

EIGHTY-SEVENTH SEASON 1967-1968

BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

ERICH LEINSDORF *Music Director*

CHARLES WILSON *Assistant Conductor*

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SYMPHONY HALL

BOSTON

MASSACHUSETTS

A centenary – Margaret Ruthven Lang

On November 27 one of the Boston Symphony Orchestra's most faithful Friday subscribers, Margaret Ruthven Lang, celebrates her hundredth birthday. To salute their friend on this happy occasion Mr Leinsdorf and members of the Orchestra play at the concert on November 24 the *Old Hundredth* chorale, and the movement 'Sheep may safely graze' from J. S. Bach's Cantata no. 208, written to celebrate another birthday some 250 years ago.

Miss Lang is one of the five women whose music has been played by the Boston Symphony Orchestra; Arthur Nikisch conducted performances of her *Dramatic Overture* in 1893, and Gertrude Franklin sang her concert aria *Armida* with Emil Paur conducting in 1896. Philip Hale reported in his review that 'the Overture was applauded and there was a vain attempt to call the composer forward'. Margo Miller of *The Boston Globe* wrote in an article published earlier this year that Miss Lang well remembers the incident: 'I crept up to the balcony and hid.'

Margaret Ruthven Lang's father was the distinguished and enterprising Boston musician Benjamin Johnson Lang, conductor, teacher and composer. He conducted the world première in Boston of Tchaikovsky's First Piano Concerto with Hans von Bülow as soloist, and the first American concert performance of *Parsifal*. Miss Lang spent some of her early years in Munich, Germany, and met many of the famous musicians of the time; she knew the Wagner family well.

Talking to Miss Lang today one cannot believe that she grew up before Symphony Hall was built. She has a vivacity and alertness that would put many people half her age to shame. The Trustees, Mr Leinsdorf, the Orchestra and all who work at Symphony Hall wish Margaret Ruthven Lang a happy birthday.



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EIGHTY-SEVENTH SEASON 1967-1968

Eighth Program

Friday afternoon November 24 at 2 o'clock

ERICH LEINSDORF conductor

Traditional 'The Old Hundredth'
BACH 'Schafe können sicher weiden'
from Cantata no. 208

CHLOE OWEN soprano

In honor of Margaret Ruthven Lang

BEETHOVEN Concerto for violin and orchestra
in D major op. 61

Allegro ma non troppo

Larghetto

Rondo

JOSEPH SILVERSTEIN

INTERMISSION

BEETHOVEN Symphony no. 5 in C minor op. 67

Allegro con brio

Andante con moto

Allegro - Allegro

The concert will end at about 4 o'clock

BALDWIN PIANO

RCA VICTOR RECORDS

THE FUND FOR THE BOSTON SYMPHONY

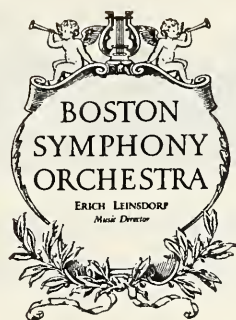
Margaret Ruthven Lang

Margaret Ruthven Lang and The Fund for The Boston Symphony have much in common. As a link between Symphony past and Symphony future, she is important to Symphony present. She speaks to us across the years about the Orchestra's struggle for greatness and the international renown that it now enjoys. And so by her very presence at the concerts she tells us of the need for continuing that excellence.

Within The Fund for The Boston Symphony is a Commemorative Gifts program, by which a donor may express a personal interest in the Orchestra, or may honor a friend, teacher, or musician. As part of this program and to show the esteem which the trustees hold for Miss Lang, Henry B. Cabot has given a personal contribution of \$2,500 to The Fund to name a seat in Miss Lang's honor.

A plaque will be fixed to the regular seat, first balcony, right, B-1, occupied by Miss Lang and members of her family almost since the building opened in 1900. Through all the years to come it will be known officially as the Margaret Ruthven Lang seat at Symphony.

Congratulations, Miss Lang, on your 100th birthday.



MARGARET RUTHVEN LANG

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THE COUNCIL OF FRIENDS OF THE
BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
JOINS THE TRUSTEES,
ERICH LEINSDORF AND THE ORCHESTRA
IN WISHING A LOYAL FRIEND
A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY