Symphony Will Offer Brahms And Mozart

By ROBERT ZELENKA and STEFAN OFFENBACH

The Houston Symphony Orchestra will present the fifteenth of its concert pairs on the evenings of March 12 and 13. On the program will be the Wolf-Ferrari overture to “The Secret of Suzanne,” Delius’ tone poem “A Song of Summer,” Mozart’s Symphony No. 39 in E flat major, and Brahms’ Symphony No. 4 in E minor.

THE OPERA “The Secret of Suzanne” was premiered in Munich in December 1909. Its music reminds one of the eighteenth century; the music is witty and light in tone.

The “Song of Summer” of Delius was composed in 1929. It is one of a series of orchestral songs by the composer and is fairly short in duration.

THE SYMPHONY No. 39 of Mozart was composed during the summer of 1788. This symphony, and the two which followed it, were completed within the same three month period, and they represent the best of Mozart’s symphonic compositions.

It is written in the traditional four movements: the first begins with the call of horns, the second with strings. The third movement is a minuet. The symphony has no sharp conclusion ending in many false climaxes.

THE FOURTH Symphony of Brahms was composed during the summers of 1884 and 1885, completed in the fall of 1885, and first performed on October 25 of that year. The music is deep and powerful, ranging from the allegro of the first movement to the driving allegro passionato of the last.

The symphony was at first barely accepted, but it has grown to be regarded as one of the finest pieces of symphonic music.