

Four Virtuoso Showpieces

for Unaccompanied Violin

Works by ERNST, LOCATELLI & VECSEY

Edited by Endre Granat

Masterworks for Violin



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PREFACE

Four Virtuoso Showpieces for Unaccompanied Violin

Heinrich Wilhelm Ernst (1812-1865) was a brilliant violinist, violist, chamber musician and composer. In his compositions, he combined Paganini's technical innovations (harmonics, double harmonics, pizzicato and use of the entire range of the instrument) with a more sophisticated and advanced compositional style.

The Last Rose of Summer is a set of 4 Variations and Finale on a traditional Irish tune. This work is part of Ernst's *Polyphonic Etudes* for violin.

The Erbkönig (King of the Alders) is based on the famous lied by Schubert, not a transcription but a *tour de force* of innovative composing for violin.

Pietro Antonio Locatelli (1695-1764) was a violinist and composer of virtuoso violin music. His *12 Concertos, Op. 3* with their *24 Caprices* set the technical standard for virtuoso violinists. The unaccompanied *Caprices* were meant to be exercise pieces aimed at mastering the difficulties of the concertos.

Labyrinth is a treasure trove of studies of double stops, chords, arpeggios, trills, harmonics and various bowings, but most of all unusually wide stretches. Locatelli's works have greatly influenced Paganini's writing, especially in his *24 Caprices*.

Franz von Vecsey (1893-1935) was a veritable child prodigy. By age 10, he was considered one of the finest violinists in Europe. For a while, Bela Bartok was his piano accompanist. At age 12, he received the dedication of the Sibelius *Violin Concerto*, which he performed the following year. Vecsey dedicated the *Preludio e Fuga* in C minor to his teacher, Jenö Hubay.

Endre Granat, Editor

THE LAST ROSE OF SUMMER

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HEINRICH WILHELM ERNST

Moderato

Introduction

4

7

10

13

16

ff *p* *f* *ff* *p*

pizz. *arco*

fz *ff* *pizz.* *p* *arco*

cresc. *f* *cadenza* *riten.*

p *f* *cresc.*

ff *fz*

This collection contains four of the most dazzling and technically demanding pieces written for the violin: H.W. Ernst's *The Last Rose of Summer* and *Erlkönig*, P.A. Locatelli's *Labyrinth* and the *Preludio e Fuga* by F. von Vecsey. Meticulous care and attention to every detail has been taken in the notation, bowing and fingering of these works by editor and Jascha Heifetz protégé, Endre Granat.

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Endre Granat



Endre Granat has studied with Zoltan Kodaly, Gyorgy Ligeti and Jascha Heifetz and is the premier concertmaster for the Hollywood film industry. He has performed with legendary conductors George Szell, Sir Georg Solti and Zubin Mehta. He is a Laureate of the Queen Elizabeth International competition and recipient of the Grand Prix du Disque and the Ysaye Medal.



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