

Program

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Horn Concerto No.3 in E-flat Major, K447

Bernhard Krol

Laudatio

Leone Sinigaglia

Zwei Stücke Lied No.1 Op.28 for Horn and Piano

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756–1791)
Horn Concerto No. 3 in E-flat Major, K. 447
I. Allegro – II. Romanze (Larghetto) – III. Allegro

Tseng Hua-Chih, Horn Nicholas Loh, Piano

Mozart's Horn Concerto No. 3 in E-flat major was composed between 1784 and 1787. Originally written for the French horn, this concerto perfectly showcases the horn's cheerful and lyrical tone. At the time, the French horn was still in its early stages of development, hence the concerto was written for Natural Horn. This concerto, written for Mozart's friend Joseph Leutgeb, has a unique style, sometimes noble and bright, sometimes warm and gentle, while also displaying Mozart's signature elegance, clarity, and wit.

The first movement, Allegro, opens with a bright and confident attitude, with the French horn and orchestra blending perfectly. The final movement, also Allegro, is full of energy and joy, concluding in a lighthearted and humorous atmosphere.

The second movement, Romance (Larghetto), is my favorite part. It is lyrical and intimate, like a horn aria. The movement employs a gentle rondo form, alternating between a tender theme and more expressive episodes. This movement invites the French horn to "sing," allowing its tone to speak directly to the listener. Playing it feels like engaging in a soft, whispered conversation—warm and sincere.

The final allegro movement brings a sense of joy and energy. With its hunting-themed theme and powerful rhythms, it brings the concerto to a humorous and brilliant close.

Bernhard Krol (1920–2013) Laudatio (1966) Tseng Hua-Chih, Horn

"Laudatio" is a very special French horn solo piece composed in 1966. The title means "praise" in Latin, and the music is like a tranquil prayer. The work is inspired by the Gregorian chant "Laudatio," which forms the core theme of the piece. The music opens with a gentle melody, like a call from the depths of the mountains, gradually increasing in intensity until it transforms into shout and echo, finally returning to silence. Unlike other solo works, this piece explores freedom through the performer's voice, guiding the listener towards inner peace. It is not merely a performance, but a dialogue with oneself, an exploration of the self.

Leone Sinigaglia (b. 1985)

Zwei Stücke, Lied No. 1, Op. 28 (1905)

Tseng Hua-Chih, Horn

Nicholas Loh, Piano

"Lied" is a short and lyrical piece that brings a modern, song-like atmosphere to the French horn and piano. The way the piece combines its simple melody with gentle harmonies is as if the French horn and piano are engaged in a quiet dialogue. The piece tenderly tells its story, its beginning like a lingering unspoken message, something it wants to say but cannot articulate. The development section seems to strive to explain something, but the recapitulation seems to change something yet remain unchanged, ultimately concluding the story with a light touch.



THANK YOU

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