

FACT SHEET

TITLE: THE BERLIN CELEBRATION CONCERT
[TV-G] [Stereo] [CC]

LENGTH: 1/93

NOLA CODE: BCON

CATEGORY: Music & Entertainment

OFFERED: Premium Service Year 19

EXPECTED RELEASE: June 30, 2008

CONTRACT TERMS: Eight double runs to be completed by December 31, 2009. A double run is defined as two telecasts in a seven day period.

PROGRAM SUPPLIER: UNITEL GmbH & Co. KG

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION: Conducted by Leonard Bernstein, THE BERLIN CELEBRATION CONCERT is an historic performance marking the fall of the Berlin Wall. Performed on Christmas Day 1989 in the former East Berlin, the concert unites an international cast of celebrated musicians and vocalists for a moving performance of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony. The program is introduced by JoAnn Faletta, music director of the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra.

PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS: Use above description for guide listings. A press release will be posted to PBS Connect and APTonline.org. Color photography will be available via email and will also be posted on APTonline.org.

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PRODUCTION CREDITS: Director: Humphrey Burton
Executive Producers: Harry Kraut
Korbinian Meyer
Horant M. Hohlfeld

BROADCAST HISTORY: Previously aired on PBS

RELATED MERCHANDISE: Individual viewer purchase:
Recordings by Beethoven are available in retail outlets nationwide.

Pledge:
Program DVD: Leonard Bernstein:
Ode To Freedom - Beethoven Symphony No. 9 – please note, although the titles don't match, this is the program DVD;
Program CD: Leonard Bernstein: Ode to Freedom - Bernstein In Berlin (Beethoven's 9th) – please note, although the titles don't match, this is the program CD; related CD set: Beethoven: Complete Works (87-CD Boxed Set); related CD set: Beethoven: Premium Edition (40-CD Boxed Set)

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PRESS RELEASE

Landmark 1989 Concert Performance Conducted by Leonard Bernstein Celebrates Freedom, Unites Countries

"I feel this is the heaven-sent moment to sing 'Freiheit' (freedom) wherever the music indicates 'Freude' (joy). If ever there was an historic time to take an academic risk in the name of human joy, this is it, and I am sure we have Beethoven's blessing."

- Leonard Bernstein

The Berlin Wall fell on November 9, 1989. To celebrate the global symbolism of this event, an historic concert of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony was given in the Schauspielhaus concert hall in the former East Berlin on Christmas Day 1989, only six weeks later – thanks to the organizational skills of world-renowned conductor Leonard Bernstein (and others).

The American Public Television program THE BERLIN CELEBRATION CONCERT, airing on public television stations nationwide beginning June 30, 2008, captures this remarkable event that celebrated the city's newfound freedom. Under the leadership of Bernstein, orchestral players and choirs from East and West Germany were joined in Berlin by musicians from America, Russia, France, and Great Britain – the four victorious World War II allies that were still responsible for governing Berlin at the time. The concert was originally televised in over 20 countries, from Japan in the East to America in the West.

At that point in time, the city was euphoric – the Wall was finally down! Never was a musical work more suitable for a celebration than the one played that day. Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, perhaps the world's most famous symphony, incorporated Friedrich Schiller's "Ode to Joy," a poem which sings exultantly of the Brotherhood of Man – the perfect words for the ebullient mood in Berlin.

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Press Release

For this landmark performance, in which adult choirs were joined by children's voices, Bernstein felt authorized "by the power of the moment," as he says, to make a change in the poem. Instead of "Freude" – joy – the choir sang "Freiheit" – freedom. So this became, in word as well as deed, the Berlin Freedom Concert.

Reflecting the unified spirit of the day, the orchestra of Bavarian Radio was joined by members of the Staatskapelle Dresden, the Kirov Theatre Orchestra of Leningrad, the London Symphony Orchestra, the New York Philharmonic and the Orchestre de Paris. Additionally, the Bavarian Radio Chorus was joined by singers from Berlin Radio Chorus and the Children's Chorus of the Dresden Philharmonic. Soloists June Anderson, Sarah Walker, Klaus König and Jan-Hendrik Rootering lent their magnificent, operatic voices to the performance.

Featuring beautiful, uplifting music and moving shots of Bernstein, who died less than a year later, THE BERLIN CELEBRATION CONCERT is a poignant tribute to freedom and serves as a reminder of how difficult a privilege it is to achieve.

About American Public Television

With more than 10,000 hours of programming in its library, American Public Television (APT) has been a prime source of programming for the nation's public television stations for 47 years, distributing more than 300 new program titles per year. APT milestones include distribution of the first HD series on public television and the 2006 launch of Create – the TV channel featuring the best of public television's lifestyle programming. Known for its leadership in identifying innovative, worthwhile and viewer-friendly programming, APT has established a tradition of providing public television stations with program choices that strengthen and customize their schedules, such as *Carreras Domingo Pavarotti in Concert*, *Winged Migration*, *Battlefield Britain*, *Globe Trekker*, *Rick Steves' Europe*, *Great Museums*, *Jacques Pépin: Fast Food My Way*, *America's Test Kitchen From Cook's Illustrated*, *Broadway: The Golden Age*, *Lidia's Family Table*, *California Dreamin' – The Songs of The Mamas & the Papas*, *Rosemary and Thyme*, *P. Allen Smith's Garden Home*, *The Big Comfy Couch*, *Monarchy With David Starkey*, and other prominent documentaries, dramatic series, how-to programs, children's series and classic movies.

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BIOGRAPHY

LEONARD BERNSTEIN

Leonard Bernstein (1918-1990) was perhaps the most influential figure in classical music in the last half of the 20th century. Composer, conductor, author, lecturer and often controversial media personality, the American-born Bernstein had a dramatic impact on the popular audience's acceptance and appreciation of classical music. His own work as a composer, particularly his scores for such Broadway musicals as *West Side Story* and *On the Town*, helped forge a new relationship between classical and popular music.

Bernstein was born in Lawrence, Massachusetts. He took piano lessons as a boy and attended the Garrison and Boston Latin schools. At Harvard University he studied with Walter Piston, Edward Burlingame-Hill and A. Tillman Merritt, among others. Before graduating in 1939, he made an unofficial conducting debut with his own incidental music to *The Birds* and directed and performed in Marc Blitzstein's *The Cradle Will Rock*. Then, at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, he studied piano with Isabella Vengerova, conducting with Fritz Reiner and orchestration with Randall Thompson. In 1940 he studied at the Boston Symphony Orchestra's newly created summer institute at Tanglewood with the orchestra's conductor, Serge Koussevitsky. Bernstein later became Koussevitzky's conducting assistant.

Bernstein was appointed to his first permanent conducting post in 1943, as assistant conductor of the New York Philharmonic. On November 14, 1943, he substituted on a few hours notice for the ailing Bruno Walter at a Carnegie Hall concert, which was broadcast nationally on radio, receiving critical acclaim. Soon orchestras worldwide sought him out as a guest conductor.

In 1945 he was appointed music director of the New York City Symphony Orchestra, a post he held until 1947. After Serge Koussevitzky died in 1951, Bernstein headed the orchestral and conducting departments at Tanglewood, teaching there for many years. In 1951 he married the Chilean actress and pianist Felicia Montealegre. He was also visiting music professor and head of the Creative Arts Festivals at Brandeis University in the early 1950s.

Bernstein became music director of the New York Philharmonic in 1958.

From then until 1969 he led more concerts with the orchestra than any previous conductor. He subsequently held the lifetime title of laureate conductor, making frequent guest appearances with the orchestra. More than half of Bernstein's

four-hundred-plus recordings were made with the New York Philharmonic.

Bernstein traveled the world as a conductor. Immediately after World War II, in 1946, he conducted in London and at the International Music Festival in Prague. In 1947 he conducted in Tel Aviv, beginning a relationship with Israel that lasted until his death. In 1953 Bernstein was the first American to conduct opera at the Teatro alla Scala in Milan: Cherubini's *Medea* with Maria Callas.

Bernstein was a leading advocate of American composers, particularly Aaron Copland. The two remained close friends for life. As a young pianist Bernstein performed Copland's *Piano Variations* so often he considered the composition his trademark. Bernstein programmed and recorded nearly all of the Copland orchestral works, many of them twice. He devoted several televised *Young People's Concerts* to Copland, and gave the premiere of Copland's *Connnotations*, commissioned for the opening of the Philharmonic Hall (now Avery Fisher Hall) at Lincoln Center in 1962.

While Bernstein's conducting repertoire encompassed the standard literature, he may be best remembered for his performances and recordings of Haydn, Beethoven, Brahms, Schumann, Sibelius and Mahler. Particularly notable were his performances of the Mahler symphonies with the New York Philharmonic in the 1960s. These now-legendary performances reintroduced Mahler's works into the concert repertoire and initiated the restoration of Mahler's reputation as a composer (SMK 64204).

Inspired by his Jewish heritage, Bernstein completed his first large-scale work, *Symphony No. 1: Jeremiah* (1943). The piece was first performed with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra in 1944, conducted by the composer, and received the New York Music Critics' Award. Koussevitzky premiered Bernstein's *Symphony No. 2: The Age of Anxiety* with the Boston Symphony Orchestra and Bernstein as piano soloist. His *Symphony No. 3: Kaddish*, composed in 1963, was premiered by the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra.

Kaddish is dedicated "To the Beloved Memory of John F. Kennedy."

Other major compositions by Bernstein include *Prelude, Fugue and Riffs* for solo clarinet and jazz ensemble (1949); *Serenade* for violin, strings and percussion (1954); *Symphonic Dances from West Side Story* (1960); *Chichester Psalms* for chorus, boy soprano and orchestra (1965); *Mass: A Theatre Piece for Singers, Players and Dancers*, commissioned for the opening of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C., and first produced there in 1971 (SM2K 63089); *Songfest*, a song cycle for six singers and orchestra (1977);

Divertimento for Orchestra (1980); Halil for solo flute and small orchestra (1981); Touches for solo piano (1981); Missa Brevis for singers and percussion (1988); Thirteen Anniversaries for solo piano (1988); Concerto for Orchestra: Jubilee Games (1989); and Arias and Barcarolles for two singers and piano duet (1988).

Bernstein also wrote a one-act opera, *Trouble in Tahiti*, in 1952, and its sequel, the three-act opera, *A Quiet Place*, in 1983. He collaborated with choreographer Jerome Robbins on three major ballets, *Fancy Free* (1944) and *Facsimile* (1946) for the American Ballet Theatre and *Dybbuk* (1975) for the New York City Ballet (SMK 63090). He composed the score for the award-winning movie *On the Waterfront* in 1954 (SMK 63085) and incidental music for two Broadway plays, *Peter Pan* (1950) and *The Lark* (1955).

Bernstein contributed substantially to the Broadway musical stage. He collaborated with Betty Comden and Adolph Green in *On the Town* (1944) and *Wonderful Town* (1953). In collaboration with Richard Wilbur, Lillian Hellman and others, he wrote *Candide* (1956). Other versions of *Candide* were written in association with such collaborators as Hugh Wheeler and Stephen Sondheim. In 1957 he again collaborated with Jerome Robbins and Stephen Sondheim, as well as Arthur Laurents, on the landmark musical *West Side Story*, also made into the Academy Award-winning film (SMK 63085). In 1976 Bernstein and Alan Jay Lerner wrote *1600 Pennsylvania Avenue*.

Festivals of Bernstein's music have been produced throughout the world.

In 1978 the Israel Philharmonic sponsored a festival commemorating his years of dedication to Israel. The Israel Philharmonic also bestowed on him the lifetime title of laureate conductor in 1988. In 1986 the London Symphony and the Barbican Centre produced a Bernstein Festival. The London Symphony Orchestra in 1987 named him honorary president. In 1989 the city of Bonn presented a Beethoven/Bernstein Festival.

In 1985 the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences honored Mr. Bernstein with the Lifetime Achievement Grammy Award. He won eleven Emmy Awards in his career. His televised concert and lecture series started with the Omnibus program in 1954, followed by the extraordinary Young People's Concerts with the New York Philharmonic in 1958 that extended over 14 seasons. Among his many appearances on the PBS series *Great Performances* was the eleven-part acclaimed *Bernstein's Beethoven*. In 1989, Bernstein and others commemorated the 1939 invasion of Poland in a worldwide telecast from Warsaw.

Bernstein's writings were published in *The Joy of Music* (1959), *Leonard Bernstein's Young People's Concerts* (1961), *The Infinite Variety of Music* (1966), and *Findings* (1982). Each has been widely translated. He gave six lectures at Harvard University in 1972-73 as the Charles Eliot Norton Professor of Poetry. These lectures were subsequently published and televised as *The Unanswered Question*.

Bernstein always rejoiced in opportunities to teach young musicians. His master classes at Tanglewood were famous. He was instrumental in founding the Los Angeles Philharmonic Institute in 1982. He helped create a world-class training orchestra at the Schleswig-Holstein Music Festival.

He founded the Pacific Music Festival in Sapporo, Japan. Modeled after Tanglewood, this international festival was the first of its kind in Asia and continues to this day.

Bernstein received many honors. He was elected in 1981 to the American Academy of Arts and Letters, which gave him a gold medal. The National Fellowship Award in 1985 applauded his lifelong support of humanitarian causes. He received the MacDowell Colony's gold medal; medals from the Beethoven Society and the Mahler Gesellschaft; the Handel Medallion, New York City's highest honor for the arts; a Tony Award (1969) for distinguished achievement in the theater; and dozens of honorary degrees and awards from college and universities. He was presented ceremonial keys to the cities of Oslo, Vienna, Bersheeva and the village of Bernstein, Austria, among others. National honors came from Italy, Israel, Mexico, Denmark, Germany (the Great Merit Cross) and France (chevalier, officer and commander of the Legion d'Honneur). He received Kennedy Center honors in 1980.

World peace was a particular concern for Bernstein. Speaking at Johns Hopkins University in 1980 and at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York in 1983, he described his vision of global harmony. His Journey for Peace tour to Athens and Hiroshima with the European Community Orchestra in 1985 commemorated the 40th anniversary of the atom bomb.

In December 1989 Bernstein conducted the historic "Berlin Celebration Concerts" on both sides of the Berlin Wall, as it was being dismantled. The concerts were unprecedented gestures of cooperation, the musicians representing the former East Germany, West Germany and the four powers that had partitioned Berlin after World War II.

Bernstein supported Amnesty International from its inception. To benefit the effort

in 1987, he established the Felicia Montealegre Fund in memory of his wife, who died in 1978.

In 1990 Bernstein received the Praemium Imperiale, an international prize created in 1988 by the Japan Arts Association and awarded for lifetime achievement in the arts. Bernstein used the \$100,000 prize to launch the Bernstein Education Through the Arts (BETA) Fund, Inc.

Bernstein was the father of three children -- Jamie, Alexander and Nina -- and the grandfather of two, Francisca and Evan.

Source: <http://www.sonyclassical.com/artists/bernstein/>

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JOANN FALLETTA **Music Director, Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra**

Few artists are as important to the fabric of their communities as JoAnn Falletta. Acclaimed by *The New York Times* as "one of the finest conductors of her generation," she serves as the Music Director of the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra and the Virginia Symphony Orchestra. An effervescent and exuberant figure on the podium, she has been praised by *The Washington Post* as having "Toscanini's tight control over ensemble, Walter's affectionate balancing of inner voices, Stokowski's gutsy showmanship, and a controlled frenzy worthy of Bernstein." Both on and off the podium, she is a vibrant ambassador for music and an inspiring artistic leader.

Maestro Falletta's 2007/08 season with the Buffalo Philharmonic will be a prolific recording season, with the Orchestra recording four CDs and releasing two new discs on the Naxos label, including a world premiere recording of John Corigliano's *Mr. Tambourine Man*, based on the poems of Bob Dylan, and the international release of a disc of the works of Ottorino Respighi. Falletta, who has established a reputation for conducting artistically important, but seldom-heard works, is embarking on a multi-year recording project of the lost works of Marcel Tyberg, the brilliant Italian composer and Holocaust victim. The first release in this series will be Tyberg's Symphony No. 3. Other works to be recorded this season include discs of the music of Franz Schubert and Richard Strauss, both on the Naxos label, and a Classical Christmas release on the Orchestra's Beau Fleuve label. Continuing to raise the BPO's national and international prominence, Ms. Falletta will once again lead the orchestra in a number of concerts to be broadcast nationally on NPR's *Performance Today* and *Symphony Cast* and international broadcasts through the European Broadcasting Union.

Ms. Falletta is the recipient of many of the most prestigious conducting awards, including the Seaver/National Endowment for the Arts Conductors Award for exceptionally gifted American conductors, the coveted Stokowski Competition, and the Toscanini, Ditson and Bruno Walter Awards for conducting. She has received nine awards from ASCAP for creative programming, as well as the American Symphony Orchestra League's prestigious John S. Edwards Award. She was named Buffalo's most influential community leader and Buffalo and Erie County's Artist of the Year. Falletta received a 2006 Grammy nomination for *Eventide* by Kenneth Fuchs, from the CD, *An American Place* (Naxos, American Classics). The album is one of over 40 in Maestro Falletta's full discography. In addition to her recordings with the BPO and two anticipated recordings with the

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VSO, Ms. Falletta's current projects include her first recording with the Royal Scottish National Orchestra for the Naxos label, featuring the violin concertos on Dohnanyi, with soloist Michael Ludwig. Ms. Falletta received her undergraduate degree from the Mannes School of Music in New York, and her master's and doctorate degrees from The Juilliard School.

Source: http://bpo.org/html/joann_falletta.html