

Mendelssohn sub-titled his Symphony No. 2 'The Hymn of Praise'. It was written to celebrate the four hundredth anniversary of the Gutenberg press in 1840 and first performed in Leipzig in that year. He intended it to celebrate German civilisation and the religious freedom spread by the invention of printing. With its conscious similarity to Beethoven's 'Choral' Symphony, through its extended choral finale and its powerful ethical message, it was a very popular work in the nineteenth century. It contains much beautiful writing for both orchestra and voices and is undoubtedly a 'hidden masterpiece' by this major romantic composer.

Felix  
**MENDELSSOHN**  
 (1809-1847)

RTÉ

Symphony No. 2 in B flat major, Op. 52, Lobgesang (Hymn of Praise)		67:20
1	I Sinfonia: Maestoso con moto - Allegro	13:24
2	Allegretto un poco agitato	6:31
3	Adagio religioso	7:05
4	II Allegro moderato maestoso - Allegro di molto	7:03
5	III Recitativo	2:44
6	IV A tempo moderato	2:07
7	V Andante	5:18
8	VI Allegro un poco agitato	4:32
9	VII Allegro maestoso e molto vivace	4:36
10	VIII Chorale: Andante con moto	3:49
11	IX Andante sostenuto assai	4:48
12	X Allegro non troppo	5:22

Mary Nelson, soprano I • Majella Cullagh, soprano II • Adrian Thompson, tenor  
 National Symphony Orchestra of Ireland • RTÉ Philharmonic Choir  
 Reinhard Seifried

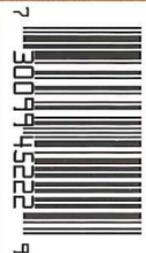
Recorded in the National Concert Hall, Dublin, Ireland from 2nd - 3rd June 1998  
 Producer & Engineer: Tim Handley  
 Cover Picture: Exterior of the concert hall in Leipzig, Germany by Artist unknown  
 (The Art Archive / Richard Wagner Museum Bayreuth / Dagli Orti (A))

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Playing Time  
 67:20



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