

1 Script for NYP 16-45: Honeck conducts Pastoral

2 (INSERT NATIONAL UNDERWRITING CREDIT #1)

3 (THEME MUSIC UP AND UNDER TO "X")

4 AB: **And "this" week....(X)**

5 AB: **Principal oboe Liang Wang is the soloist in the**  
6 **oboe concerto by Richard Strauss. This is Alec**  
7 **Baldwin inviting you to listen with me, now, to**  
8 **a broadcast that will also include Beethoven's**  
9 **Pastoral Symphony. We begin with a piece**  
10 **equally familiar to connoisseurs of good music**  
11 **and fans of vintage cartoons: The Poet and**  
12 **Peasant Overture by Franz von Suppé [phone soo-**  
13 **PAY]. Manfred Honeck conducts...The New York**  
14 **Philharmonic.**

15 (MUSIC)

16 AB: **Can't you just picture Andy Panda or Popeye the**  
17 **Sailor getting into some mischief? Though**  
18 **animated cartoons helped popularize that music,**  
19 **it was written in 1846 by Franz von Suppé. That**  
20 **was the Poet and Peasant Overture. The New**  
21 **York Philharmonic was conducted by Manfred**  
22 **Honeck.**

23 (SLIGHT PAUSE)

24 AB: We next feature one of the last works penned by  
25 Richard Strauss; his oboe concerto in D-major  
26 from 1945.

27 In the later stages of World War II, Richard  
28 Strauss was apprehended by American soldiers at  
29 his Garmisch estate in Bavaria. As he descended  
30 the staircase, he announced to the soldiers, "*I*  
31 *am Richard Strauss, the composer of*  
32 *Rosenkavalier and Salomé.*" The U.S. lieutenant  
33 in charge of the operation happened to be a  
34 musician and ordered that an '*Off Limits*' sign  
35 be placed on the lawn to protect the elderly  
36 composer.

37 Corporal John de Lancie was also part of that  
38 U.S. Army unit and was principal oboist of the  
39 Pittsburgh Symphony under Fritz Reiner by  
40 trade. He knew Strauss's orchestral writing  
41 for oboe thoroughly and, in the course of a  
42 long conversation with composer, De Lancie  
43 asked him if he had ever considered writing an  
44 oboe concerto. Strauss answered simply "*No,*"  
45 and the topic was dropped. However, in the  
46 months to follow, the idea grew on him and  
47 Strauss completed the score of his Oboe  
48 Concerto on September 14, 1945.

49 The oboe concerto was premiered on February 26,  
50 1946 in Zürich. As the concerto was being  
51 prepared for print in early 1948, Strauss  
52 revised and expanded its last-movement coda.

53 Strauss remembered Corporal de Lancie and saw  
54 to it that rights to the U.S. premiere were  
55 assigned to him. By then, however, de Lancie  
56 had given up his chair in Pittsburgh for a  
57 junior post with the Philadelphia Orchestra.  
58 Though De Lancie was honored, Orchestra  
59 protocol dictated that Philadelphia's principal  
60 would get the soloist part. So De Lancie  
61 instead gave the rights to the U.S. premiere to  
62 a young oboist friend at the CBS Symphony  
63 Orchestra in New York by the name of Mitch  
64 Miller. Miller, of course, later became famous  
65 as a music producer, conductor and host of a  
66 very popular sing-along TV show.

67 John de Lancie eventually went on to become the  
68 principal oboist for the Philadelphia  
69 Orchestra—a post he held for 30 years--but it  
70 was only after his retirement that he finally  
71 performed and recorded the Strauss oboe  
72 Concerto.

73 (APPLAUSE)

74 AB: ...and we return to the stage at David Geffen  
75 Hall for the Oboe Concerto in D-major by  
76 Richard Strauss. Principal Oboe Liang Wang is  
77 the soloist and Manfred Honeck conducts...The New  
78 York Philharmonic.

79 (MUSIC)

80 (APPLAUSE)

81 AB: We just heard the Concerto for Oboe and Small  
82 Orchestra by Richard Strauss. The New York  
83 Philharmonic was conducted by Manfred Honeck.  
84 As soloist, we heard the Philharmonic's  
85 principal oboe, Liang Wang.

86 (SLIGHT PAUSE)

87 AB: Manfred Honeck will return to the stage at  
88 David Geffen Hall shortly and when he does,  
89 he'll conduct the Symphony No. 6 by Beethoven—  
90 the Pastoral Symphony. I'm Alec Baldwin and  
91 you're listening to the New York Philharmonic  
92 This Week.

93 (ID)

94

95

96 AB: *"No man can love the country so much as I. I*  
97 *love a tree more than a man."* So remarked  
98 Ludwig van Beethoven. Our broadcast continues  
99 now with Beethoven's Ode to Nature: The  
100 Symphony No. 6 in F major, Op. 68, "Pastoral."

101 (MUSIC)

102 VO: When this work was given its premiere on  
103 December 22, 1808, it was listed as  
104 *"Recollections of Life in the Country, in F-*  
105 *major, No. 5."* Yes, the numbering was  
106 different. This oft-discussed concert was a  
107 marathon musical event that also saw the  
108 premieres of the Fifth Symphony (listed then as  
109 a Grand Symphony in c-minor, No. 6), the G-  
110 major piano concerto, and numerous other works  
111 by the composer, which added up to a 4-hour  
112 evening. There were problems with the  
113 orchestra, the theater was freezing, and  
114 Beethoven's scores were a mess...but the music  
115 persevered, thankfully.

116 (APPLAUSE)

117 VO: ...and we return to the stage for the Symphony  
118 No. 6 by Beethoven. Manfred Honeck  
119 conducts...the New York Philharmonic.

120 (MUSIC) (APPLAUSE)

121 VO: **Symphony No. 6 by Beethoven, "Pastoral." The**  
122 **New York Philharmonic was conducted by Manfred**  
123 **Honeck.**

124 (INSERT FILL, CLOSERS, & CREDITS)

125 PROMO for THIS Program:

126 AB: **Liang Wang is the soloist in the Oboe Concerto**  
127 **by Strauss on our next New York Philharmonic**  
128 **broadcast. This is Alec Baldwin. Please join**  
129 **me for a program that will also feature**  
130 **Beethoven's Pastoral Symphony, as well as the**  
131 **Poet & Peasant Overture by Franz von Suppé. My**  
132 **good friend Mafred Honeck will conduct...The New**  
133 **York Philharmonic This Week.**

134 PROMO for NYP 16-46:

135 AB: **Jaap van Zweden conducts the Symphony No. 8 by**  
136 **Dmitri Shostakovich next time, on the New York**  
137 **Philharmonic This Week. Also on the program:**  
138 **Sheryl Staples and Cynthia Phelps are the**  
139 **soloists in Mozart's Sinfonia [sin-phone-EE-uh]**  
140 **Concertante. [cone-cher-TAHN-tay] I'm Alec**  
141 **Baldwin-please join me...for the New York**  
142 **Philharmonic This Week.**