

MANFRED HONECK AND PITTSBURGH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA Critical Acclaim

“With electric and provoking interpretation ... Manfred Honeck wasted no time in putting his stamp on the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra.”

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

“...a splendid orchestra flourishes...”

MusicalAmerica.com

“...an exhilarating and deeply satisfying concert that heralds a new era for the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra.”

Pittsburgh Tribune-Review

“Something special is going on at Heinz Hall with Manfred Honeck and the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra...”

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

“The work [Bruckner’s Fourth] never seemed so alive as under Honeck's baton...”

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

“Based on the strength of its last trip to Washington, the PSO must be ranked among the very best orchestras in the country.”

The Washington Post

“The musicians [of the Orchestra] are the PSO, one of the country’s top performing orchestras.”

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

“The Pittsburgh Symphony’s mix of American bravura with European warmth is a quality that makes them the finest orchestra in the US.”

The Guardian, London

“Honeck's was a sensational performance.”

Pittsburgh Tribune-Review

“It has been a wonderful weekend at the Proms, with the greatest American orchestra [PSO] and the greatest European orchestra back-to-back.”

The Daily Telegraph, London

“[The Pittsburgh Symphony concert at Kennedy Center in March] ... was the most brilliantly virtuosic, immaculately calibrated and surpassingly musical concert of orchestral works heard at the Kennedy Center since the Berlin Philharmonic’s last visit.”

The Washington Post

"It was really outstanding; you may never have or will never listen to such an amazing performance by any orchestra in the world."

Ongaku No Tomo, Japanese classical music magazine

"... this elite group can be considered the most European of America's orchestras ..."

Neue Ruhr Zeitung, Germany

"The orchestra has acquired a roundness of sound, an esprit de corps of musical interpretation that in terms of warmth, urgency, and intensity of feeling is matched by none of the famous American orchestras."

Berliner Morgenpost, Germany

"The Pittsburgh musicians played as if there were no distance between the printed notes and their performance, as if they'd heard Shostakovich singing and played exactly what was in his voice."

The Wall Street Journal

"The performance was profoundly impressive and contained a rich sense of presence."

Mainichi Shimbun, Japan

"This masterful concert [May 26 Tokyo Metropolitan Art Space] can be called the epitome of great music right now."

Ongaku No Tomo, Japan

"A hundred years ago, an ensemble of New England musicians formed a symphony orchestra in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania which, despite initial skepticism from this side of the Atlantic, grew to become one of the finest orchestras on the planet. ... Europe is happier for their visit, but sadder for their departure."

The Evening Standard, London

"Now beat this! Concerts do not come much more brilliant than the pair given by the Pittsburgh Symphony. ... If the great orchestras of Berlin and Vienna were listening in, they must have wondered whether their own visits to the Proms might not be an anti-climax."

The Financial Times, London

"With a high degree of gifted musicians and a pedigree of exalted music directors ... the PSO has historically been universally respected without gaining admittance to the acknowledged pantheon of the 'Big Five' American orchestras. Make that 'Big Six!'"

Chicago Tribune

"... an orchestra [the Pittsburgh Symphony] which is surely among the best to be heard these days, including the great European orchestras."

Stuttgarter Zeitung, Germany

"The Pittsburgh Symphony is a wonderful orchestral machine of musicians who care and broadcast orchestral pride ... everything is styled, everything is balanced, and especially brilliant."

Ma'ariv, Israel

"It is one of the Orchestras in the U.S. and in the world most worth hearing ... Storm the ticket window!"

Berlingski Tidende, Copenhagen, Denmark

"... one of the best orchestras in the world and probably the best ever to have come to China."

The China Daily

"Vitality, vibrancy and the most vivid, exciting sound heard in this hall in many a year were the hallmarks of this brilliant orchestra. Not for nothing is the Pittsburgh regarded among the elite of North American ensembles."

South Wales Echo

"The first of their concerts was one of those very great evenings that you catch half a dozen times in your life if you're lucky."

The Guardian, London

"The Pittsburghers are a remarkable orchestra: quick and supple, with virtuoso wind soloists, crisp brass and expressive strings. It's an orchestra of powerful individual voices... [and] strong ensemble values."

Seattle Times

"Honeck in person projects a decidedly unassuming persona, despite appearing decisive and animated on stage, where he presided over a couple of the most dramatically engaged readings of Beethoven's *Seventh Symphony* and Strauss's *Death and Transfiguration* that I have heard in years."

The Toronto Star

"But the Beethoven was the triumph: Pungent, earthy and glorious, it was vital rather than elegant. Here, Honeck's thoughtfulness about the music helped him reach a striking interpretation."

The Washington Post

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