



Monday, March 17, 2025

Our next session will be on **Monday 17 March at 6.00pm (UK Time)** when pianist Jenny Lin will be in conversation with Geraldine Auerbach about all Bloch's music for piano and orchestra.

The link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81104050877?pwd=YTIJTE13S2RUTC9oWEdXWVBncldWZz09>

Jenny Lin, a Steinway Artist, was born in Taiwan, raised in Austria, and moved to New York, where she resides. Her discography numbers more than 50 recordings, ranging from the classic piano canon to modern milestones to Broadway songs. Her passion for education led her to create "Melody's Mostly Musical Day," a musical picture book for children told in classical piano pieces, which she developed into a multimedia concert that has toured the continent. Lin has a close affinity with Philip Glass, whose Etudes she performs globally, and which inspired her to embark on a commissioning initiative, The Etudes Project. Lin served as the Executive Director of the Manchester Music Festival from 2023-2024, overseeing its 50th Anniversary Season. She was recently appointed Director of Music for The Phillips Collection in Washington, DC.

Ernest Bloch's contributions to the piano and orchestra repertoire are significant and showcase his distinctive voice and stylistic diversity. All three compositions on this disc are profoundly beautiful. The **Concerto Grosso No. 1** needs no introduction, the most well-known of the three. The **Concerto Symphonique** remains one of history's great undiscovered works. At the time of my recording session, I was only aware of two other recordings. The piano part demands both technical proficiency and expressive depth, making it a compelling addition to the list of 20th-century piano concerti. The music is imaginative, colorful, dramatic, and incredibly satisfying to perform. This is music comparable to a piano concerto by Rachmaninov or Prokofiev. Just as appealing is the **Scherzo Fantasque**, though much shorter, almost like a sketch of the concerto. It continues to be a mystery why these works are not presented in concert halls.