

Danzi, F: Concerto in Eb

It seems that there were very many horn virtuosi in the second half of the 18th century. Numerous names have been handed on to us, for example Anton Joseph Hampel, Jean-Joseph Rodolphe (Johann Joseph Rudolph), Giovanni Stich-Punto, Nikolaus Simrock, Jean Lebrun, Johann Andreas Amon, Frédéric Duvernoy, Heinrich Dönnich, Georg Abraham Schneider, Luigi and Agostini Belloli, Michael and Gottfried Schunke, Louis François Dauprat, Heinrich Stöltz, Thaddeus Steinmüller, Martin Joseph Mengal, Joseph Emile Meifred, Edouard and Joseph-Rodolphe Lewy, Jacques-François Gallay, who were to be heard in Germany, Italy and France.

From this epoch some works have survived in repertoire. To these belong the two concertos for one horn and a concerto for two horns by Joseph Haydn as well as the four well-known horn concertos by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. It seemed interesting to search out further concertos for Natural horn (French horn) from this time, whereby the publications of the works of Georg Philipp Telemann*, Michel Corrette*, Leopold Mozart, Christoph Förster, Frédéric Duvernoy, Giovanni Stich-Punto and Franz Anton Rößler-Rosetti proved a well-earned success.

It is strange to note that the key E-flat major was chosen by Joseph Haydn as well as Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Frédéric Duvernoy, Franz Danzi, Giovanni Stich-Punto, Franz Anton Rößler-Rosetti etc. up to Richard Strauss. In this key the soft and romantic tone of the horn sounds at its best.

The present concerto was perhaps written under the influence of G. Stich-Punto as one can conclude by certain passages welcome to the horn virtuose. His manuscript has the following title:

*Concerto per il Corno-primo principale
accompagnato da due Violini, 2 Flauti,
2 Corni, Alto-Violino e Basso
par Monsieur Danzi*

It is to be found in the Regensburger Schloß where it is kept in the archive of the Fürstlich Thurn und Taxisschen Hofbibliothek. For the permission to present the concerto as a first publication we want to express our thanks.

Edmond Leloir

* - Appeared from the same publishers.