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**Johannes Brahms • Anton Bruckner**  
**London Philharmonic Orchestra**  
**Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra**  
**Wilhelm Furtwängler (1886-1954)**

**Playing  
Time  
64:17**

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**BRAHMS:****Symphony No. 2 in D major, Op. 73****41:19**

- |   |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|
| <b>1</b> I Allegro non troppo<br><b>2</b> II Adagio non troppo<br><b>3</b> III Allegretto grazioso<br><b>4</b> IV Allegro con spirito | 15:18<br>10:56<br>6:03<br>9:01 |
|---|--------------------------------|

London Philharmonic Orchestra

Recorded 22nd - 25th March, 1948, Kingsway Hall, London

**BRUCKNER:****Symphony No. 7 in E major****22:58**

- 5**
- II Adagio

Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra

Recorded 1st April, 1942, Berlin Philharmonie

If the most notable trait of this 1948 recording of Brahms' *Second Symphony*, Furtwängler's only commercial recording of the work, is the extreme variance of tempo, the composer's characteristically restless contrast of dynamism and lyricism is nevertheless placed firmly within a framework of the clearest realisation of form and symphonic development. The orchestra is audibly galvanised by Furtwängler's interpretative flexibility, which courses at white heat throughout the work. Another considerable asset is the recording quality achieved by the engineers in one of the most sought-after venues for orchestral music in England, Kingsway Hall in London. The wartime Telefunken recording of the second movement of Bruckner's *Seventh Symphony* is also Furtwängler's only commercial recording of the composer's music.



Producer and Audio Restoration Engineer: Ward Marston

Special thanks to J. Neil Forster

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Cover Photograph: Wilhelm Furtwängler, circa 1947  
 (Private collection)

