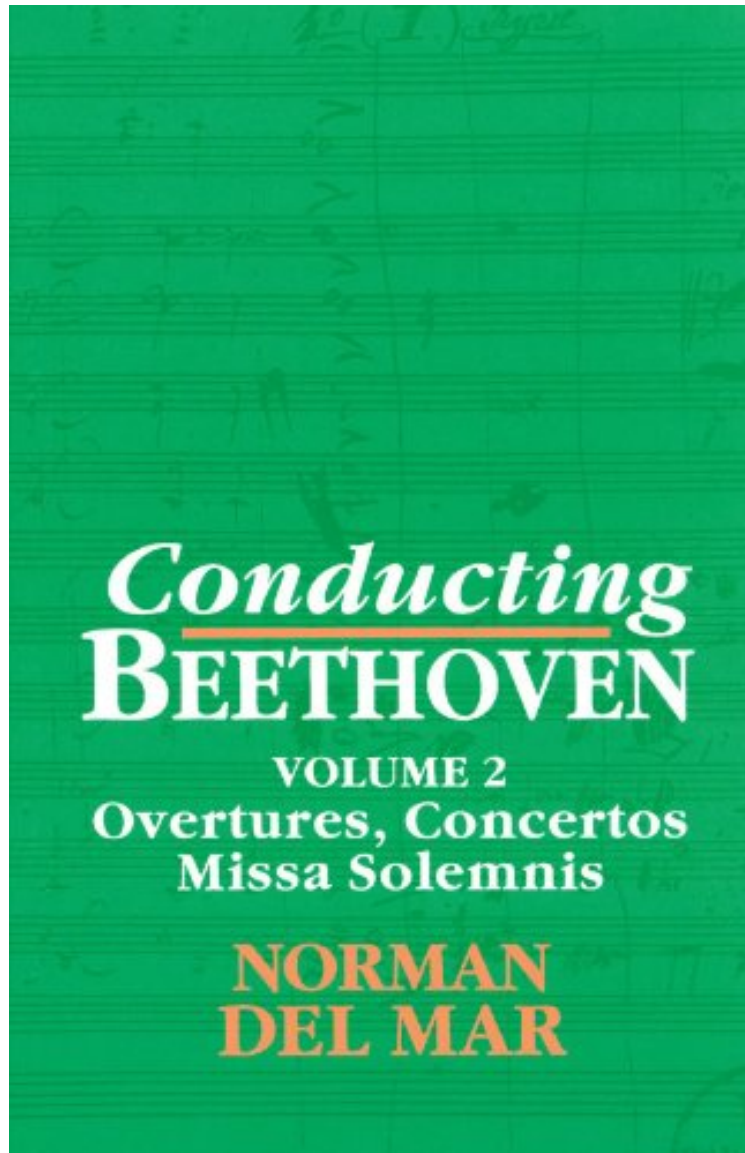


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## Conducting Beethoven: Volume 2: Overtures, Concertos, Missa Solemnis

*Norman Del Mar*

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**Norman Del Mar : Conducting Beethoven: Volume 2: Overtures, Concertos, Missa Solemnis** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Conducting Beethoven: Volume 2: Overtures, Concertos, Missa Solemnis:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Entertaining practical guideBy Martin KuskisThe late Norman Del

Mar wrote a series of guides on conducting works in the orchestral repertoire. They are not aimed only at conductors but are of great interest to music lovers generally. You will however need to have copies of the orchestra scores he discusses, and be able to read them. But there is no complex musical or philosophical analysis - these are practical guides which go straight to the music itself. Del Mar wrote with a refreshingly direct, no-nonsense style. Even if you think you know the Beethoven symphonies very well, Del Mar will alert you to many new details and insights. I heartily recommend this book. 4 of 6 people found the following review helpful. A must have for any student of Beethoven Symphonies

By Kynan Johns English Conductor and teacher Norman Del Mar provides a detailed and enlightening approach to the conducting student of Beethoven Symphonies. Modelled on Felix Weingartner's book of the same title, Del Mar provides through his countless experience insights and pointers to any hopeful would be conductors. All the traps concerning the performance of these symphonies, including structure, tempi, balance, orchestration, phrasing and articulation are all discussed. Humorous anecdotes are also included. Any student of conducting, or student of Beethoven must have this book, in as much as a guide to how Beethoven Symphonies were performed in the 1940's.

Following on from his reflections on conducting the nine Beethoven symphonies, Del Mar now gives his views on the remainder of Beethoven's orchestral output. He offers analyses of the music's structure, pointing out key events in the score, and gives advice on how to achieve the desired effect. Drawing on a lifetime's experience of conducting, these reflections are an essential starting-point for young conductors.

'these beautifully written books are to be read in conjunction with the scores: Del Mar takes the reader meticulously through the works, bar by bar ... he is completely trustworthy ... For both the student conductor and those with more experience, the books are thought-provoking, stimulating and above all illuminating. They are also extremely practical. Norman Del Mar's own wide knowledge and experience of the repertoire shines through these instructive pages. In the immediate aftermath of Norman Del Mar's death, it is hard not to read these marvellous books as part-autobiography. Thanks to the clarity of his descriptions, one can almost hear Del Mar's performances on the page. These chapters will remain as vital a musical legacy as any of his own recordings.' Jane Glover, BBC Music

About the Author Del Mar is an eminent orchestral conductor with over 40 years experience. He also taught conducting at the Guildhall School of Music (1954-60) and at the Royal College of Music (1971-90) His books include *A Companion to the Orchestra* (Faber, 1987) and *Anatomy of the Orchestra* (Faber, 1981)