

## Webern – Passacaglia 5 Movements 6 Pieces Symphony (2000)

Written by bluesever

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## Webern – Passacaglia 5 Movements 6 Pieces Symphony (1990)



A1 *Passacaglia Für Orchester Op. 1* 12:08 Fünf Sätze Op. 5 (Fassung Für  
Streichorchester 1930) A2.1 *Heftig Bewegt*  
2:40 A2.2 *Sehr Langsam* 2:02 A2.3 *Sehr Lebhaft* 0:40 A2.4 *Sehr Langsam* 1:25  
[play](#) A2.5 *In Zarter*

*Bewegung* 3:17

Sechs Stücke Für Orchester Op. 6 (Fassung Von 1928)

B1.1 *Langsam* 1:08 B1.2 *Bewegt* 1:32

[play](#)

B1.3 *Mässig* 1:01 B1.4 *Sehr Mässig* 4:20 B1.5 *Sehr Langsam* 2:52 B1.6 *Langsam*

Symphonie Für Klarineete, Bassklarinette, Zwei Hörner, Harfe, Zwei Geigen,  
Bratsche Und Violoncello Op. 21 B2.1 *Ruhig Schreitend* 6:40 B2.2 *Variationen* 3:25  
Berliner Philharmoniker Herbert von Karajan –

conductor

For those who harbor doubts about how Karajan would fare in the aphoristic, rarefied and utterly mesmerizing Five Movements op. 5 and Six Pieces op. 6 (he performs the 1928 revision rather than the original), just listen and learn. Yes, Karajan does undeniably emphasize Webern's late romantic background, and he might sometimes be guilty of overcharging or overemphasizing the music, but the end result is more stirring, breath-taking even, than any alternative I've heard - indeed, the music makes such an impact that I recommend taking a long break after hearing each set of concise points that will haunt you long after the music itself has come to an end - despite the occasional and surprising moments of uncertainty from the ensemble. The approach to the Symphony is perhaps more questionable, even though one might in advance have thought it would suit Karajan better - he flouts Webern's dynamic markings and although the net effect is undeniably exciting, doubts are certainly also legitimate. Suffice to say, this shouldn't be your only version of this powerful work. The Passacaglia is appropriately electrifying. Sound quality was always warm and three-dimensional and has been wonderfully remastered. An excellent disc that leaves you lamenting the fact that Karajan never recorded the op. 10 pieces or the Variations. There would have been plenty of space, given the rather short measure of the

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disc; nevertheless, this is a strongly recommended one. --- G.D., amazon.com

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