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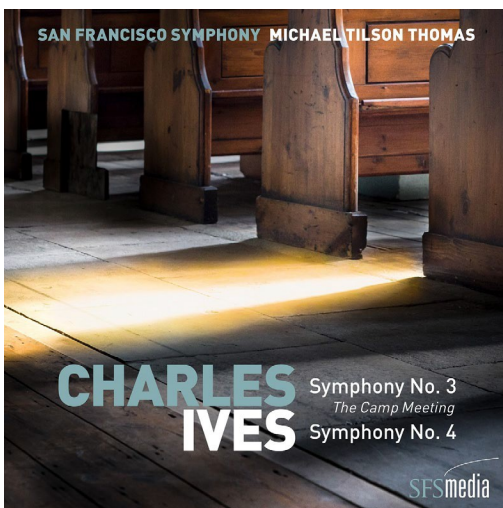
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / OCTOBER 18, 2019

**MICHAEL TILSON THOMAS AND THE SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY RELEASE
IVES' SYMPHONIES NOS. 3 & 4 ON SFS MEDIA NOVEMBER 8, 2019**

**Album also includes selected American Hymns quoted in the symphonies
performed by the San Francisco Symphony and Chorus**

**Album recorded in 24-bit/192kHz hi-resolution and available in 5.1 surround-capable SACD, download,
and streaming via major retailers worldwide**

Available for pre-order now at sfsymphony.org/ives



SAN FRANCISCO – Music Director Michael Tilson Thomas (MTT) and the San Francisco Symphony (SFS) announce the SFS Media release of Charles Ives Symphonies Nos. 3 and 4 on November 8, 2019. Recorded live at Davies Symphony Hall in November 2017, the album presents Ives' Symphony No. 3, *The Camp Meeting*; and Symphony No. 4; as well as a selection of hymn tunes which served as sources of inspiration for Ives, including *Nearer My God to Thee*, *There is a Fountain*, *Beulah Land*, and *Sweet By and By*. Released in 5.1 surround-capable SACD set, this album is also available for download in high quality, 24-bit/192kHz Studio Master, and streaming via all major retailers. **For more information, audio samples, digital liner notes, and a video including performance footage and commentary by MTT, visit sfsymphony.org/ives.**

MTT, leading American champion of Ives' work, states: "At its core, the music of Charles Ives is an expression of the heart and soul of America. The complexity of Ives' rhythmic and harmonic ideas was very much ahead of his time, and, even as he was often labeled eccentric by his peers, he created a uniquely American sound. My aim with this album is to reveal the true essence of Ives' music in order to allow the audience to see America through his eyes."



Ives' Symphony No. 3 depicts scenes and emotions from the “camp meetings” of the 1800s in which thousands of believers would assemble with tents and supplies to engage in a marathon of preaching, praying, and singing hymns. These “camp meetings” were at the heart of the religious revival that swept America during the 19th century and their songs, moods, and sermons greatly influenced the world of the young Charles Ives. Ives' intricate and rhythmically complex Symphony No. 4 is considered to be one of his greatest masterpieces, even though it didn't receive its first complete performance until 1965, over a decade after the composer's death. The work's complexity can be seen in the simultaneous use of several meters throughout the work, as well as in the unique orchestration in the fourth movement, where the last two stands of second violins comprise a “distant choir.” Just as two assistant conductors were enlisted to help with the 1965 premiere of Ives' Symphony No. 4, Christian Reif serves as assistant conductor and Peter Dugan is piano soloist in this recording.

I think Ives is America's greatest composer because he's more than a musician. He's a philosopher, a poet, and his work is on par with Walt Whitman, Emerson, and the transcendentalists that he so admired. —Michael Tilson Thomas



[SFS Media](#) is the San Francisco Symphony's award-winning in-house media 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 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 storied history, which won a Northern California Emmy Award.

To request a digital or physical review copy of the recording, email the San Francisco Symphony Public Relations Department at publicrelations@sfsymphony.org.

Ives Symphonies Nos. 3 and 4 is available through digital and physical outlets worldwide including [iTunes](#), [Amazon](#), [AppleMusic](#) [Spotify](#), [Primephonic](#), [HDTracks](#) and [IDAGIO](#). All SFS Media physical recordings are also available from the Symphony Store in Davies Symphony Hall, as well as from all major retailers. Global distribution of all SFS Media products is managed by Warner Classics Label Services.

Title: Charles Ives Symphonies Nos. 3 & 4

Composer: Charles Ives (1874–1954)

Artists: San Francisco Symphony

Michael Tilson Thomas Music Director and conductor

Christian Reif second conductor

Peter Dugan solo piano

San Francisco Symphony Chorus, Ragnar Bohlin director

Works: Symphony No. 3

Symphony No. 4

Selected American Hymns

Recorded: November 10-12 and 16-18, 2017. All works recorded in PCM and 24-bit/192kHz audio live in Davies Symphony Hall, San Francisco.

Label: SFS Media

Catalogue Number: SFS 0076

Release Date: November 8, 2019

Total Run Time: 01:08:53

Description: Michael Tilson Thomas and the San Francisco Symphony add an evocative recording of Ives' songful Symphonies Nos. 3 and 4 to the SFS Media label's Grammy award-winning discography. With nineteenth-century Americana spirit, MTT and the SF Symphony, pianist Peter Dugan, and the SFS Chorus' musical candor and clarity make for a "gloriously gut-punching" (*San Francisco Chronicle*) live-concert recording—available now on studio master-quality SACD, digital download, and streaming. Learn more at sfsymphony.org/ives.

Media copies: Members of the press may request physical and digital review copies, high-res live performance photos, and a digital CD booklet from San Francisco Symphony Public Relations Department at publicrelations@sfsymphony.org.

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