

My first recording of Bruckner was the 9th conducted by Bruno Walter. This was around 1964. It was love at first sight, and I proceeded to get his recordings of the 7th and 4th. Two other recordings I heard in the following two years blew me away, predictably both by Furtwängler. First was the 9th in the "In Memoriam" 5 record set on DG and later the 8th in a German EMI set of the 7th and 8th. The experience with this 8th was unusual. Never have I had such a profound experience the first time I heard a work. The climax of the Adagio devastated me to a point that I had to stop listening for a while.

Concerts in the early stages made less of an impact. I do remember a particularly good 4th with Istvan Kertesz and the London Symphony in Carnegie Hall.

Eduardo Chibas