No. 60 Concerto For Horn

op. 8 for E^b Tenor Horn & Piano

Franz Strauss edited Sandy Smith

Code Schwierigkeitsgrad code degré de difficulté code degree of difficulty

C/D = medium - difficult

no recording available keine CD Aufnahme pas enregistré

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The Sandy Smith Collection

Tenor Horn players have always suffered from a lack of quality Solo repertoire, both composed and arranged. Much of the "borrowed" repertoire which has been taken from music originally for other instruments, has come to the Tenor Horn player in adaptations which has left them contending with either unsuitable key signatures and/or music sitting in a tessitura which is uncharacteristic of the instrument. One thinks particularly of adaptations of Orchestral Horn music and Solo Editions supplied with both E^b and B^b Solo copies where the E^b copy is provided with little thought to its suitability for the instrument.

This collection of Solo repertoire is an attempt, at least in part, to address this problem and provide the Tenor Horn player with quality Solos in a range of styles which have been thought out with the specific characteristics of the instrument in mind.

Franz Strauss

Franz Strauss was born on February 26th 1822 in Parkstein, Bavaria and as a child became proficient on a number of musical instruments before settling eventually on a career as a Horn player. He was widely regarded as the leading player of his day. The conductor Hans von Bülow called him "the Joachim of the Horn".

For over forty years he played in the Munich Opera Orchestra. There and at Bayreuth, he was Principal Horn for the first performances of several Wagner operas. He is now better remembered as the father of the great composer Richard Strauss. Franz Strauss died on May 31st 1905.

Concerto for Horn, op. 8

The first performance of this work took place on March 27th 1865 with Franz Strauss himself as soloist. His composition style was conservative, harmonically and melodically and this work is firmly in the Romantic mould with sweeping melody ideas and much use is made of the lyrical qualities of the original orchestral instrument which transfer well to the Tenor Horn.

I have not added any metronome marks to the composers instructions, preferring rather for the performer to explore the music before evolving tempi to suit the character of the music.

Dynamic markings are open-ended through bars 128–143 as they are in the composers original version and may appear somewhat ambiguous for bar 319 through the bar 332. This again follows the original instruction of the composer and allows the performer some leeway in interpretation.

Concerto for Horn

(Eb Tenor Horn & Piano)

Franz Strauss, Op. 8
Edited by Sandy Smith















