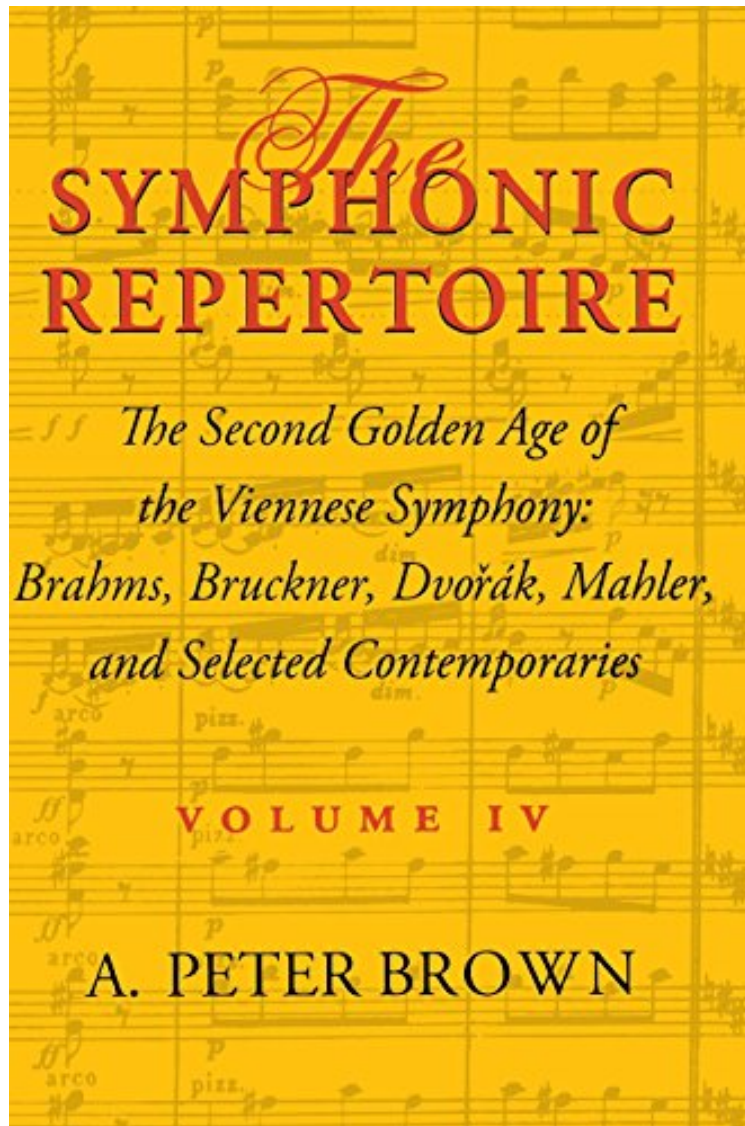


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The Symphonic Repertoire: Volume 4. The Second Golden Age of the Viennese Symphony: Brahms, Bruckner, Dvork, Mahler, and Selected Contemporaries

A. Peter Brown

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Central to the repertoire of Western art music since the 18th century, the symphony has come to be regarded as one of the ultimate compositional challenges. Surprisingly, heretofore there has been no truly extensive, broad-based treatment of the genre, and the best of the existing studies are now several decades old. In this five-volume series, A. Peter Brown explores the symphony from its 18th-century beginnings to the end of the 20th century. Synthesizing the enormous scholarly literature, Brown presents up-to-date overviews of the status of research, discusses any important former or remaining problems of attribution, illuminates the style of specific works and their contexts, and samples early writings on their reception. *The Symphonic Repertoire* provides an unmatched compendium of knowledge for the student, teacher, performer, and sophisticated amateur. The series is being launched with two volumes on the Viennese symphony. Volume IV *The Second Golden Age of the Viennese Symphony* Brahms, Bruckner, Dvork, Mahler, and Selected Contemporaries Although during the mid-19th century the geographic center of the symphony in the Germanic territories moved west and north from Vienna to Leipzig, during the last third of the century it returned to the old Austrian lands with the works of Brahms, Bruckner, Dvork, and Mahler. After nearly a half century in hibernation, the sleeping Viennese giant awoke to what some viewed as a reincarnation of Beethoven with the first hearing of Brahms's Symphony No. 1, which was premiered at Vienna in December 1876. Even though Bruckner had composed some gigantic symphonies prior to Brahms's first contribution, their full impact was not felt until the composers complete texts became available after World War II. Although Dvork was often viewed as a nationalist composer, in his symphonic writing his primary influences were Beethoven, Schubert, and Brahms. For both Bruckner and Mahler, the symphony constitute

About the Author A. PETER BROWN was Professor and Chair of Musicology in the Indiana University School of Music at the time of his death in March 2003. Inspired as a youth by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra performances conducted by Fritz Reiner, he studied French horn with Philip Farkas and Christopher Leube and received his bachelors, masters, and doctoral degrees from Northwestern University. As an eighteenth- and nineteenth-century music scholar, he was the author of numerous articles and books, including *Performing Haydn's The Creation: Reconstructing the Earliest Renditions* and *Joseph Haydn's Keyboard Music: Sources and Style* (both published by Indiana University Press, 1986). His performance edition of Haydn's *The Creation* has been conducted and recorded by Sir Georg Solti, Christopher Hogwood, and John Eliot Gardiner, among others.