

## Hornarama Code 20022

### Haydn, J: Concerto in Eb for 2 Horns. Sikorski Edition.

for 2 Horns and Piano

Joseph Haydn's "catalogue of all those compositions which I can think of having accomplished from my eighteenth to my seventy-third year", which was written down by Ellsler, Jr. in 1805, contains a concerto "a Due Corni" (22, No. 2).

Its incipit:



is reproduced in Hoboken's Index (VII d No. 2). This concerto has hitherto been unidentified.

However, the Library of the Prince of Oettingen-Wallerstein at Harburg Castle has in its holding a set of parts in manuscript with the following title:

Concerto per due Corni Prinzipali  
in Dis  
Duo violini  
Due oboe due Viola  
Cori di Rinpo  
Basso

[in a different hand:]  
par Michael Heiden

The theme of the first movement shows such a close similarity to the incipit mentioned above that one is led to the assumption that this manuscript and the lost concerto are identical. The differences between the incipit and the newly discovered concerto might be explained either as inaccuracies caused by writing down from memory, or as variants of an earlier version.

Beside the stylistic evidence, which points more to Joseph Haydn, and not to his brother Johann Michael, as the composer of this important piece of music, there are other reasons for our assumption.

For one thing, it is well known that compositions by Joseph Haydn have occasionally been handed down to posterity under the name of his brother (cf. the violin concertos Hoboken VII a: B 1, B 2, and G 1). Furthermore, the location of the manuscript is a reminder of Haydn's relations with the House of Oettingen-Wallerstein and its orchestra, at that time conducted by Antonio Rosetti. The excellent achievements of this orchestra, especially on the side of the wind-instruments, were explicitly praised by Haydn.

It is therefore highly probable that the musical art of the turn of the 18th and the 19th centuries has finally won back one of Joseph Haydn's lost masterpieces.

Hamburg 1968