

Dear John

My first recording in 1965 was Bruno Walters Ninth Symphony with the Columbia which my brother brought at home when I was 16. This was for me the beginning of an extraordinary expedition through all the landscapes of the Brucknerian world.

Next step was Heinz Wallbergs 4th with the N.O. Symphonieorchester Wien (1960) and Schurichts 7th, probably with the VPO (1961), both available on **exlibris**, an private swiss book club edition for few money (exlibris releases are not mentioned in your list). These are recordings are responsible for my livelong relation to Bruckner. Unfortunately I don't have them anymore in my collection.

In 1967 Solti's 7th and 8th with the VPO was an overwhelming new and modern interpretation I like still as well as the brilliant and warm sound of the Decca recordings.

Three decades later Celibidaches live recording (1988) of the 4th Symphony with the Munich Philharmonic are one of the most remarkable recordings of this symphony ever issued.

Finally my livelong most remarkable concert was Szell's 3rd in 1966 at Lucerne Festival with the VPO. Szell at his best.

I would be interested also which recordings your reader like most 'at the end' of their livelong association - a list of one recording of every symphony by Bruckner. Perhaps you may ask this question in addition to your inquiry.

Recordings:

1. Bruno Walter, Bruckner Symphony No. 9, Columbia Symphony O., 1959, Columbia
2. Heinz Wallberg, Bruckner Symphony No. 4, N.O. Symphonieorchester Wien, 1960, exlibris (Switzerland)
3. Carl Schuricht, Bruckner Symphony No. 7, Vienna Philharmonic O., 1961, exlibris (Switzerland)
4. Georg Solti, Symphony No. 7 and 8, Vienna Philharmonic O., 1965, 1966, Decca
5. Sergiu Celibidache, Bruckner Symphony No. 4, Munich Philharmonic, live recording 1988, EMI

Concerts:

1. Lucerne Festival 3rd sept. 1966: George Szell, Bruckner Symphonie No. 3, Vienna Philharmonic O.

Thanks for your nice Bruckner site!

Klaus