

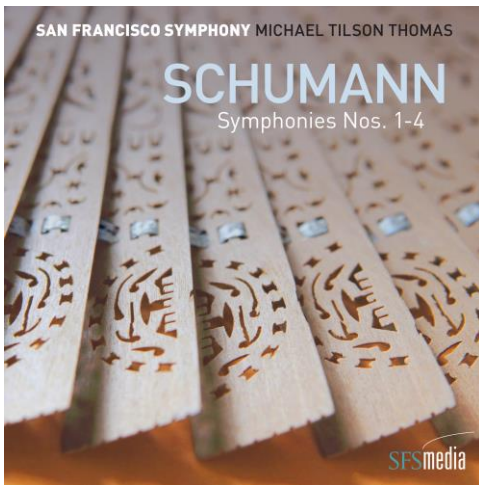
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / OCTOBER 20, 2017

**MICHAEL TILSON THOMAS AND THE SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY RELEASE PREMIUM
EDITION 2-DISC RECORDING OF THE COMPLETE SYMPHONIES BY ROBERT SCHUMANN ON
SFS MEDIA NOVEMBER 10, 2017**

**Available in double-disc SACD, streaming, and download in 5.1 surround sound and 192_24 high
resolution via major retailers world-wide**

Available for pre-order now on [Amazon](#) and [iTunes](#)



SAN FRANCISCO – Music Director Michael Tilson Thomas (MTT) and the San Francisco Symphony (SFS) announce the release of [Schumann Symphonies No. 1–4](#) on SFS Media on November 10. Recorded live at Davies Symphony Hall during the 2015–16 season, the album offers a nuanced approach that accentuates the lyrical and tender elements of the composer’s orchestral masterpieces. Released in deluxe 2-disc hardbound SACD set, it includes an 88-page booklet with extended notes, photos, and an essay on performing Schumann by Michael Tilson Thomas. It is also available digitally for streaming and download in stereo, 5.1 surround, iTunes quality, and 24-bit/192kHz Studio Master. SFS Media is the San Francisco Symphony’s eight-time Grammy Award-winning in-house record label with over 15 years of innovations in recorded media.

[Click here for a video featuring MTT sharing his thoughts on this recording project.](#)

Tilson Thomas states: “Like so much classical music, Schumann’s is a preserve for endangered emotions. He’s talking about wistfulness, whimsy, ardency, longing, setting off recklessly in conflicting directions, losing your way, or just mulling things over... Schumann moves between many sound worlds in these symphonies. Some sections are truly massive and proclamatory. Other parts are soloistic or chamber-like.”

He further shared: “My approach to Schumann—and to the whole standard repertoire—is to vary the number of musicians playing at any given time. According to the musical situation, the orchestra might morph from a large ensemble to a chamber orchestra, and vice versa ... We approached these symphonies from the point of view of Schumann’s piano music, with all its color, unusual effects and voicings. And I wanted these symphonies to sound as though they were being played on the piano, with free and spontaneous turns of phrase and color, and with the music’s wonderful sense of breathing—the way people breathe, sometimes deeply, sometimes with little emotional gasps...I hope these performances suggest a different way of thinking about this repertoire, especially as it prioritizes the tender, simple, and

vulnerable side of the music. Although the music is very personal, it feels universal. Schumann's symphonies are about all of us."

For more information, videos, audio samples and extended notes from MTT, go to www.sfsymphony.org/schumann

SFS Media is the San Francisco Symphony's award-winning in-house label, launched in 2001. SFS Media releases reflect MTT and the SFS's artistic vision of showcasing music by American composers as well as core classical masterworks and embody the broad range of programming that has been a hallmark of the MTT/SFS partnership.

Recorded live in concert and engineered at Davies Symphony Hall, the audio recordings are released on hybrid SACD and in high-resolution digital formats. SFS Media has garnered eight Grammy awards. SFS Media also produces and releases documentary and live performance videos, including the SFS's national public television series and multimedia project *Keeping Score*, which included three seasons of television episodes, eight documentaries, and eight concert films designed to make classical music more accessible to people of all ages and musical backgrounds. The *Keeping Score* series is now available as a digital download and on DVD and Blu-ray. Other videos of the San Francisco Symphony available from SFS Media include *A Celebration of Leonard Bernstein: Opening Night at Carnegie Hall 2008* and *San Francisco Symphony at 100*, a documentary about the Symphony's history, which won a Northern California Emmy Award.



Schumann: Symphonies Nos. 1–4 is available through digital outlets worldwide including [iTunes](#), [Amazon](#), [AppleMusic](#), [Spotify](#), [Primephonic](#), [HDTracks](#) and [Qobuz](#). All SFS Media physical recordings are also available from the Symphony Store in Davies Symphony Hall, as well as from all major retailers SFS Media recordings are distributed to in the U.S. and Canada by the [PIAS] Group via RED Distribution and Sony Music Canada, through Avie Records internationally, and by The Orchard to digital retailers.

Title:	Schumann: Symphonies Nos. 1-4
Composer:	Robert Schumann (1810-1856)
Artists:	San Francisco Symphony Michael Tilson Thomas, Music Director
Works:	Symphony No. 1 in B-flat major, Opus 38, <i>Spring</i> Symphony No. 2 in C major, Opus 61 Symphony No. 3 in E-flat major, Opus 97, <i>Rhenish</i> Symphony No. 4 in D minor, Opus 120
Recorded:	Symphony No. 1 (November 19–22, 2015), Symphony No. 2 (March 30–April 2, 2016), Symphony No. 3 (November 13–15, 2015), Symphony No. 4 (May 19–22, 2016). All works recorded in PCM 192kHz/24-bit audio live in Davies Symphony Hall, San Francisco.
Label:	SFS Media
Catalogue Number:	SFS 0071
Release Date:	November 10, 2017
Total Run Time:	02:22:13
Media copies:	Members of the press may request physical and digital review copies, high-res live performance photos, and digital CD booklet from the San Francisco Symphony Public Relations Department at publicrelations@sfsymphony.org

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