

1 Script for NYP 19-44: Brahms/Adams

2 (INSERT NATIONAL UNDERWRITING CREDIT #1

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

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

5 (MUSIC EXAMPLE)

6 AB: **...Baritone Matthias Goerne is the soloist in The**
7 **Wound-Dresser by John Adams. This is Alec**
8 **Baldwin. We'll also have a double helping of**
9 **Brahms on this week's broadcast, including his**
10 **first symphony and the Tragic Overture. Music**
11 **Director Jaap van Zweden will conduct..the New**
12 **York Philharmonic This Week.**

13 (SLIGHT PAUSE)

14 AB: **We begin with music of John Adams. This is a**
15 **musical setting of poetry by Walt Whitman that**
16 **is scored for baritone and orchestra. The**
17 **soloist in this piece is Matthias Goerne, who**
18 **served as the Philharmonic's Artist-in-**
19 **Residence for the 2018/19 season. Here he is**
20 **to tell us more:**

21 (ACTUALITY: matthias 01)

22 VO: **Music Director Jaap van Zweden also joined in**
23 **the discussion:**

24 (JvZ ACTUALITY?)

25 AB: **Of Walt Whitman's poem of the same name,**
26 **composer John Adams described The Wound-Dresser**
27 **as quote, "...the most intimate, most graphic,**
28 **and most profoundly affecting evocation of the**
29 **act of nursing the sick and dying. It is also**
30 **astonishingly free of any kind of hyperbole or**
31 **amplified emotion, yet the detail of the**
32 **imagery is of a precision that could only be**
33 **attained by one who had been there." End quote.**

34 **Whitman served as a nurse during the Civil War**
35 **and the music poignantly captures the message**
36 **of the poem. In the face of brutality, it is**
37 **restrained, meditative, solemn, and reflects**
38 **the reverence of the man who is trying comfort**
39 **sick and dying war victims. Once again,**
40 **Matthias Goerne:**

41 (Actuality 02: matthias 02)

42

43

44

45 AB: Mr. Adams composed *The Wound-Dresser* while his
46 father was dying of Alzheimer's disease and his
47 mother was caring for him. The composer told
48 us that he was *"plunged into an awareness not*
49 *only of dying, but also of the person who cares*
50 *for the dying. The responsibility is tragic..*
51 *and the bonding that takes place between the*
52 *two is one of the most extraordinary human*
53 *events that can happen."*

54 (APPLAUSE)

55 AB: *The Wound-Dresser* received its Philharmonic
56 premiere in January of 2010 with then-Music
57 Director Alan Gilbert and the orchestra's first
58 Artist-in-Residence, baritone Thomas Hampson.
59 And we go down to the stage now, at David
60 Geffen Hall, for THIS performance of *The Wound-*
61 *Dresser* by John Adams. Music Director Jaap van
62 Zweden conducts...the New York Philharmonic.

63 (MUSIC: ADAMS)

64 (APPLAUSE)

65 AB: Composed in 1988, that was the *Wound-Dresser* by
66 John Adams. The New York Philharmonic was
67 conducted by its Music Director, Jaap van
68 Zweden. The soloist was Matthias Goerne.

69 (SLIGHT PAUSE)

70 AB: We have music of Brahms coming up in the second
71 half of our broadcast: the Tragic Overture and
72 the Symphony No. 1. I'm Alec Baldwin and
73 you're listening to The New York Philharmonic
74 This Week:

75 (ID)

76 AB: We continue, now, with the Tragic Overture, Op.
77 81, by Johannes Brahms.

78 This work was composed during the summer of
79 1880 and received its premiere in Vienna on the
80 day after Christmas that same year.

81 More symphonic exercise than tone poem, the
82 title refers to the turbulent, tormented
83 character of the music; it does not follow any
84 particular program. Moreover, the Tragic
85 Overture deliberately stands in stark contrast
86 to the joyous Academic Festival Overture the
87 composer wrote that same year. Brahms said of
88 these two pieces, "*one laughs while the other*
89 *cries.*"

90 (APPLAUSE)

91 AB: ...and now we hear the Tragic Overture by Brahms.
92 Jaap van Zweden conducts...the New York
93 Philharmonic.

94 (MUSIC)

95 AB: That was the Tragic Overture by Johannes
96 Brahms. The New York Philharmonic was conducted
97 by Jaap van Zweden.

98 (SLIGHT PAUSE)

99 AB: After a gestation period of nearly 15 years,
100 Brahms officially unveiled his first symphony
101 in 1877. The composer felt equally tormented
102 and inspired by the specter of Beethoven. In
103 1872 he wrote, "*I shall never write a symphony!*
104 *You cannot imagine what it's like to hear such*
105 *a giant marching behind you!*" Nevertheless, as
106 former New York Philharmonic Program Annotator
107 Michael Steinberg has wrote, "When Brahms at
108 last brought himself to move, he moved
109 surely."

110 (ACTUALITY)

111 AB: The Symphony No. 1 entered the repertoire of
112 the New York Philharmonic on December 22, 1877,
113 under the direction of Theodore Thomas.

114 (APPLAISE)

115 AB: ...and now we hear the Symphony No. 1 in c-minor
116 by Johannes Brahms. Jaap van Zweden conducts
117 the New York Philharmonic.

118 (MUSIC)

119 (APPLAUSE)

120 AB: **Symphony No. 1 in c-minor by Brahms. The New**
121 **York Philharmonic was conducted by its Music**
122 **Director, Jaap van Zweden.**

123 (SLIGHT PAUSE)

124 AB: **In the time we have remaining, let's hear the**
125 **OTHER concert overture Brahms wrote in 1880.**
126 **This is the Academic Festival Overture.**
127 **Leonard Bernstein conducts...the New York**
128 **Philharmonic.**

129 (MUSIC)

130 AB: **Dubbed by the composer as a quote "*cheerful***
131 ***potpourri of student songs,*" that was the**
132 **Academic Festival Overture by Brahms. The New**
133 **York Philharmonic was conducted by Leonard**
134 **Bernstein.**

135

136 PROMO:

137 AB: **Next time, on the New York Philharmonic This**
138 **Week:**

139 **Matthias Goerne is the soloist in The Wound-**
140 **Dresser by John Adams. This is Alec Baldwin.**
141 **Please join me for a broadcast that will also**
142 **feature the Symphony No. 1 by Brahms. Music**
143 **Director Jaap van Zweden will conduct...the New**
144 **York Philharmonic This Week.**

145 PROMO B:

146 AB: **On our next Philharmonic broadcast, we present**
147 **Phil the Hall.**

148 **This is Alec Baldwin inviting you to join me**
149 **for a broadcast featuring several classical**
150 **music favorites, ranging from Beethoven to**
151 **Bernstein, as well as music from the**
152 **orchestra's Very Young Composer's program.**
153 **Jaap van Zweden will conduct...The New York**
154 **Philharmonic This Week.**

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