

**Wagner, R: Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg.
Prelude to Act III
arranged by Mort Shafer**

Richard Wagner
Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg
Prelude to Act III

The score to "Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg" was finished in October, 1867, some twenty two years after the first sketches. The first performance occurred in June, 1868 at Munich.

In this arrangement for six horns by Mort Shafer, the opening cello passage has been slurred differently in the 5th and 6th parts in an effort to make the line as smooth as possible. From **B** to **D** and from **G** to **H**, the original instrumentation is for bassoons and horns, and the low second bassoon part is again assigned to horns 5 and 6. The other musical material is primarily in the strings and should be played with a Wagnerian intensity.

Mort Shafer (born 1931) got an early start on his music career, enrolled at age two and one half in experimental classes in piano, harmony and Dalcroze at the American Conservatory in Chicago. He studied horn with Harry Jacobs of the Chicago Symphony from 1944 to '47, and with Arkady Yegudkin at The Eastman School of Music 1948 to '51. He spent most of his professional life as a public school music teacher and played horn in numerous community groups, in addition to conducting opera performances on the west coast. He is no longer a performer on the horn, but continues his involvement with the instrument doing an ongoing series of arrangements for the Puget Sound Horn Society.