

1 NYP 14-42: Beethoven B

2

3 (INSERT NATIONAL UNDERWRITERS 01)

4 (NYP THEME MUSIC UP AND UNDER)

5 (ROLL: NYPTW INTRO)

6

7 AB: **...and "this week..."**

8 (MUSIC EXAMPLE UP AND UNDER)

9 AB: **We have the second in a series of three**

10 **broadcasts from *The Beethoven Piano Concertos:***

11 ***A Philharmonic Festival*. This is Alec Baldwin**

12 **inviting you to stay tuned as we get set to**

13 **hear the orchestra's Mary and James G. Wallach**

14 **Artist-in-Residence, Yefim Bronfman as soloist**

15 **Beethoven's second and third piano concertos.**

16 **Also on the program: The World Premiere of**

17 ***Songs* by Sean Shepherd—A New York Philharmonic**

18 **Commission. Music Director Alan Gilbert will**

19 **conduct...The New York Philharmonic This Week.**

20 (MUSIC UP AND OUT)

21 (ACTUALITY)

22 AB: **Artist-in-Residence Yefim Bronfman.**

23 SLIGHT PAUSE)

24

25

26

27

28 AB: Beethoven's Second Piano Concerto was premiered  
29 at a charity event for widows and orphans in  
30 1795, with the composer as the soloist. This  
31 was his public debut and the solo part was not  
32 yet entirely committed to paper. The balance of  
33 the score was completed just two days before  
34 the performance.

35

36 Much like the Piano Concerto No. 1, this piece  
37 is strongly reminiscent of the Mozart piano  
38 concertos. It asserts itself from these  
39 earlier works with a more robust orchestration  
40 and a bit more dramatic flair. Despite its  
41 number, Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 2 was  
42 actually composed first, but it was withheld  
43 from publication until 1801 while it was  
44 undergoing frequent and considerable revisions.  
45 In the meantime, the Piano Concerto No. 1,  
46 though second in order of composition, already  
47 had been published.

48 (APPLAUSE)

49 AB: ...and we head down to the stage now for the  
50 Piano Concerto No. 2 in B-flat major, Op. 19 by  
51 Beethoven. Yefim Bronfman is the soloist and  
52 Alan Gilbert conducts...The New York  
53 Philharmonic.

54

55 (MUSIC/APLAUSE)

56 AB: **Piano Concerto No. 2 by Beethoven. The New**  
57 **York Philharmonic was conducted by its Music**  
58 **Director, Alan Gilbert. Artist-in-Residence**  
59 **Yefim Bronfman was the soloist.**

60 (SLIGHT PAUSE)

61 AB: **Mr. Bronfman will return in the second half of**  
62 **our program as soloist in Beethoven's THIRD**  
63 **piano concerto. Next, however, we feature the**  
64 **World Premiere performance of *Songs* by Sean**  
65 **Shepherd. Here now is the composer to tell us**  
66 **about the piece**

67 (ACTUALITY?)

68 ALT: **The composer discussed this new work at length**  
69 **with our producer Mark Travis:**

70 (ACTUALITY?)

71 AB: **Conductor Alan Gilbert added these thoughts:**

72 (ACTUALITY?)

73 (APPLAUSE)

74 AB: **...and we return to the stage at Avery Fisher**  
75 **Hall for the World Premiere of *Songs*—A New York**  
76 **Philharmonic Commission by Sean Shepherd. Alan**  
77 **Gilbert conducts...The New York Philharmonic.**

78 (MUSIC/APPLAUSE)

79 AB: **We just heard the World Premiere of *Songs* by**  
80 **Sean Shepherd. The New York Philharmonic was**  
81 **conducted by Alan Gilbert.**

82 AB: Coming up after a pause for station ID, our  
83 broadcast will continue with a performance of  
84 the Piano Concerto No. 3 by Beethoven with  
85 Yefim Bronfman as soloist. I'm Alec Baldwin and  
86 you're listening to The New York Philharmonic  
87 This Week.

88 (FADE OUT)

89 ID

90 AB: Beethoven's third piano concerto is a decidedly  
91 pivotal work—not only in the composer's own  
92 writing, but in the genre, taken as a whole.  
93 Where, as discussed, Beethoven's earlier piano  
94 concertos bowed deeply to Mozart in terms of  
95 design, the third piano concerto was penned by  
96 a much more assertive Beethoven—a Beethoven  
97 more willing to take risks. As a result, the  
98 third piano concerto is bolder, more dramatic,  
99 and larger-in-scale than its predecessors.

100

101 Like all of his piano concertos save for the  
102 fifth, Beethoven constructed this piece as  
103 challenge, above all, to himself as both a  
104 pianist and as a composer. That said, he  
105 struggled mightily with the work,  
106 sketching...erasing...revising....and  
107 correcting, to make sure that each and every  
108 note conveyed his artistic message clearly.

109 In fact, according to Beethoven's friend, the  
110 composer and conductor, Ignaz Seyfried,  
111 Beethoven re-sketched the third concerto so  
112 much that this ended up being yet another work  
113 that wasn't entirely committed to paper on the  
114 day it was scheduled to be premiered.

115

116 Seyfried, who turned pages for Beethoven at the  
117 premiere in 1803, recalled that Beethoven  
118 played nearly all of the solo part from memory  
119 and that since most of the pages of the  
120 concerto were blank, Beethoven would give  
121 Seyfried a nod every now and again to turn a  
122 blank page...so that the audience wouldn't  
123 discover the ruse.

124

125 Fortunately, Beethoven eventually DID turn the  
126 blank pages of the third concerto into actual,  
127 written music so that the work could remain  
128 audible after the composer's passing.

129

130

131

132

133

134

135

136       Not only does Beethoven's third piano concerto  
137       stand out as one of the most outstanding  
138       offerings in the repertoire, but it also stands  
139       out as being one of the first works in an  
140       extremely fruitful creative period for the  
141       composer--a period that would also yield the  
142       Symphonies 4, 5, and 6, the Quartetto Serioso,  
143       and two more outstanding piano concertos.

144

145   (APPLAUSE)

146   AB: ...and with our artists back onstage at Avery  
147       Fisher Hall, we'll now hear the Piano Concerto  
148       No. 3 in c-minor, op. 37 by Beethoven. Yefim  
149       Bronfman is the soloist and Alan Gilbert  
150       conducts...The New York Philharmonic.

151   (MUSIC/APPLAUSE)

152   AB: Piano Concerto No. 3 in c-minor by Beethoven.  
153       The New York Philharmonic was conducted by Alan  
154       Gilbert. The soloist was the orchestra's  
155       Artist-in-Residence, Yefim Bronfman.

156   (INSET CLOSERS/FILL/CREDITS)

157

158

159

160

161

162

163 PROMO for NYP 14-43 :30

164 AB: **Next time, on the New York Philharmonic This**  
165 **Week:**

166 **Artist-in-Residence Yefim Bronfman is joined by**  
167 **Concertmaster Glenn Dicterow and Principle**  
168 **Cello Carter Brey for Beethoven's Triple**  
169 **Concerto. This is Alec Baldwin. Please join**  
170 **me for this third and final installment from**  
171 **The Beethoven Piano Concertos: A Philharmonic**  
172 **Festival. Mr. Bronfman will also be the**  
173 **soloist in the Emperor Concerto as Music**  
174 **Director Alan Gilbert conducts...The New York**  
175 **Philharmonic This Week.**