

1 Script for NYP 16-46: JvZ conducts Mozart & Shosty

2 (INSERT NATIONAL UNDERWRITING CREDIT #1)

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

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

5 AB: **Principal Associate Concertmaster Sheryl**  
6 **Staples and Principal Viola Cynthia Phelps are**  
7 **the soloists in the Sinfonia Concertante by**  
8 **Mozart. This is Alec Baldwin. Welcome to**  
9 **David Geffen Hall. Following the Mozart, we'll**  
10 **hear the Symphony No. 8 by Dmitri Shostakovich.**  
11 **Jaap van Zweden will conduct...the New York**  
12 **Philharmonic This Week.**

13 (SLIGHT PAUSE)

14 AB: **We begin with Mozart's *Sinfonia Concertante* for**  
15 **Violin and Viola, K. 364.**

16 **You might think of this piece as a sublime**  
17 **cross between a symphony and a double concerto,**  
18 **in which violin and viola--as equal partners--**  
19 **engage in an exquisite dialogue with one**  
20 **another.**

21

22

23 AB: The viola is perhaps too often the punch-line  
24 of many a musical joke. Mozart, however,  
25 rather enjoyed playing the instrument--  
26 especially in string quartets, and here he  
27 provides especially gorgeous music for the  
28 viola. Principal viola Cynthia Phelps agrees:

29 (ACTUALITY: Cindy 02)

30 AB: Mozart's interest in the viola may have at  
31 least in part been intended as something of a  
32 rebellious gesture toward his father. Like lots  
33 of dads, Leopold was known to nag his son--and  
34 he often said that his son might be the  
35 greatest violinist of his day...if only he would  
36 practice. (Hmmm. Sounds familiar.)

37 To better ensure that the darker sound of the  
38 viola could be heard in this piece, Mozart  
39 wrote the part in D Major and instructed that  
40 the instrument be tuned one  $\frac{1}{2}$  step higher, thus  
41 sounding more brilliant. Once again, Cynthia  
42 Phelps:

43 (ACTUALITY: Cindy 03)

44 AB: Oh...and the violin writing isn't at all bad  
45 either, as Principal Associate Concertmaster  
46 Sheryl Staples tells us here:

47 (ACTUALITY: Staples? 02)

48 (APPLAUSE)

49 AB: ...and now we hear the *Sinfonia Concertante* for  
50 Violin and Viola, K.364 by Wolfgang Amadeus  
51 Mozart. Principal Associate Concertmaster  
52 Sheryl Staples and Principal Viola Cynthia  
53 Phelps are the soloists...and Jaap van Zweden  
54 conducts the New York Philharmonic.

55 (MUSIC: Mozart K. 364)

56 (APPLAUSE)

57 AB (over applause): *Sinfonia Concertante* for violin  
58 and viola by Mozart. The New York Philharmonic  
59 was conducted by Jaap van Sweden. As soloists,  
60 we heard Principal Associate Concertmaster  
61 Sheryl Staples and Principal Viola Cynthia  
62 Phelps.

63 (SLIGHT PAUSE)

64 AB: Coming up next on our program: Jaap van Zweden  
65 will lead the orchestra in a performance of the  
66 Symphony No. 8 by Dmitri Shostakovich. I'm  
67 Alec Baldwin and you're listening to the New  
68 York Philharmonic This Week.

69 (ID)

70 AB: Dmitri Shostakovich once wrote the following  
71 about his symphony No. 8 to his friend, Isaac  
72 Glickman:

73 *Quote: "During my illness I got out the score*  
74 *of ... my [eighth symphony.] I looked it over*  
75 *from first note to last. I was struck by how*  
76 *good it was. It seemed to me that, having*  
77 *written it, I could feel proud and be at peace.*  
78 *I was overwhelmed at the idea that, of all*  
79 *people, I was the composer."*

80 Late in his life, Shostakovich once remarked  
81 that more than anything else, it was the  
82 October Revolution that made him a composer,  
83 adding that his earliest compositions were both  
84 inspired by and dedicated to it.

85 Indeed, Shostakovich remained a patriot to his  
86 country throughout his life, despite suffering  
87 not one, but two series of attacks from the  
88 Soviet government for creating music that was  
89 full of what was termed, "*petty, bourgeois*  
90 *sensationalism.*"

91       The 1943 Eighth Symphony, which we're about to  
92       hear, precedes the second of these attacks by  
93       about five years.

94       Considered by many to be the greatest of his  
95       three war-time symphonies, the symphony No. 8  
96       reflects the despair, the catastrophe, and the  
97       suffering endured by Russia at the peak of  
98       World War II. For Shostakovich, the Symphony  
99       No. 8 also represents some of his most moving,  
100      most personal, and most imaginative music. It  
101      has even been suggested that the eighth  
102      symphony is NOT merely a general reflection on  
103      the horrors of war, but more specifically a  
104      communication of the horrors of Stalin.

105     Perhaps Shostakovich's enemies sensed this, for  
106     when the Eighth symphony was premiered, it was  
107     openly declared as being counter-revolutionary  
108     and anti-Soviet. According to Shostakovich,  
109     the government questioned his motives for  
110     writing an optimistic symphony at the beginning  
111     of the war and then offering a tragic one at  
112     its end. The composer said that such a  
113     gesture, in the eyes of Stalin, could only mean  
114     one thing: that Shostakovich was on the side of  
115     the Fascists.

116       Only Shostakovich's world notoriety saved him  
117       from immediate disaster but eventually, even  
118       that was not enough to spare him entirely. In  
119       1948, for the second time in his life,  
120       Shostakovich was declared an enemy of the  
121       Soviet people and most of his work was banned.

122       The Eighth Symphony is in five movements. The  
123       first is a slow and brooding Adagio. That's  
124       followed by two violent scherzo-like movements.  
125       Next, there is a Largo movement before moving  
126       to the finale.

127       (APPLAUSE)

128       ...and we return to the stage here, at the David  
129       Geffen Hall, for the Symphony No. 8 in c-minor,  
130       Op. 65 by Dmitri Shostakovich. Jaap van Zweden  
131       conducts...The New York Philharmonic.

132       (MUSIC: SHOSTY 8)

133

134

135

136

137

138 (APPLAUSE)

139 AB: *Shostakovich once remarked that, "if you look*  
140 *deep into my music, you will find all there is*  
141 *to know about me."*

142 We just heard one of the most introspective and  
143 moving of Shostakovich's works...the Symphony  
144 No. 8 in c-minor. The New York Philharmonic  
145 was conducted by Jaap van Zweden.

146 (INSERT CREDITS/FILL)

147 PROMO for NYP 16-47

148 AB: **Hilary Hahn performs the Korngold Violin**  
149 **Concerto on our next New York Philharmonic**  
150 **broadcast. This is Alec Baldwin, inviting you**  
151 **to join me for a program that also features the**  
152 **Symphony No. 7 by Beethoven and the *Cyrano de***  
153 ***Bergerac* Overture by Dutch composer Johan**  
154 **Wagenaar. Jaap van Zweden will conduct...the New**  
155 **York Philharmonic This Week.**