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Melrose Overture • for Sympho
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Melrose Overture

Upon completion of his formal musical training in 1987, Matt's orchestral *"Melrose Overture"* marked a new, exciting level of maturity and creativity in his journey as a composer. Resurrected from forgotten manuscripts in 2021, this Premiere recording brings the *"Melrose Overture"* into the light of day with the gifted players of the DNP Studio Orchestra. The recording's cover graphic highlights the work's rhythmic motif.

This energetic orchestral piece wraps different melodic "movements" into a singular work. The music opens with an explosive high-A from all three trumpets. A bombastic timpani solo takes over, followed by a single trumpet's presentation of the melodic motif, which is answered by the full orchestra. Solos are plentiful throughout, including a virtuosic cadenza by the concertmaster. Slower lyrical themes are balanced with those featuring more rhythmical challenges. The conclusion builds harmonic dissonance between the instruments, until a unifying final chord.



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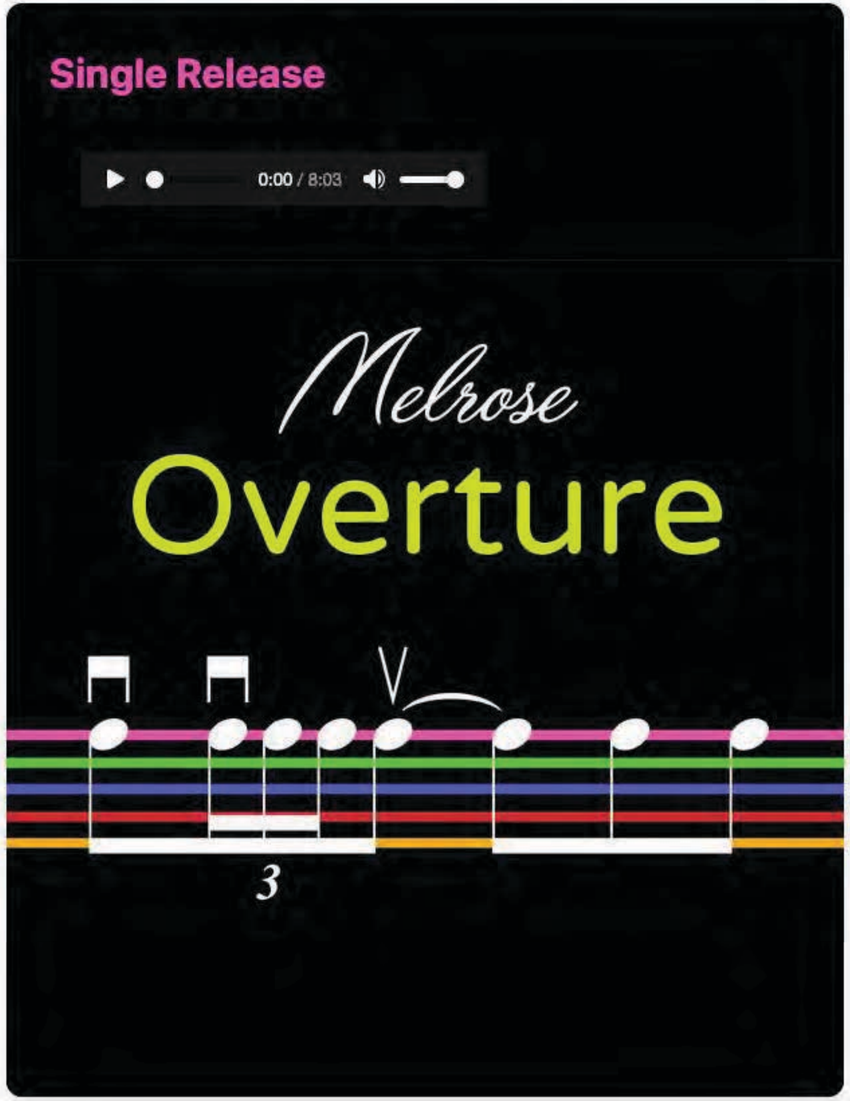
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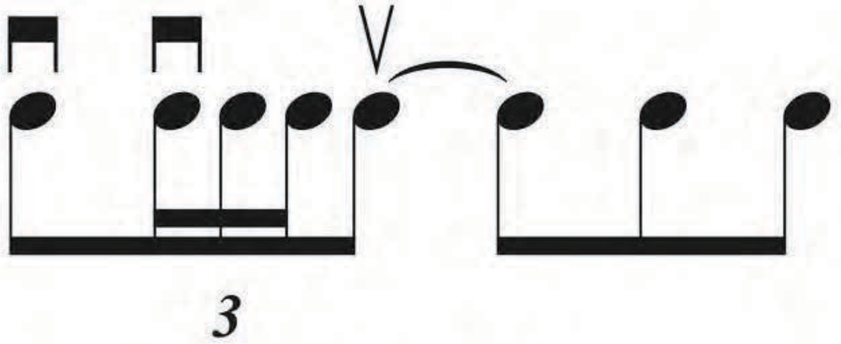


(Official Music Video)

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Rhythmic Motif

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CONDUCTOR SCORE & PARTS

Conductor Score
Complete set of 32 Parts

Available through online partners

JWPepper SheetMusicDirect



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COLLECTORS - Matt Johnson's NFTs use IPFS cryptographic hashing within the metadata and associated files, providing proof of authenticity and indefinite persistence of the token.

Each NFT includes Unlockable Content containing the IPFS CIDs, plus BONUS materials

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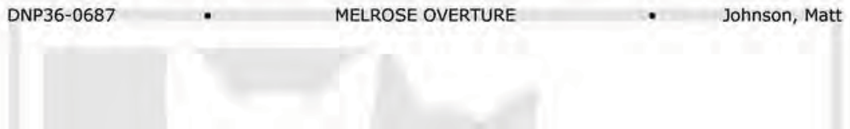
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Multimedia NFT

Full-length audio track of Matt's original music, melded with a high-definition visualizer video.

Only **ONE** in the world.

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Autographed Limited Edition Cover Art NFTs

Autographed Limited Edition Cover Art from Matt's recording.

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REVIEWS

Album Review: Melrose Overture

Matt Johnson
2021 / Dolce & Nuit Productions
8 minutes

Review by Kathy Parsons
www.MainlyPiano.com

"Melrose Overture" is an exciting orchestrated single from pianist/composer/educator Matt Johnson. Clocking in at just over eight minutes, the piece weaves together a variety of melodic themes or movements to create an energetic, multi-faceted work. Originally composed in the summer of 1987, right after Johnson completed his Master's degree at New England Conservatory in Boston, the work marked a new and exciting level of maturity and creativity for the young composer. At the time, Matt was living across the street from Memorial Hall where the Melrose Symphony Orchestra performed. He met with the conductor and the two agreed that Matt would compose a work dedicated to the orchestra. *"Melrose Overture"* was scheduled to have its first performance by the orchestra it was named for in the spring of 1988, but was taken off the program a week before its premiere. I can only imagine what a crushing experience that must have been, and the piece was shelved for many years - long enough that the computer files for the conductor's score as well as all of the parts became inaccessible. *"Decades later, a chance remembrance of the work encouraged me to try to recover the files once more. I successfully located a source—halfway around the world—that was able to access and convert the files. With renewed energy, I began to re-engrave the entire Conductor score and all the players' parts. I assembled the best players, formed the DNP Studio Orchestra and recorded the Premiere during the summer of 2021."*

The *"Overture"* itself has a very strong visual quality and the variety in its themes would make it an excellent choice for a movie soundtrack, but visuals are definitely not needed to thoroughly enjoy this powerful symphonic work!

Both the recording and the orchestral score for *"Melrose Overture"* are offered through Matt's site. The recording can also be downloaded or streamed from sites such as Amazon, Apple Music/iTunes, Spotify, Pandora and others.

The conductor's score and orchestral parts are also available from SheetMusicPlus.com and JWPepper.com.

On YouTube, you can follow the score as the music plays at https://youtu.be/uYvSyME1I6E - always a fun thing to watch!

So, if you're in the mood for some music that is more classical than jazz or new age, be sure to look for *"Melrose Overture"*!

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So, if you're in the mood for some music that is more classical than jazz or new age, be sure to look for *"Melrose Overture"*!



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IPFS CIDs

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Melrose Overture_MattJohnsonMusic_**SCORES**
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Conductor Score and Player Parts also available through online partners:

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Conductor Score and Player Parts also available through online partners:
• https://www.jwpepper.com/Melrose-Overture/11376636.item
• https://www.jwpepper.com/myscore/MattJohnsonMusic
• https://www.SheetMusicDirect.com
• https://www.sheetmusicdirect.com/en-US/se/ID_No/1005477/Product.aspx

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Melrose Overture_MattJohnsonMusic_**Player PARTS**
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02. Melrose Overture_Flute 1_PART.pdf
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14. Melrose Overture_C-Trumpet 1_PART.pdf

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Melrose Overture_MattJohnsonMusic_**Player PARTS**

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Public Domain Release_MattJohnsonMusic_DNP.pdf
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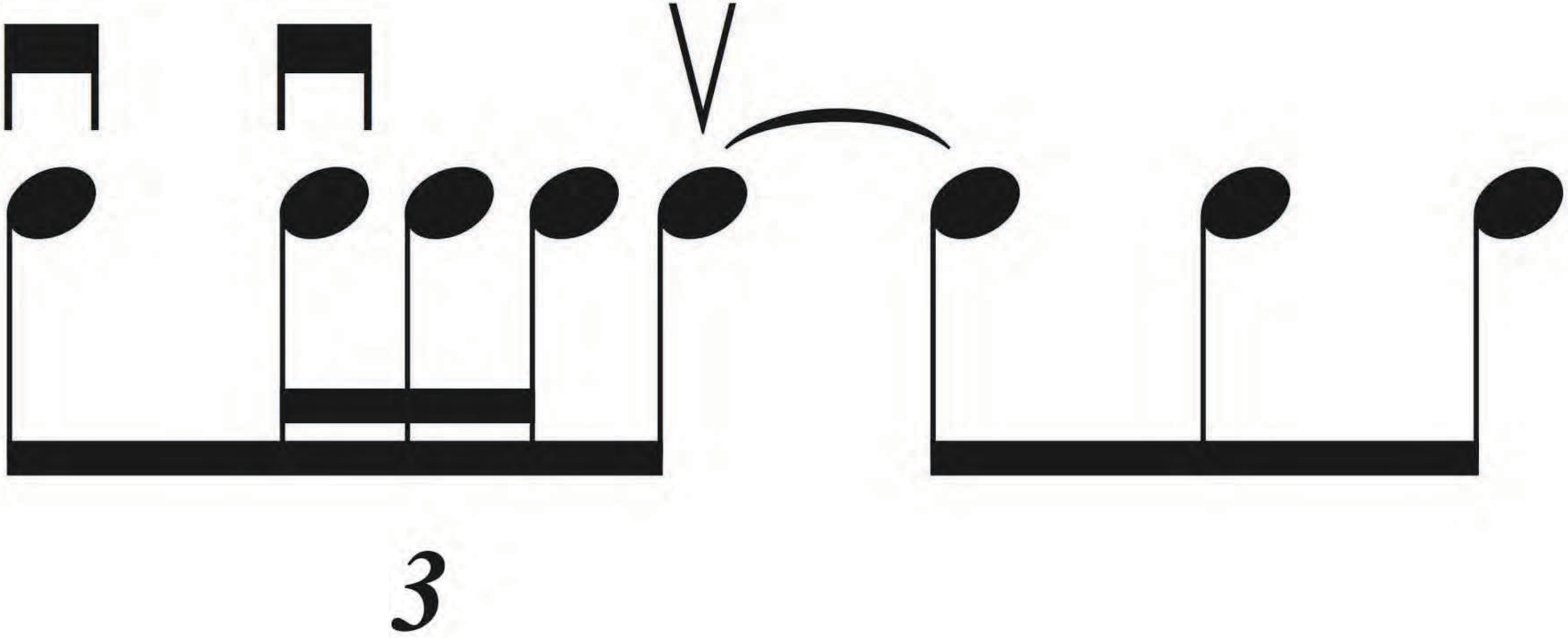
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FEATURE PROFILE ARTICLE

(350 words)

FEATURE PROFILE ARTICLE
By Jerrold Schwartz, Ph.D | October 10, 2021

VIBRANT NEW OVERTURE FOR ORCHESTRA

Inspired by the classical heritage of Bach, Beethoven and Chopin, American composer Matt Johnson's *"Melrose Overture"* for symphony orchestra celebrates its premiere recording release by Dolce & Nuit Productions.

Like Bach, Johnson's decades-long compositional output for the church includes choral works and hymn arrangements. Then, mirroring Beethoven's tenacity, Johnson has promoted his piano and ensemble creations through sheet music, recordings and concertizing. Finally, echoing Chopin, Johnson's renown as a teacher has allowed him to help shape and inspire several generations of up-and-coming composers and pianists.

George Winston's written encouragements guided Johnson's journey of recording his original works back in the 1980's. Although Johnson holds a Master's degree from the New England Conservatory of Music, his first recordings were described as "new age" and that label stuck. However, Johnson cannot be pigeon-holed or type-cast. He employs a unique blend of classical and jazz elements. His pianistic and compositional skills are broader, more cerebral and much more refined than the normal perception of new age music.

"Melrose Overture" is Johnson's first major orchestral work, and written as a stand-alone piece. Recently resurrected from forgotten manuscripts, Johnson assembled gifted players to form the DNP Studio Orchestra and recorded the premiere during the summer of 2021. The recording's cover graphic highlights the work's rhythmic motif. The critics concur that "Melrose Overture" is a worthy addition to the orchestral repertoire.

Critic Robert Matthew-Walker from London's Musical Opinion commented:
"This is a highly attractive overture by a genuinely gifted composer, which more than deserves performance and will appeal to any concert audience."

This energetic and audience-friendly orchestral piece is an upbeat concert opener which wraps different melodic "movements" into a singular work. The music opens with an explosive high-A from all three trumpets. A bombastic timpani solo takes over, followed by a single trumpet's presentation of the melodic motif, which is answered by the full orchestra. Solos are plentiful throughout, including a virtuosic cadenza by the concertmaster. Slower lyrical themes are balanced with those featuring more rhythmical challenges. The conclusion builds harmonic dissonance between the instruments, until a unifying final chord.

# # #

About the Author: Jerrold Schwartz contributes to an eclectic smattering of online journals and publications. He has followed Mr. Johnson's career for many years and may be reached at....

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Melrose Symphony Orchestra
70th Season Flyer

MELROSE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

THE 1987-88 SUBSCRIPTION SERIES

Concert # 1
Friday, November 6, 1987

The historic 70th season of the M.S.O. promises to be one of the most exciting and varied in recent memory. Conductor Peter Hazzard has chosen to open the season with music of Saint-Saens, Mozart, and Schumann. Seventeen year old M.S.O. French Horn player, Lydia Busler, will open the concert as soloist for the *Morceau de Concert* by Camille Saint-Saens. The music of Mozart serves as the backdrop for Mr. Hazzard's special guest for the evening. The A Major Clarinet Concerto will be performed by Professor Carl H.C. Anderson of Jacksonville State University in Alabama. A noted scholar of the clarinet and an acclaimed soloist, Prof. Anderson has delighted audiences with his performances and Mr. Hazzard is delighted to have him bring his talents to Melrose. After intermission, the orchestra will perform Robert Schumann's *Symphony No.1 in Bb* (The Spring Symphony.) This beautiful and lyrical work will cap off a grand opening night.



MR. HAZZARD

SOMETHING EXTRA



SOMETHING EXTRA
HOLIDAY FESTIVAL POPS CONCERT
Saturday, December 12, 1987

The Fifth Annual Holiday Pops will be a wonderful family event. Seasonal favorites will be presented including music by Leroy Anderson, Irving Berlin, and Victor Herbert. The popular Sing-A-Long tradition will be continued and the evening will feature a performance of Haydn's "Toy" Symphony, a special treat for the younger members of the audience. Be sure to reserve early and join the M.S.O. for this December tradition.

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

Make plans now to ring in the new year with other members of the MSO family at Memorial Hall. This gala event will include dinner, dancing, entertainment, and cocktails for a reasonable price. Further details will be mailed to all of our subscribers in the near future.

Concert #2
Saturday, March 12, 1988

The March concert will be one of the most interesting and challenging that the orchestra has presented since Mr. Hazzard joined the orchestra in January of 1983. The first half of the concert will be the presentation of a ballet. The famous ballet set to music of Frederic Chopin, *Les Sylphides*, will be danced by a troupe from Sandra Marie's School of Ballet in Melrose. This suite of music in various moods makes use of both solo and company dances. The second half of the concert will be a staged performance of Leonard Bernstein's one-act opera *Trouble In Tahiti*. The orchestra will be joined by a cast of 5 professional singers. The production of this story of 'marital stress in suburbia' will be directed by Arthur Karp. Mr. Karp has a long list of credits for his work in professional opera as both a stage manager and a director. He staged a production of "Tahiti" with the San Francisco Opera and will produce an exciting performance of this lessor known Bernstein composition.

Concert #3
POPS 1988
Saturday, May 7, 1988

This year's Pops Concert might be referred to as 'Melrose Night'. In addition to music by Berlioz, vonSuppe, Sondheim, and Leroy Anderson, the evening will see the World Premiere of a new work for orchestra by Melrose composer Matt Johnson. The work, Melrose Overture, was composed for the M.S.O. on a grant from the Melrose Arts Lottery Council. Mr. Hazzard has invited pianist Diane Lim to be the featured guest soloist for the evening. Ms. Lim, a resident of Melrose, will perform the *Variations Symphoniques* of Cesar Franck, and, in honor of the 50th anniversary of the death of George Gershwin, she will play the Rhapsody in Blue. Ms. Lim, is a dynamic performer and her artistry should be a fitting conclusion to the M.S.O.'s 70th season.



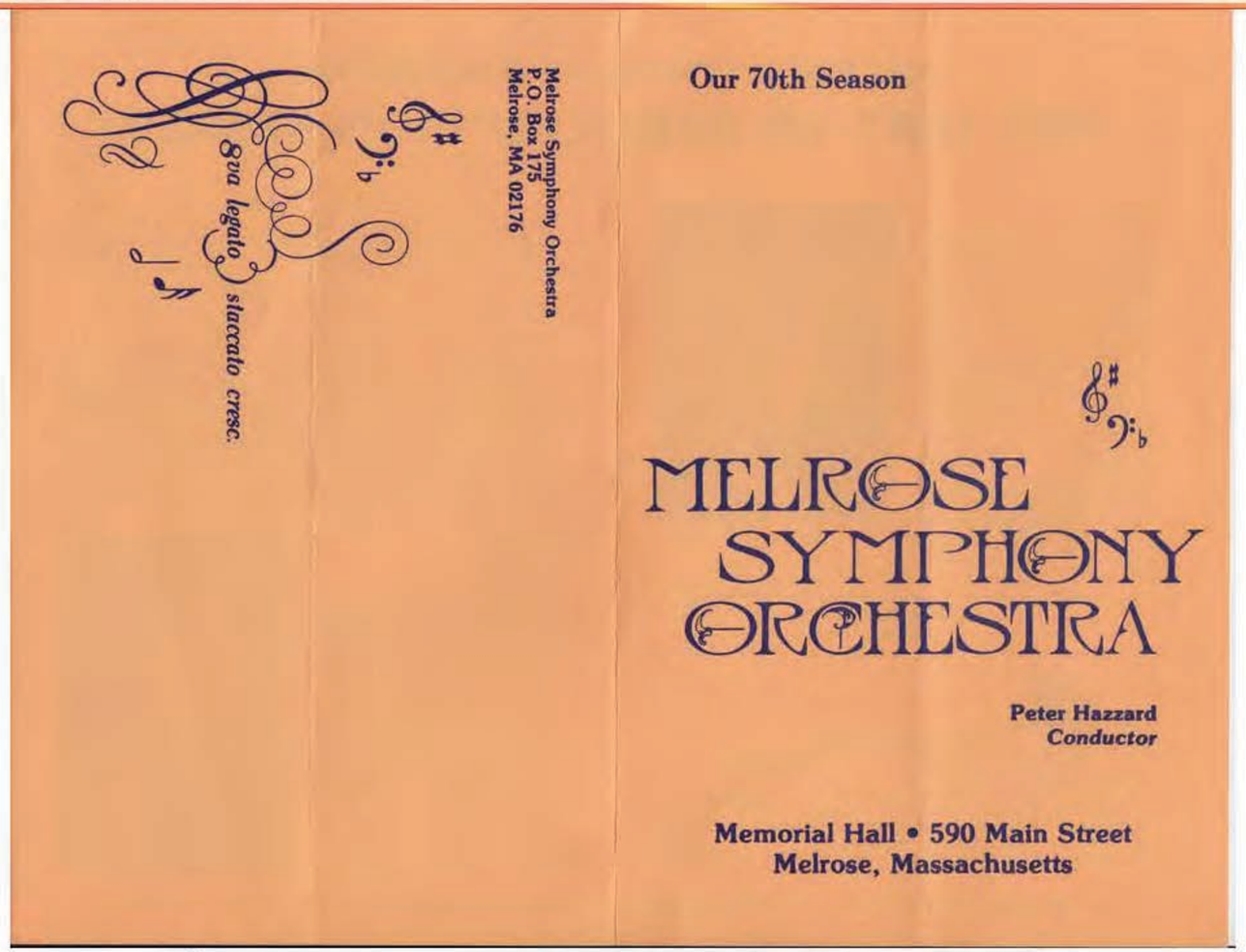
(PROGRAMS SUPPORTED IN PART BY THE MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL ON THE ARTS & HUMANITIES, A STATE AGENCY)



Melrose Sym
P.O. Box 17
Melrose, MA

Our 70th Season

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May 5, 1988 Vol. 88, No. 18 35¢
Serving Melrose Continuously Since 1901

"Melrose Night" At Pops Concert

Memorial Hall on Main Street will be the setting of the annual spring Melrose Sym-

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Free Press

May 5, 1988 Vol. 88, No. 18 35¢

Serving Melrose Continuously Since 1901

"Melrose Night" At Pops Concert

Memorial Hall on Main Street will be the setting of the annual spring Melrose Symphony Orchestra's Pops Concert at 8 p.m. this Saturday. This year the MSO Pops will have a definite Melrose flavor with the work of a local composer and a local pianist highlighting the evening program.

In addition to music by Berlioz, von Suppe, Sondheim, and Leroy Anderson, the orchestra will present the world premiere of a new work for orchestra by Melrose composer Matt Johnson. The work, "Melrose Overture," was composed for the MSO on a grant from the Melrose Arts Lottery Council.

The featured guest soloist for the evening will be pianist Diane Lim, another Melrose resident, who will perform the Rhapsody in Blue" to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the death of George Gershwin.

Tickets for regular seating will be on sale at the door beginning at 7 p.m. Ticket prices are $6 for adults, $2.50 for students under 18, and $4.50 for senior citizens.

However, the Premiere never occurred.
After all the advertising and promotion, the piece was pulled from the program days before the concert!

TOP

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The music and creative works of
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AMERICAN PIANIST/COMPOSER

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TOP

Melrose Overture

Upon completion of his formal musical training in 1987, Matt's orchestral *"Melrose Overture"* marked a new, exciting level of maturity and creativity in his journey as a composer. Resurrected from forgotten manuscripts in 2021, this Premiere recording brings the *"Melrose Overture"* into the light of day with the gifted players of the DNP Studio Orchestra. The recording's cover graphic highlights the work's rhythmic motif.

This energetic orchestral piece wraps different melodic "movements" into a singular work. The music opens with an explosive high-A from all three trumpets. A bombastic timpani solo takes over, followed by a single trumpet's presentation of the melodic motif, which is answered by the full orchestra. Solos are plentiful throughout, including a virtuosic cadenza by the concertmaster. Slower lyrical themes are balanced with those featuring more rhythmical challenges. The conclusion builds harmonic dissonance between the instruments, until a unifying final chord.



(Official Music Video)