

# Program Notes

by April L. Racana

**Wed. October 18, The 113th Tokyo Opera City Subscription Concert****Franz Joseph Haydn** (1732-1809)

## Symphony No. 49 in F minor, Hob.I:49 "La Passione"

Given the title 'father of the symphony', Haydn produced more than 100 symphonies in his lifetime, which are considered to be of the highest artistic quality as well as of great historical importance. During his thirty years at Esterházy, he composed twenty-five of these symphonies, having at his disposal an ensemble of professional players with which he could explore and experiment, and which would serve to foster his creative abilities as well. In fact he was somewhat isolated from the rest of the musical world but wrote in a letter to a friend the benefits he gained from it: "As director of an orchestra, one is free to experiment, to see what makes for effect or weakens it.... I was isolated from the world; no one could confuse or frustrate me in my course, and so I was bound to become original!"

In 1761, Haydn was offered the position of Vice-Kapellmeister (the assistant to the main musical director, Gregor Joseph Werner) for the Esterházy royal family. When Werner died in 1766, Haydn was promoted to the position of Kapellmeister. It was during this period from the late 1760's to the early 1770's that Haydn would turn his focus to composing minor-key symphonies, which later came to be referred to as the composer's *Sturm und Drang* (Storm and Surge) style.

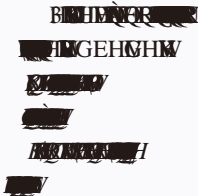
Symphony No. 49 (1768) was one of these works, composed in the key of F minor and displaying the restlessness, turbulent moods, and deep intensity of emotions that were hallmarks of this later style. In addition to the predominance of the F minor key in all four movements, the composer would also incorporate dramatic shifts between loud and soft dynamics and a wide melodic range, as well as shifting harmonies throughout. Haydn presents this work in the older *sonata de chiesa* (church sonata) style, opening with a slow movement, and with the three remaining movements alternating fast-slow-fast, with only the Trio of the third movement shifting to F major for a small glimmer of brightness in the otherwise serious work.

Haydn's symphonies are often given subtitles and this one is no different. The subtitle *La Passione* is believed to have been designated by the publisher and may have referred to Good Friday services. One Haydn scholar, H.C. Robbins Landon stated that "in the opening...we





write only one other complete symphony.



Work composed: 1816 World premiere: October 17, 1841, Vienna  
Instrumentation: [DD]

### Franz Schubert



NHHCMMQ  
MYHCDMMWYH NCHWTH HD  
EHZHQUHEMWHMWHQ  
MYHMMGMHEM  
MMRGGHMYHU  
MMHMHMMY  
MMRHGG

THWVHMMU  
SOMMMQHQMMW  
ORWVGGHUMWHPQ  
QEMMHHMQHGWRHMMMD  
NMMHMQMMW  
MVEHMMHHG MHYHMMW  
MMRHHGHGMMEMMMHMG  
MHYHGGMMMMQMMHFN  
MMMMMMHMMW

his Great C major symphony, his instrumental swan song, and with all the symphonies of



followed

QVWHHEHHQMMKHWQHGWHW  
RMMGMMWHRHPQ  
EWGSRMMVMMNGMHHND  
MMMMRHPMHHMMG  
MMMS  
MMNMMHEHHMMRMMHG  
MMWRHPMMVMMGHMMQ  
MMMKHMG

,MMRMMMMW  
MMHMMRMMHMMGMMTMMQ  
MMRMMHMMMMG  
MMMMMMHMMYHU  
MMMMHMMGGMMMMHMMG  
MMRMMHMMMMMMMM

complete symphony. Yet the [G] as it came to be called by the publisher,  
[W] [K] [W] [H] [G] [Q] [S] [H] [G] [Q] [W]  
composer himself never having heard it performed in his lifetime.

Work composed: 1822 World premiere: 1865, Vienna  
Instrumentation: 2 flutes, 2 oboes, 2 clarinets, 2 bassoons, 2 horns, 2 trumpets, 3 trombones, timpani, strings

April L. Racana [E] [S] [H] [O] [W] [V] [E] [E] [C] [V] [V] [R] [O] [R] [O] [W] [V] [E] [E]  
[E] [R] [S] [V] [E] [G] [E] [W] [G] [L] [W] [E] [H] [W] [R] [I] [O] [R] [L] [S] [E] [E] [R] [E] [G]  
[E] [W] [V] [G] [L] [E] [V] [E] [E] [R] [W] [E] [H] [W] [E] [E] [S] [R] [V] [G] [W] [H] [D] [S] [V]  
[R] [W] [E] [H] [W] [G] [W] [S] [G] [L] [E] [W] [V] [V] [R] [O] [W] [L] [E] [H] [W]