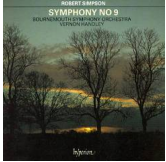


Robert Simpson - Symphony No.9 (1988)

Written by bluesever

Thursday, 03 February 2011 19:23 - Last Updated Sunday, 11 May 2014 21:22

Robert Simpson - Symphony No.9 (1988)



1. *Symphony No. 9: Part 1*
2. *Symphony No. 9: Part 2*
3. *Symphony No. 9: Part 3* [play](#)
4. *Symphony No. 9: Part 4*
5. *Symphony No. 9: Part 5*
6. *Symphony No. 9: Part 6*
7. *Symphony No. 9: Part 7*
8. *Symphony No. 9: Part 8*
9. *Symphony No. 9: Part 9*
10. *Symphony No. 9: Part 10*
11. *Symphony No. 9: Part 11* [play](#)
12. *Symphony No. 9: Part 12*
13. *Symphony No. 9: Part 13*
14. *Symphony No. 9: Part 14*
15. *Symphony No. 9: Part 15*
16. *Symphony No. 9: Part 16*
17. *Symphony No. 9: Part 17*
18. *Robert Simpson describes his 9th symphony*

Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra
Vernon Handley – conductor

The Symphony No. 9 by Robert Simpson was composed between 1985 and 1987 and commissioned by the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra who gave the premiere under Vernon Handley at the Poole Arts Centre on 8 April, 1987. The work was dedicated to his second wife, Angela. It has been called 'the largest piece of music written in one tempo' and, more than any other Simpson symphony, met with immediate critical acclaim. Some music critics and admirers of Simpson's music consider this symphony to be his finest.

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The work is in one, vast movement in a three part form; a chorale-prelude style opening section which goes headlong into a giant scherzo before a slow, fugal third part which is followed by a theme and variations. The scherzo second part is often treated as an extended climax of the symphony, meaning that the structure of the whole work could be seen to be in two halves, each divided into two sections.

Currently, the only commercially available CD is a Hyperion Records performed by the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra conducted by Vernon Handley. The disc includes a 20-minute talk by Simpson about the symphony illustrated with excerpts from Handley's recording.

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