

Lachner, F: Two Songs
Waldvögelein Op.28/1
Nachts in der Kajüte Op. 34
Soprano, Horn and Piano

Franz LACHNER (1803-1890)

2 Songs, Op. 28 and 34, words by J.M. Vogl and H. Heine for Voice, Horn (or cello) and Piano.

All that is generally known today of Franz Lachner (1803-1890) is that he wrote a number of orchestral suites and gained great distinction as conductor of the Munich Court Opera between 1836 and 1856. In fact, Lachner composed a wide variety of works, including operas, oratorios, masses, symphonies and chamber music. Recently the most significant part of his output has become recognized as the Lied, in which genre he left a great number of works of varied instrumentation.

From 1823-32 Lachner lived in Vienna. He became acquainted with Beethoven, had lessons from Simon Sechter and Abbé Vogler, and struck up a very close friendship with Franz Schubert. It is generally accepted that this friendship stimulated Lachner to write songs, in which he took as his model his Viennese friend's strict adherence to quality when choosing a text. The poet of the "Waldvöglein" is the singer Johann Michael Vogler (1768-1840), who has gone down into history as the first significant interpreter of Schubert. The poem "Nachts in der Kajüte" comes from the "Nordsee" section of the "Buch der Lieder" by Heinrich Heine.

In the present edition, the "Waldvöglein" is based on the first publication, by Diabelli in Vienna; "Nachts in der Kajüte" is based on the first published edition by P. Mechetti of Vienna. The latter already contained an English translation. As the horn part for "Nachts in der Kajüte" has not been preserved, this was newly restored by the editor. On analogy with the horn part in "Waldvöglein", notes merely sustained by the piano have been avoided. Thanks to the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek in Munich, who owns the printings by Diabelli and Mechetti.

Hermann Dechant
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