



**SAN FRANCISCO
SYMPHONY**

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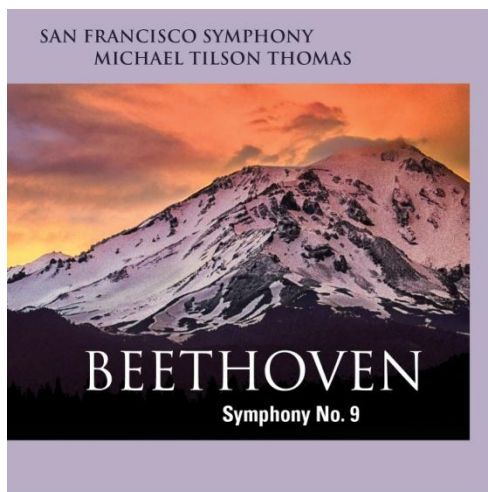
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(A high resolution version of this cover image is downloadable from the [SFS Media online press room](#).)

**MICHAEL TILSON THOMAS, THE SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY AND
THE SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY CHORUS RELEASE RECORDING OF
BEETHOVEN'S SYMPHONY NO. 9 ON APRIL 9, 2013**

**Recording features soloists Erin Wall, soprano; Kendall Gladen, mezzo-soprano;
William Burden, tenor; and Nathan Berg, bass**

SAN FRANCISCO, April 2, 2013 - On Tuesday, April 9, 2013, [Michael Tilson Thomas](#) (MTT), the [San Francisco Symphony](#) (SFS) and the San Francisco Symphony Chorus will release a hybrid SACD recording of Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 on SFS Media, the Orchestra's in-house label. The recording is part of MTT & the SFS' multi-season multi-year focus on performing and recording the music of Beethoven. It features soloists [Erin Wall](#), soprano; [Kendall Gladen](#), mezzo-soprano; [William Burden](#), tenor; and [Nathan Berg](#), bass. The performance was recorded live at Davies Symphony Hall June 27-30, 2012 at the conclusion of the Orchestra's centennial season. From [May 2-11](#), Michael Tilson Thomas will lead the San Francisco Symphony in a two-week festival exploring Beethoven's early inspirations and how they influenced his and other composers' later music. *Beethoven's*

Symphony No. 9 can be pre-ordered from [iTunes](#) at itunes.com/sfsymphony and on SACD [from the San Francisco Symphony Store at sfsymphony.org/store](#). The album will be available for purchase at music retailers everywhere on Tuesday, April 9. A short 5-minute video about the recording featuring concert footage and interviews with Michael Tilson Thomas, Chorus Director Ragnar Bohlin, soprano Erin Wall and SFS musician Cathy Payne can be viewed at <http://youtu.be/krCiR04u8Iq>.

The San Francisco Symphony's recordings on SFS Media reflect the artistic identity of the orchestra's programming, highlighting a commitment to performing works by maverick composers alongside the core classical masterworks. In fall 2012 SFS Media released *American Mavericks* featuring music by Lou Harrison, Henry Cowell and Edgard Varèse, and in February of this year MTT and the SFS garnered a Grammy Award for Best Orchestral Recording for John Adams' *Harmonieliehre* and *Short Ride in a Fast Machine*. In the 2013-14 season SFS Media will record performances of three works by composer Mason Bates: *Liquid Interface*, *Alternative Energy*, and the SFS-commissioned *The B-Sides*. The recording of Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9* joins previous SFS Media releases of MTT and the SFS performing Beethoven's *Symphony No. 5* paired with his *Piano Concerto No. 4* featuring Emanuel Ax in 2011 and in 2012, Beethoven's *Symphony No. 7* and *Leonore Overture No. 3*. During MTT and the Orchestra's May 2013 Beethoven Festival, SFS Media will record composer John Adams' *Absolute Jest* with the St. Lawrence String Quartet for future release. *Absolute Jest* was inspired by and based on fragments of Beethoven's scherzos for string quartets and was co-commissioned by the SFS and premiered as part of its *American Mavericks* Festival last season. Release dates for all future recordings will be announced at a later date.

Prior to performing *Symphony No. 9* with MTT and the Orchestra soprano Erin Wall was featured on SFS Media's triple Grammy-winning recording of Mahler's *Symphony No. 8*. Mezzo-soprano Kendall Gladen also performed in Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9* with the SFS in 2009. Tenor William Burden made his SFS debut in these Beethoven 9 performances, and bass Nathan Berg returned to the SFS for Beethoven *Symphony No. 9* after performing with the SFS in Mozart's *Requiem* in February 2011.

All SFS Media recordings are available from the Symphony Store in Davies Symphony Hall and online at sfsymphony.org/store as well as other major retailers. The recordings can also be purchased as downloads from [iTunes](#), Amazon and other digital outlets. SFS Media recordings are distributed by harmonia mundi in North America, Avie Records internationally, and by The Orchard to digital outlets.

Title: Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9*

Composer: Ludwig van Beethoven (1770 – 1827)

Artists: Michael Tilson Thomas, conductor
Erin Wall, soprano
Kendall Gladen, mezzo-soprano
William Burden, tenor
Nathan Berg, bass
San Francisco Symphony Chorus, Ragnar Bohlin, Director
San Francisco Symphony

Recorded: Recorded live at Davies Symphony Hall June 27-30, 2012

Label: SFS Media

Catalogue Number: SFS0055

Release Date: April 9, 2013

Available for pre-order from Apple's [iTunes Music Store](#) and on disc from the [Symphony Store](#).

Distribution: harmonia mundi (North America)

Avie (International)

The Orchard (Digital)

Online: sfsymphony.org/store

Media copies:

If members of the press would like a copy of the recording for review, please contact Shuman Associates at shumanpr@shumanassociates.net or Louisa Spier at lspier@sfsymphony.org.

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