

1974



Antal Dorati, Music Director of the National Symphony Orchestra since October 1970, was born in Budapest in 1906. When he was fourteen, he entered the Academy of Music, where he was a pupil of Zoltan Kodaly,

Bela Bartok and Leo Weiner. Trained as a composer, cellist, pianist and conductor, he graduated at eighteen, the youngest in the history of the Academy. He was immediately named coach and, soon after, a conductor of the Royal Opera House in Budapest. In 1934, Dorati joined the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo as its leading conductor. His American debut as a symphonic conductor came in 1937 when he guest-conducted the National Symphony Orchestra for an all-Beethoven concert. In 1938 and 1939-40, he made extensive tours

of Australia at the invitation of the Australian Broadcasting Commission. Returning to the United States, Dorati became Director of the New Opera Company of New York and conducted leading orchestras. He became Music Director of the Minneapolis Symphony in 1949, programming and commissioning many major new works by Paul Hindemith, William Schuman, Roger Sessions and Gunther Schuller, among others. He also played numerous world and American premieres. He has been closely associated with the London Symphony Orchestra and the BBC Symphony, and in the autumn of 1966, Dorati took up the post of principal conductor of the Stockholm Philharmonic, a position that he has maintained concurrently with the leadership of the National Symphony Orchestra. He terminated his appointment with the Stockholm Philharmonic in the summer of 1974, and in July 1975 will become Music Director of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in London, again to be held concurrently with his leadership of the National Symphony. During the past several years, he has been invited to guest conduct at the Vienna National Opera, London's Covent Garden, the Hamburg Opera, the Amsterdam Opera, the Rome Opera and the Maggio Musicale in Florence. During the summers he has appeared at the major European Festivals and has won eight Grand Prix du Disque for his recordings ... the first recording of the complete symphonies of Haydn for which he received the Grand Prix de l'Hôtel de Ville de Paris. Dorati composes at least one major work each year.

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