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With fanfare, Princeton orchestra debuts new video online

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The brass section of the Princeton Symphony Orchestra is videotaped during a live performance of Aaron Copland's

"Fanfare for the Common Man" at Palmer Square in Princeton. The video will be posted online April 7. Princeton Symphony Orchestra

By Community Bulletin

To celebrate spring and brace for the coming of tax-filing day, the Princeton Symphony Orchestra will post a free, online video premiere of its outdoor performance of Aaron Copland's "Fanfare for the Common Man" on Wednesday, April 7 at 5 p.m.

Filmed in Princeton's downtown Palmer Square, the performance showcases the PSO's brass and percussion sections led by music director Rossen Milanov. The four-minute video was produced and edited by PCK Media.

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Copland's fanfare was written in 1942 at the onset of America's entry into World War II. It was commissioned by the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, which wanted to continue its tradition of starting concerts during wartime with a fanfare.

Partly inspired by then-vice president Henry A. Wallace's speech proclaiming the start of an anti-imperialist new era he dubbed the "Century of the Common Man," the work premiered on March 12, 1943, just three days before the tax deadline. (Today's April 15 deadline wasn't established until 1954.) The orchestra purposely selected the date, to which Copland reportedly replied, "I am all for honoring the common man at income tax time."

The April 7 premiere will take place on the orchestra's YouTube channel and feature a live chat. The link also can be accessed on the orchestra's website and social media. No registration is required, and the video will remain available for viewing following the premiere.