

# **InConcert Program**

Type Setting + Editorial Layout

A monthly program guide featuring select concert. Completed a resdesign of publication in 2019.



CLASSICAL

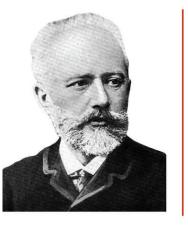
#### **PYOTR ILYICH TCHAIKOVSKY**

Symphony No. 5 in E minor, Op. 64

Born on May 7, 1840, in Votkinsk, Russia

Died on November 6, 1893, in Saint Petersburg, Russia

Composed: May-August 1888 Estimated length: 44 minutes



First performance: November 17, 1888, in St. Petersburg, with the composer conducting

### First Nashville Symphony performance: December 12, 1950,

December 12, 1950, with Music Director William Strickland

s with the two American composers on the first half of this program,
Tchaikovsky's search for a voice was bound up with issues of cultural identity — of finding the right balance between influences from the dominant European mainstream and, in his distinctly Russian context, staking out a cultural space independent of the traditions of German art music and its forms.

The genre of the symphony in particular remained deeply associated with Austro-German norms and so was of little interest to the more radical composers like Modest Mussorgsky who sought an authentic Russian voice within uniquely Russian cultural traditions. Tchaikovsky managed to address this issue by fusing his training in Western models with a sensibility for Russian folk music. "Tchaikovsky displays the rapprochement of Russian individuality with this proudest of Western genres," the biographer Roland John Wiley writes of his approach to the symphony.

The Russian composer's first three symphonies teem with charms of their own, but with the epic scale of his Fourth Symphony (1878), he achieved a giant leap forward — in terms of technique and personal expression alike. For his Fourth, Tchaikovsky

supplied an elaborate program detailing the "content" of each movement that focused on the idea of Fate, as symbolized by the fanfare that blazes at the outset. For the benefit of his patroness Nadezhda von Meck, he wrote that this musical idea represents "the decisive force that prevents our hopes of happiness from being realized, which watches jealously to see that our bliss and peace are not complete and unclouded...."

The most programmatic of all his symphonies, the unnumbered *Manfred* Symphony followed next, in 1885. The work was based on Lord Byron's poetic drama about the tragic fate of its doomed hero, who wanders alone among the Alps like the Flying Dutchman, desperate to end the suffering that is his life.

While sometimes approached as yet another example of Tchaikovsky's preoccupation with the power of "Fate," the Fifth Symphony is a unique achievement that, like its two predecessors, stands apart on its own terms. Each of these symphonies sets off on an entirely different journey, establishing a vastly different soundscape in the process. Contrast the opening measures of the Fifth Symphony, for example, which

intone one instance of a "Fate" motif, with the Judgment Day summons from the horns that launches the Fourth. The Fifth presents a slow, brooding introduction of tentative melancholy and is utterly unlike that frightening outburst, with its echo of Beethoven's Fifth (itself widely regarded as an expression of the struggle with fate).

To better understand Tchaikovsky's own Fifth Symphony, it's worth recalling another statement he made about his Fourth — in this case, to his fellow composer Sergei Taneyev: "This program is such that it cannot be formulated in words. Should not [a symphony] express everything for which there are no

words, but which the soul wishes to express, and which requires to be expressed?"

Tchaikovsky composed his Fifth Symphony at great speed, between May and August 1888. It occupies something of a middle ground between his earlier confessional approach and his later impulse to be secretive. He supplied a minimal description

in his working notebook, suggesting that the opening motto represents "complete resignation before Fate." As for the Sixth Symphony (*Pathétique*), the composer gave this famous response to queries about its programmatic meaning: "Let them guess." The "Fate" motto in the Fifth recurs at significant moments throughout the work, echoing a structural ploy that has its origins in the Romantic experiments of Hector Berlioz in his *Symphonie fantastique* and in Franz Liszt's tone poems.

The sound world of the Fifth Symphony is one of maximal contrasts and theatrical climaxes, along with vibrant instrumental coloring. It relies on Tchaikovsky's mature craftsmanship in his use of the orchestra. So much so, that it's easy to set aside all programmatic considerations and experience this music as a study in instrumental textures, proportions and rhythms. Subdued palettes, moments of balletic grace and violent outbursts alternate throughout the score.

#### WHAT TO LISTEN FOR

The slow introduction has a clear kinship with the main theme of the Allegro con anima first movement, which is shaped as a lilting dotted rhythm and is first

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entrusted to clarinets and bassoons. A close listening reveals that the introductory music shares some features with this theme. After laying out a profusion of ideas, Tchaikovsky ends the first section with a thrilling climax that restores focus.

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This exuberant outburst is like a prematurely optimistic protest against the

resignation with which the movement opened — a ploy Tchaikovsky will introduce again in the Fifth's closing measures. Just as we seem poised for a fully orchestrated restatement of the theme in the coda, the volume dims and the texture darkens into a kind of anticlimax, as if to indicate a hopeless circle being traced back to the brooding depths where we began. This is an unexpected exit. It in turn foreshadows the even more radical anticlimax of despair in the *Pathétique* Symphony.

The Andante begins with another variation on the deep melancholy of the opening. Tunesmiths from the 1930s crafted a popular

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# Nashville Symphony Accelerando

#### Brochure

A yearly brochure featuring information on the Accelerando program, created in English and Spanish.









- Students in grades 4-9 may audition annually in the spring
- The program serves students in grades 5-12
- Participants will receive year-round instruction from a Nashville Symphony musician or highly qualified local instructor
- Students and their families are eligible to receive complimentary tickets for Nashville Symphony Classical Series performances
- Solo recital and chamber performance opportunities
- Students are required to participate in local large ensembles, including school band or orchestra and/or local youth orchestras

- Technical and performance juries each year
- Annual summer activities for students (including workshops, summer camps, lessons and classes)
- Students and families are provided guidance and counseling about every aspect of preparing for a career in music
- Financial and logistical assistance with applying for collegiate music programs, including transportation, room costs, scheduling and fees.

- Estudiantes entre el 4° y 9° grado pueden audicionar cada primavera
- El programa se compone por estudiantes entre 5° y 12° grado
- Los participantes recibirán formación a lo largo del año por un músico de la Sinfónica de Nashville o un instructor local altamente calificado.
- Los estudiantes y sus familias calificarán para recibir entradas gratuitas a la Serie Clásica de conciertos presentados por la Sinfónica de Nashville
- Oportunidades de dar recitales como solistas y en conjunto de cámara
- Los estudiantes deberán participar en conjuntos musicales locales, incluyendo la banda u orquesta de su escuela y/o orquestas juveniles locales.

- Habrá evaluaciones técnicas y de rendimiento anuales por medio de un jurado
- Actividades de verano anuales (talleres, campamentos, clases y lecciones)
- Los estudiantes y sus familias recibirán orientación y asesoramiento en todos los aspectos de la preparación para una carrera profesional en música.
- Se proporcionará asistencia financiera y logística para aplicar a escuelas de música. Esto incluye costos de transporte y estadía, horarios y más.



"These three years, coming on four, have pushed and challenged me to grow as a musician, and my playing is at a level that 10-year-old me would have never imagined.... It is the way the music can impact you as a whole, how the music can impact the audience, how the music connects the people in the orchestra. My musical persona and perception have changed, and I now am working toward my future in music."

"Estos tres, casi cuatro años, me han empujado y desafiado a crecer como músico y mi interpretación musical hoy está a un nivel que mi niña interior de 10 años jamás se hubiera imaginado... es la manera en como la música puede llegar a crear un impacto, como la música impacta a la audiencia, como la música crea conexiones entre las personas de la orquesta. Mi personaje musical y mi percepción han cambiado y ahora estoy trabajando hacia mi futuro en la música.

- Emily Martinez-Perez





#### COMMUNITY PARTNERS

The Nashville Symphony is honored to partner with the following organizations in making the Accelerando program available to the Middle Tennessee community.

#### SOCIOS COMUNITARIOS

La Sinfónica de Nashville tiene el honor de asociarse con las siguientes organizaciones para poner el programa de Accelerando a disposición de la comunidad de Middle Tennessee.



VANDERBILT BLAIR SCHOOL OF MUSIC



'This program is wonderful and has changed my lif exponentially. It has made me a lot happier ove this year. I hope the program continues in futur years and helps me achieve my goal of becomin a professional musician."

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# Spirits Of Summer

Branding

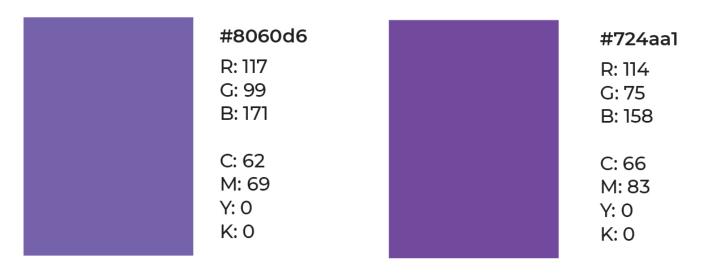
An annual fundraiser featuring a curated concert experience that pairs musical works with creatively crafted cocktails designed by notable Nashville mixologists.

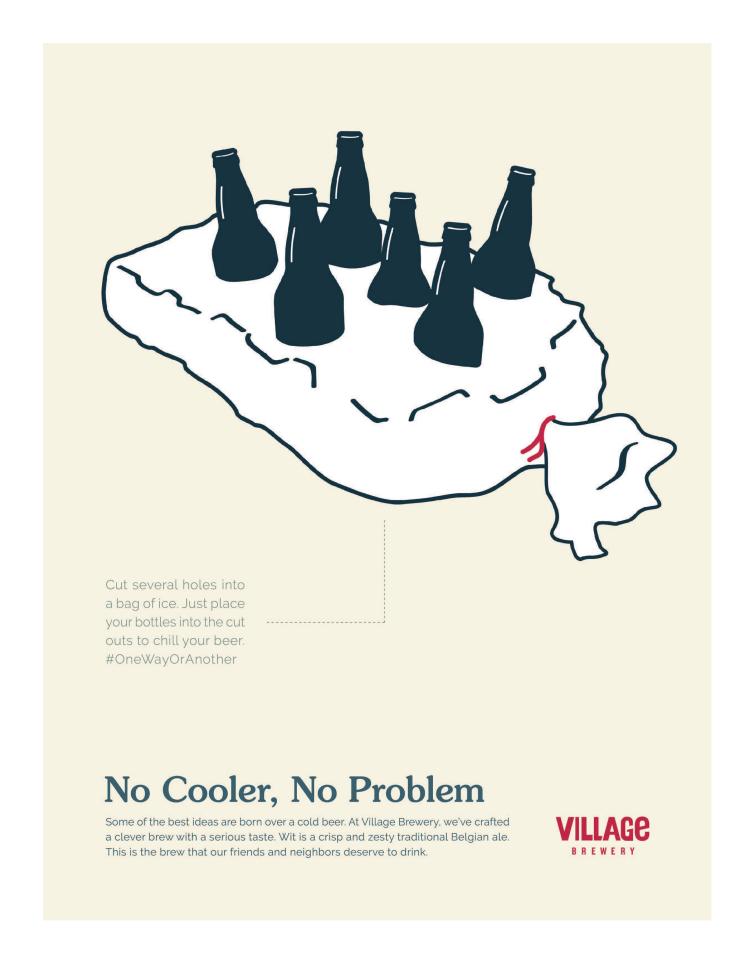
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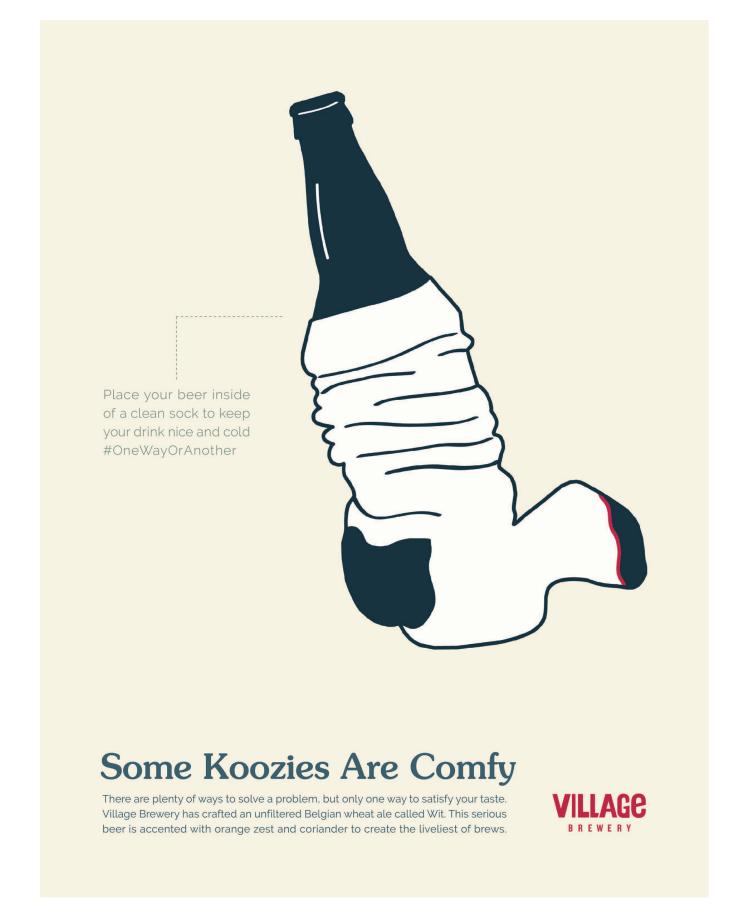
## Montserrat

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# Village Brewery Series

Advertising + Illustration

Advertisement series promoting Village Brewery's Wit beer; by solving simple drinking issues with creative beer life hacks.



## Mass LEAP

An evergreen print material, describing the mission and programs Mass LEAP provides for high school students.

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