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Saturday, July 3rd, 2004, 5:00-6:00 p.m.

- [Florencio Asenjo](#) (b.1926). *Danza de los Secretarios* (1958). Slovak State Philharmonic, Kosice, Kirk Trevor. MMC2126. 5:19
- Asenjo. *Concerto for Wind Instruments* (1950). Slovak Radio Symphony Orchestra, Kirk Trevor. MMC2127. 8:08
- [Franz Lachner](#) (1803-1890). *Symphony No. 5, "Passionata" or "Preis-Sinfonie"* (1835), Menuetto and Finale: Allegro. Slovak State Philharmonic, Kosice, Paul Robinson. Marco Polo 223502. 24:34
- Interview with Florencio Asenjo

Born in Buenos Aires of Spanish parents, Dr. Florencio Asenjo is Professor Emeritus of Mathematics at the University of Pittsburgh, as well as an accomplished composer. He has an engaging personality that's matched by his effervescent music, and we're glad to talk to him on our show. The evocatively titled *Danza de los Secretarios* is a delight of rhythm and color, while the *Concerto for Wind Instruments* is bracing in its neoclassic pungency. He is a thoughtful composer who speaks eloquently of the relation between emotion and theory in his music. At the same time, there is an unmistakable sense of humor that bubbles up in all his work. Asenjo is a musician who truly enjoys what he's doing!

Franz Lachner is one of those composers we may have barely heard of, if at all, and yet he was an important and beloved figure in his day. He knew Beethoven and was a close friend of Schubert, outliving him by 62 years. For a half century, there was hardly a musical activity in his adopted city of Munich that he did not influence in some way. He conducted opera and many other orchestras, choirs, and festivals there and elsewhere in Germany and Austria. Munich appointed Lachner General Director of Music and made him an Honorary Citizen. But for his hastened retirement at Wagner's arrival (Wagner had divisive influences wherever he went!), Lachner's career went from triumph to triumph.

His *Symphony No. 5, "Passionata,"* won the grand prize in the 1835 Vienna Concerts Spirituels competition, which is why it is also subtitled the "Preis-Sinfonie." We listen to the last two movements on our show. We see what a strong composer he was, with a gift for melody and harmonic invention.

Hosted by [Kile Smith](#), Curator of the Fleisher Collection, and [Jack Moore](#), Program Director of WRTI. In *Discoveries from the Fleisher Collection* we uncover the unknown, rediscover the little-known, and take a fresh look at some of the remarkable treasures housed in the Fleisher Collection of Orchestral Music in the [Free Library of Philadelphia](#). The Fleisher Collection is the largest lending library of orchestral performance material in the world. For recording details, please go to our [web page](#). For a detailed list of all our shows, please visit our [archives](#).