs by a huge number of other composers. The Marx song is performed by Florence Easton (soprano) and Gerald Moore (piano). Same recording as CD above. Recorded in 1933.

FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

- [Marston Records](#)



39.

ETCETERA KTC 1044 [55'55]: **7 songs from the "Italian Song Book" and one additional song**, coupled with songs by Alexander von Zemlinsky and Franz Schreker, performed by Dorothy Dorow (soprano) and Massimiliano Damerini (piano), recorded live in 1980.

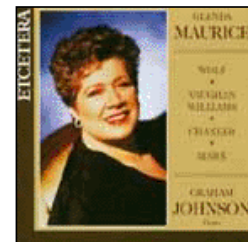


FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

- [Amazon USA](#)
 - [Amazon UK](#) or alternatively [Amazon UK](#)
 - [Amazon Germany](#) or alternatively [Amazon Germany](#)
 - [jpc Germany](#)
-

40.

ETCETERA KTC 1099 [57'16]: **5 songs**, coupled with songs by Hugo Wolf, Theodore Chanler, Ralph Vaughan-Williams, Roger Quilter and R. Strauss, performed by Glenda Maurice (mezzo-soprano) and Graham Johnson (piano), recorded live on January 11, 1988.



FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

- [Amazon USA](#)
 - [Amazon UK](#)
 - [Amazon Germany](#)
 - [jpc Germany](#)
-

41.

ETCETERA KTC1108 [63'43]: **20 songs** (works for voice and piano, 1906-11), performed by Dinah Bryant (soprano) and Daniel Blumenthal (piano), recorded in 1989.



FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

- [Amazon USA](#)
 - [Amazon UK](#) or alternatively [Amazon UK](#)
 - [Amazon Germany](#)
 - [jpc Germany](#)
-

42.

DELOS DE 3712, 2 CD set [??'??]: **1 song**, coupled with songs by many other composers. Performed by Arleen Auger (soprano) and Dalton Baldwin (piano).



FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

- [Amazon USA](#)
 - [Amazon UK](#)
 - [Amazon Germany](#)
 - [Towerrecords USA](#)
-

43.

DELOS DE 3029 [68'26]: **1 song**, coupled with songs by Aaron Copland, Fernando Obradors, Jayme Ovalle, Richard Strauss, Francis Poulenc, Pietro Cimara, Roger Quilter, Oscar Strauss, Robert Schumann, Gustav Mahler, Joaquin Turina, Edouard Lippe, Noel Coward, Charles Gounod, Franz Schubert, Frank Bridge, Stephen Foster, Stefano Donaudy, Benjamin Britten and Frederick Loewe. Performed by Arleen Auger (soprano) and Dalton Baldwin (piano), recorded in 1992.



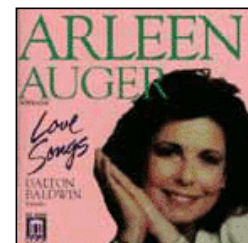
IDENTICAL WITH THE CD BELOW.

FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

- [Amazon USA](#)
- [Amazon UK](#)
- [Amazon Germany](#)
- [Towerrecords USA](#)

44.

DELOS DE 3029 [68'26]: **1 song**, coupled with songs by Aaron Copland, Fernando Obradors, Jayme Ovalle, Richard Strauss, Francis Poulenc, Pietro Cimara, Roger Quilter, Oscar Strauss, Robert Schumann, Gustav Mahler, Joaquin Turina, Edouard Lippe, Noel Coward, Charles Gounod, Franz Schubert, Frank Bridge, Stephen Foster, Stefano Donaudy, Benjamin Britten and Frederick Loewe. Performed by Arleen Auger (soprano) and Dalton Baldwin (piano), recorded in 1992.



IDENTICAL WITH THE CD ABOVE.

FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

- [Amazon USA](#)
- [Amazon UK](#)
- [Amazon Germany](#)
- [Towerrecords USA](#)

45.

Romophone LehLo1a 81013, 2 CD set: "**Lotte Lehmann - The Complete Victor Recordings (1935-1940)**", including **1 song by Marx**, coupled with songs by numerous other composers. Performed by Lotte Lehmann (soprano) and Ernő Balogh (piano). Recorded in New York City on March 13, 1936.



FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

- [Amazon USA](#)
- [Amazon UK](#)
- [Amazon Germany](#)

46.

Claremont GSE CD 78-50-78: "**Laudate Dominum - Ursula van Diemen**", including **1 song by Marx**, coupled with songs by numerous other composers. Performed by Ursula van Diemen (soprano) and Arpad Sandor (piano). Recorded 1926-28.



FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

- [Only source where this CD is still available \(CD No.: M77\)](#)
- [Amazon USA](#)
- [Amazon UK](#)
- [Amazon Germany](#)

47.

"**Hamburger Archiv für Gesangskunst, including 1 song by Marx. The songs performed by Ursula van Diemen (soprano) and Arpad Sandor (piano).** Same recording as CD above. Recorded in 1927.

FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

- [Hamburger Archiv für Gesangskunst](#)



48.

Koch Schwann CD 314002 H1 [???]: "**Early songs by famous composers**", including **1 song by Marx**, coupled with songs by Arnold Schönberg, Ludwig van Beethoven, Alban Berg, Boris Blacher, Johannes Brahms, Gottfried von Einem, Josef Matthias Hauer, Franz Joseph Haydn, Ernst Krenek, Franz Liszt, Gustav Mahler, Felix Mendelssohn, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Carl Orff, Hans Pfitzner, Max Reger, Franz Schubert, Robert Schumann, Richard Strauss, Carl Maria von Weber, Anton Webern and Hugo Wolf. Performed by Regina Klepper (soprano) and the Marx student Erik Werba (piano). Recorded in April 1987.



FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

- [Amazon UK](#)
- [Amazon Germany](#)

49.

Preiser 90343 [56'03]: **2 songs**, coupled with songs by Ernst Krenek, Franz Schubert, Gerhard Wimberger, Johann Vesque von Püttlingen, Johannes Brahms, Hugo Wolf and Ernst Ludwig Uray. Performed by Oskar Czerwenka (bass) and the Marx student Erik Werba (piano). Recorded in April 1980.

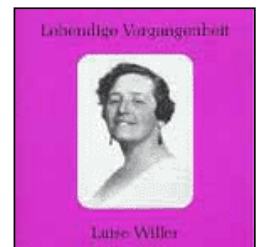


FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

- [Amazon Germany](#)
- [jpc Germany](#)

50.

Preiser 89177 [74'18]: **2 songs**, coupled with songs and arias by Verdi, Bizet, Saint-Saens, Wagner, Händel, Weingartner, Strauss and Bergner. The Marx songs are performed by Luise Willer (mezzo-soprano) and Carl Bergner (piano). Recorded in 1937.



FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

- [Amazon USA](#)
- [Amazon UK](#)
- [Amazon Germany](#)
- [jpc Germany](#)

51.

EMI CLASSICS 7243 5 73168 2 8 [64'55]: **5 songs**, coupled with songs by R. Strauss and Gustav Mahler, performed by Katarina Karnéus (mezzo-soprano) and Roger Vignoles (piano), recorded in July 1998.



FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

- [Amazon USA](#)
- [Amazon UK](#)
- [Amazon Germany](#)
- [Tower Records USA](#)

52.

EMI CLASSICS ???????? [64'55]: **5 songs**, coupled with songs by R. Strauss and Gustav Mahler, performed by Katarina Karnéus (mezzo-soprano) and Roger Vignoles (piano), recorded in July 1998.

Certainly same as CD above!

FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

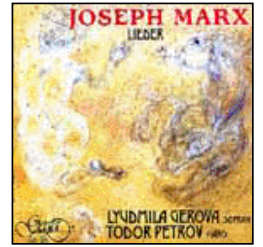
- [Amazon USA](#)
- [Amazon UK](#)





53.

GEGA GD 125 [47'42]: **26 songs** (works for voice and piano); performed by Lyudmila Gerova (soprano) and Todor Petrov (piano), recorded in December 1991. **Podium might be able to obtain a few copies of this CD from the manufacturer or the performers.**

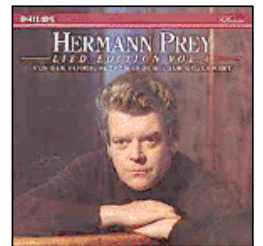


FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

Requests by  [Email to Podium](#)

54.

Philips Classics 442 706-2, 4-CD-Set: **"Lied-Edition - Von der Jahrhundertwende bis zur Gegenwart (Vol. 4), Hermann Prey (baritone)** sings songs by Joseph Marx (on CD 3: **"Der Dichter"**, **"Nimm dir ein schönes Weib"**), Richard Strauss, Hans Pfitzner, Gustav Mahler, Johannes Brahms, Wilhelm Kienzl, Felix Weingartner, Leo Blech, Paul Graener, Emil Mattiesen, Bruno Walter, Max Reger, Franz Schreker, Joseph Haas, Richard Trunk, Armin Knab, Othmar Schoeck, Erich Wolfgang Korngold, Arnold Schönberg, Anton von Webern, Alban Berg, Alexander von Zemlinsky, Josef Matthias Hauer, Egon Wellesz, Hanns Eisler, Windfried Zillig, Hans Jelinek, Paul Hindemith, Ernst Krenek, Viktor Ullmann, Mark Lothar, Boris Blacher, Wolfgang Fortner, Gottfried von Einem, Peter Zwetkoff and Friedrich Gulda. The pianists are Friedrich Gulda, Karl Engel, Michael Krist and Wolfgang Sawallisch (recorded 1976).



FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

 [Homepage about Alexander von Zemlinsky](#)


55.

BMP Bilkent University Symphony Orchestra CD: **"An einen Herbstwald"**, performed by Mesut Iktu (baritone) and Julia Kerimova (piano), coupled with vocal works by Rachmaninov, P. Tchaikovsky, Richard Wagner, Giuseppe Verdi, Ahmed Adnan Saygun, Franz Schubert, Johannes Brahms, Gustav Mahler and Michail Glinka (new recording).




FIND THIS CD DIRECTLY AT:

 [Website of the Bilkent Symphony Orchestra, Ankara/Turkey](#)

 [Back to top of page](#)

Bibliography

NOTE: For the original titles of the books and writings see the  [German version](#) (opens a new browser window).

(Please also note that his name is frequently being spelled [Josef Marx](#))

- Andreas Liess: "Joseph Marx - Life and Work" (1943, Steirische Verlagsanstalt Graz)
- Hans von Dettelbach: "Joseph Marx - On the occasion of his 80th birthday" (1962, Steirischer Tonkünstlerbund, Graz)
- Erik Werba: "Joseph Marx" (1964, Österreichischer Bundesverlag für Unterricht, Wissenschaft und Kunst, Vienna)
- Dr. Andreas Holzer: Doctoral thesis about Joseph Marx (1999, Karl Franzens University, Graz)
- Julius Biströn: "Joseph Marx" (1923, Wiener Literarische Anstalt)
- "Joseph Marx: Reflections of a romantic realist": Collected musicological essays and lectures by Marx (1947, collected and edited by Oswald Ortner: Gerlach & Wiedling, Wien)
- Joseph Marx: "Music - A Universal Language" (1964, Austrian commission of the UNESCO; Austria Edition, Wien)
- "Joseph Marx - Honorary graduation and its resonance"; Collected lectures on the occasion of Marx's appointment as honorary doctor at the philosophical faculty of Vienna University on 10 May, 1947 (1948, Österreichische Staatsdruckerei, Wien)

























- Erich Schenk: "Joseph Marx - An obituary" (1966, Hermann Böhlhaus Nachf., Graz-Wien-Köln, Kommissionsverlag)
- Thomas Leibnitz: "Austrian composers of the late romantic period - Studies on Emil Nikolaus von Reznicek, Joseph Marx, Franz Schmidt und Egon Kornauth" (Tutzing, 1986)
- Documents of the Joseph Marx Exhibition in Eggenberg Castle, organised by Graz City Museum (1957), compiled by Martin Rucker at the Saxon State Library, Dresden
- Documents of the Joseph Marx Ceremony on the occasion of Marx's 80th birthday, organised by the Austrian Academy of Sciences (1962), compiled by Martin Rucker at the Saxon State Library, Dresden
- Several other historical and musicological documents, compiled by Martin Rucker at the Saxon State Library, Dresden
- Online edition of The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians, second edition
- Numerous original Marx documents and manuscripts about his work, compiled by the Austrian National Library
- Private letters written to and by Marx
- Many more documents and information on Joseph Marx's life and work provided by kind and helpful experts, archivists and by the composer's colleagues and friends, also numerous details that I found in the Internet

 [Back to top of page](#)

Many useful links

(No responsibility for the contents of the following websites. All links open a new browser window.)

If you want to search the web for more information on Joseph Marx, please also try the alternative spelling Josef Marx.

-  [Review of ASV's Vol. 1 Complete Orchestral Music: Marx's "Natur-Trilogie for large orchestra" at Musicweb](#). This disc has [received high praise](#) from many international magazines and renowned critics.
Information on the genesis of this CD [can be found here](#).
-  [Review of Marx's Romantic Piano Concerto at Musicweb](#)
-  [Review of Marx's three string quartets at Musicweb](#)
-  [Review of 20 Marx songs at Musicweb](#)
-  [Universal Edition in Vienna](#)
Main publisher of Marx's works.
-  [Doblinger Music Publisher](#)
-  [Bochum Symphony Orchestra \(Cond.: Steven Sloane\)](#)
This orchestra has been committed for the project of a complete orchestral work series to be released on the label ASV. Also see [Recording Projects](#)
-  [More information on Steven Sloane](#)
Conductor of the Bochum Symphony Orchestra
-  [Miguel Kertsman](#)
Website of Miguel Kertsman who is the producer of the CD series "Complete Orchestral Music of Joseph Marx"
-  [Austrian Mediateque](#)
-  [Schott Musik International](#)
Famous German publisher; agency of Universal Edition regarding Marx works
-  [ORF](#) (Austrian radio station)
-  [Austrian National Library](#)
-  [Complete list of persons who wrote letters to Marx](#)
This list that also includes countless important names like Dohnanyi, Furtwängler, Giesecking, Godowsky etc. is continuously being completed little by little. I also strongly recommend the main website  [Database of letters written by Musicians](#)
-  [Vienna University of Music and Performing Arts](#)
-  [Graz University of Music and Performing Arts](#)
-  [Musicweb](#)
A large music database that - among others - offers an incredibly huge amount of reviews on every kind of anytime released classical music CDs. A must-visit.
-  [Hyperion Records](#)
Hyperion was the first label that issued an orchestral work by Marx, the Romantic Piano Concerto.
-  [ASV Records](#)
ASV agreed to undertake the project of a complete orchestral work series. Also see [Recordings Projects](#)
-  [Pavane Records](#)
-  [FY Solstice Records](#)
-  [Etcetera Records](#) [link coming soon]
-  [New Grove Dictionary](#)
Online edition of The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians, second edition.

- [🔗 The Artis Quartet, Vienna](#)
- [🔗 The Art of Fugue \(Kunst der Fuge\) - Classical music in MIDI files and theory](#)
- [🔗 Kai Czepiczka's site about numerous forgotten composers \(English version available\)](#)
- [🔗 Huge website about Bulgarian composers](#)
- [🔗 Classical Net](#)
- [🔗 Searchmusicnetwork.com](#)
- [🔗 ClassicsToday.com](#)
- [🔗 Onno van Rijen's huge page on 20th century's Soviet Composers](#)
- [🔗 Jim Moskowitz's "Unknown Composers Page"](#)
- [🔗 Robert E. Crawford's REC Music Foundation](#)
- [🔗 xrefer - The Web's reference engine](#)
- [🔗 German Classical Net \(Klassiknetz\)](#)
- [🔗 Musikerforum - A website for classical musicians](#)
- [🔗 Podium - Music Publisher of Marx's Spring Sonata for Violin and piano](#)
- [🔗 Classical Music UK](#)
- [🔗 The very huge classical composers database by Jos Smeets](#)
- [🔗 A useful German classical music database](#)
- [🔗 Classical is cool - A fine website made by some true classical music lovers](#)
- [🔗 Culture Kiosque - The European Guide to Arts, Culture and Entertainment Worldwide](#)
- [🔗 A huge website providing a lot of information about british composers](#)
- [🔗 The Classical Music Navigator](#)
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- [🔗 Classical Composer Homepages - Another fine links list](#)
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- [🔗 Classical Net providing another huge composers database](#)
- [🔗 Composer biographies by Michael Norrish](#)
- [🔗 Another fine neglected composers homepage](#)
- [🔗 Composers Net](#)
- [🔗 Classical Vocal Repertoire](#)
- [🔗 Ray Hall's "Musical Websites of Great Interest"](#)
- [🔗 Vienna City Flats — Modern and comfortably equipped apartments in the heart of Vienna](#)

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Acknowledgements

During my research on life and work of Joseph Marx (Josef Marx) I have been supported by many experts and friends who always helped me with practical hints and useful information.

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All others who are not mentioned here please forgive me and thank you so very much for your help!

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In the footsteps of Marx: Travelogue of a memorable journey

(Completed on October 5, 2003. Updated and more photos included on January 26, 2004.)

In late July 2003, my friend Martin Rucker (to whom I will always be indebted for his help) and I made a trip together to Austria in order to visit all those

places where Joseph Marx -who has been one of the main subjects of my life for three years- spent most of his life.

The trip turned out to be a great adventure, not only since we were to

- see houses where Marx lived for several decades,
- meet some of his students and acquaintances,
- sit on his own chair,
- see the very room where he wrote almost all of his works,
- and we were also to talk to a lady who, in the years 1938-43, had been the house-maid of Marx and his lifetime companion Anna Hansa!

This travelogue was made to share all these wonderful experiences with the reader of the page.

Enjoy!

Arrival in Austria and a stop in the romantic village Pürgg



01: A first view from the car window to the foothills of the Alps while we're already reveling in anticipation of what lies ahead of us



02: Can a photo ever capture the peaceful atmosphere and endless range of this valley?



03: Here we can see the region of the lakes "Wolfgangsee" and "Mondsee"...



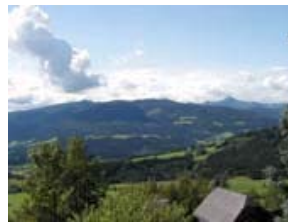
04: Welcome to "The Joy of Painting" with Bob Ross



05: Having a holiday home in this area wouldn't be the worst thing



06: After having spent an evening with Prof. Wolfgang Suppan (in [Pürgg](#)), who is certainly the best-known among Marx's Styrian students, I'm literally overwhelmed at sight of a mile-high rock called "Grimming" that can be seen from the balcony of my hotel room



07: Landscapes such as these are known to be utterly inspiring...



08: ...which is demonstrated at its best in Marx's tuneful and gorgeous music

* * *

Since we had to meet a couple of people, there was barely enough time to see much of the city of Graz but there was still a little bit of time to...



09: ... visit the City Park of Graz where Marx looks at us with a special kind of melancholy, which reminds me of the saying that...

10: ... blissful happiness, which was the main source of his music, and unfulfilled longing are so often two sides of the same medal. Hardly have I photographed his intense facial expression, when the camera conks out. Do you believe in coincidence?

11: Soon after I have a new camera, we decide to go to the street "Joseph-Marx-Straße" that I had come across in the Internet

12: Although we are in a quiet district of Graz where idyllic streets such as this one are no rare thing...



13: ...we eventually agree that this street is worthy of him...

14: I wonder who might have been responsible for the decision to call just *this* street after his name

15: Unfortunately there is no time left to make the necessary investigation on this case...

16: ...but one last picture of another street sign that I happily discovered in the very last second should be alright

Many more photos of the "Joseph-Marx-Street" [are available here](#).

Incredibly, during our two and a half days in Graz, we had missed the opportunity to visit the house where Joseph Marx was born! Therefore, I am very grateful to Mr. Alexander Wenzel (University of Music and Performing Arts, Graz) for the following three photographs that he shot especially for this website (with special thanks to Mrs. Dr. Helga Kaudel):



It was in this very house (Rechbauerstr. 15, Graz) that Joseph Marx first saw the light of day



A commemorative tablet at the wall of this house: "In this house Joseph Marx was born on May 11, 1882. Dedicated by the Musikverein für Steiermark to the Styrian composer on the occasion of his 65th birthday."



Another commemorative tablet that can be found in the lobby of the University of Music and Performing Arts, Graz, Palais Meran, Leonhardstr. 15

And now we were about to visit one of the most important destinations of our trip: the venerable "Villa Hansa" in the small village Grambach (near Graz) where Marx spent almost half of his life and wrote the major part of his works (including the Autumn Symphony that can be heard when opening this page), and where he would welcome a lot of renowned and unknown people from far and near. Not only did we meet the house's owner, there was also a *special guest* waiting for us.....



17: How long had I been dreaming about seeing this one with my own eyes...



18: Barely a couple of minutes later, we are standing in front a big old wooden cottage. It appears to me like in a fairy tale...



19: ...and miraculously the camera managed to produce a faithful reflection of a magic sight



20: This sign tells us: We have arrived.



21: Enchanted nooks, shimmering sunshine, the chirping of crickets and rustling of the woods... Exactly how I had pictured it



22: Walking down the garden, one can see a big bell on the roof



23: In former times, the bell was tolled to announce the news



24: Then an interesting fountain sculpture catches my eye: a kind of "frog concert" with a conductor, panpipe and bagpipes...



25: I wonder if I could reveal the secret of this mysterious frog orchestra from this position...



26: ...or maybe better from over here? However, much more important seems to be...



27: ... a tiny little kitten cautiously watching me, this strange human being who, obviously having gone into raptures, walks up and down with a camera in his hands



28: We go into the house and are now on the balcony that runs round three sides of the house



29: Here, I take a picture of an 81-year-old jovial lady: Mrs. Katharina Findner who was one of Marx's and Anna Hansa's house-maids from 1938 to 1943!



30: On that occasion I also ask the owner of the house, Mrs. Ellison, if she could pose for a photo, to be used in this gallery that had been cunningly planned for a long time...



31: Over there on the left, we can see flourishing green trees all over. Formerly, there were just a handful of houses in the village



32: We go up the creaking stairs and enter the certainly most important room of the whole house: It was in this very room...



33: ...that Joseph Marx wrote almost all of his works! The former house-maid (whom he called "Katterl") tells us a good many stories of former times... Till late into the night, "the Professor" would compose on a piano that was standing by the wall on the right side where you can now see the lamp.



34: Still enjoying the almost mystical atmosphere of this room, I do not miss the chance to take a picture from exactly the same window from which Marx himself [had shot a photo in World War 2](#)



35: Now we're back downstairs in the dining and music room where an old painting of this house catches our eye



36: This is Marx's and Anna's dining table. Right here, I am now about to spend almost two hours sitting on the very chair that has not always had it easy under the heavy weight of the Maestro



37: This ancient, dignified instrument is not the very piano that had been played by Marx himself (unfortunately we couldn't trace his piano) but, at any rate, this one was made by the family of the composer Robert Stolz more than a hundred years ago, Mrs. Ellison says



38: Before we have to leave, we take a look at Marx's and Anna's living room and learn that a considerable part of the house's furniture that was used by them is still here



39: After a moving farewell from the ladies and the house that -clearly perceptible for everyone- gives off a special kind of strength and profundity, I take this picture in the beginning dusk...



40: Down in the garden of the traditional restaurant [Landhaus Hammerl](#) that was frequently visited by Marx and his guests, I succeed in taking a very last photograph of the "Hansa House" of which I also provided two frontal pictures that were [taken in the 1940s](#)



Original photograph (shot by Joseph Marx!) in front of the house in 1940: Here we see the house-maid Katharina Findner and the house's cook "Hanni" who, incredibly, was 85 years old when this picture was shot

* * *

In Vienna, we first visited a house in the street "Traungasse" where Marx had been spending many months a year for a period of almost 50 years; then we met some people who have kindly been helping me during my research for this website, and afterwards we went for a walk through the impressive scenes of a metropolis...



41: Some frontal photos of this house in the "Traungasse" can be found [here](#)



42: Hofburg



43: Josefsplatz



44: Vienna's cathedral Stefansdom



45: Being a coach-man must be an exhausting business, I guess...



46



47: Vienna's shopping district

* * *

The evening before we were to leave Austria, we went to the Central Cemetery of Vienna where we came across numerous well-known names until we finally faced Joseph Marx's grave...



48: Franz Schubert



49: Ludwig van Beethoven



50: Johannes Brahms



51: Johann Strauss



52: Franz Schmidt



53: Hugo Wolf



54: Joseph Marx's grave of honor.

More pictures of this grave [can be found here](#)

* * *

The day of our return...



55: ...led us to the shore of an idyllic lake at the Autobahn...



56: ...and rewarded us with a view from the car window to the outermost foothills of the Alps...

...and this is how an unforgettable journey to Joseph Marx's native land came to an end!

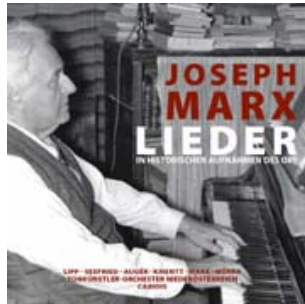
I wish to thank all those who brightened up our days in Austria.

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this rare, major musical event and made available a
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The Joseph Marx Society (founded in April 2006 by Berkant Haydin) has its own website:

joseph-marx-society.org

The Joseph Marx Society invites all music lovers to become a member or to support the Society with a kind donation. Please contact the General Secretary, Berkant Haydin (author of this website joseph-marx.org), at his email:

✉ office@joseph-marx.org

www.joseph-marx.org is a private website created by Berkant Haydin.

The purpose of this website is to provide information about the life and works of this composer and to celebrate his magic music.

www.joseph-marx.org should not be confused with the website of the Joseph Marx Society mentioned above.

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