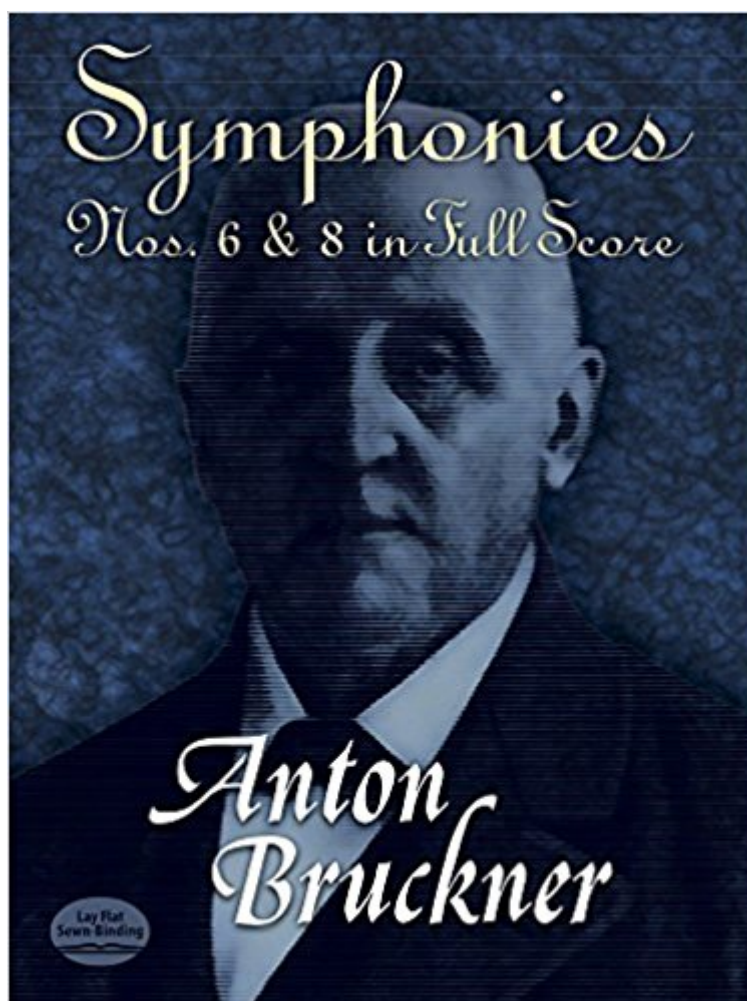


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Symphonies Nos. 6 & 8 In Full Score (Dover Music Scores)



Synopsis

With their rich harmonic language and complex polyphony, these works are exemplars of Austro-Germanic Romanticism. Nicknamed "The Philosopher's Symphony," Bruckner's hour-long Sixth Symphony is among his shorter works. The Eighth, the final symphony Bruckner completed before his death, is dedicated to Emperor Franz Joseph of Austria and is known as "The Apocalyptic." This inexpensive compilation is the only single-volume version of these two works. Reproduced from an authoritative edition, it features a sturdy sewn binding that enables it to open flat on music stands and provide years of use and enjoyment.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

A giant among 19th-century symphonic composers, Anton Bruckner (1824-96) is also well known for his masses, motets, and choral works. A deeply pious Roman Catholic, the Austrian composer imbued his works with a timeless spirituality.

The Dover scores have been a series of beautiful, affordable, high-quality bindings of accredited editions of musical masterworks. But not in this case. In fact, I'd go with the word "shameful." Not sure what happened, but by 2010 something had changed at Dover...Did somebody die? Was there a revenue plunge? Or did some new international copyright agreement shut things off? (I believe that 75 years was the limit for most copyright royalties, internationally, after which those scores were

in Public Domain. That must have changed.) Input and correction from anyone who knows? Because the stream of new releases seems to have stopped (no further Richard Strauss scores after DIE FRAU OHNE SCHATTEN, for example), and toward the end corners were clearly cut. Not only are these editions unidentified by Dover (the 8th is the notorious 1892 Schalk edition; the 6th is the far more authentic 1899 Hynais edition)...But unlike the Dover editions of the Haas editions of 4, 5, and 7, this volume lacks any editorial introductions. And in the 8th, the printing quality/resolution is also markedly inferior to the other Bruckner scores from Dover. This was clearly done on a suddenly increased "cheap." Now, the present forum might not be the best one for endless back and forth about Haas vs. Nowak, and the politics thereto. But the Haas editions of the 6th and 8th (published in 1935 and 1939, respectively) ought to have been available, and that is what was promised. (I vaguely recall that the 1932 Orel edition of the 9th - the first truly authentic publication of Bruckner's final work - was also promised for this series, and never happened. It's just as well we didn't get the Schalk version of that, either.)It's insulting that those of us likely to make such a purchase IN THE FIRST PLACE were to be fobbed off with such a product - as if we were all indiscriminating consumers of Kardashian publicity or whatever. Unless you WANT the Schalk 8th, or if you cannot get the score of the 6th in any other way...Avoid.

Dover had previously reprinted Bruckner's 4th and 7th symphonies from the Bruckner Society scores published in Austria. I was hoping they would do the same for no. 6&8. I was very disappointed to see the eighth reprinted from the Kalmus version. It is not as detailed as the Bruckner Society version, and more difficult to read. I do not know what the source was of the sixth, but since it a smaller work it is easier to read. Shame on you Dover for reprinting such an inferior score as the Kalmus. I am thinking about returning this inferior score.

I ordered this book well over year ago, and at the time I believe it was represented as being a reproduction of the Haas Edition of the 6th & 8th symphonies, following Dover's superb edition of the 4th & 7th symphonies in the Haas version: *Bruckner: Symphonies Nos. 4 and 7 in Full Score*. The publication was delayed several times, yet each time I approved keeping the order open despite my doubts that I would ever see the book. To my amazement, it was just delivered. But guess what: a "bibliographical note" on the page facing the table of contents describes the source of the texts as "... a compilation of works originally published separately in authoritative early editions." Translation: NOT the Haas Edition. So which editions are they? Not clear, though the 6th is a clean scan of what appears to be an early 20th century edition. The 8th might in fact be the Haas, though the scan is so

crude in places as to be headache-inducing. Otherwise the book is very high quality: good paper, nicely sewn binding and fun cover art, reminiscent of Eliahu Inbal's goofy Teldec Bruckner disc covers in the 1980s. If only it contained what I wanted and thought I'd ordered.

Normally, I'd give any Bruckner product a 5, because Bruckner is a genius. However, I take a bit of issue with the fact that they used the Eulenburg edition of the 8th, which is rather messy to look at, as opposed to the Urtext version they use for the 6th, which is very clean and easy to read. Also, why Dover would pair these two together is a bit of a mystery. I would be nicer if they'd publish them numerically like they did with Mahler, Beethoven, Mozart, etc.

There are more than one version of the eighth. Dover doesn't indicate which version is presented.

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