

Wolfgang Amadeus
MOZART

Variationen in B für Klavier
KV 500

für den Konzertvortrag frei bearbeitet von
Josef Gabriel Rheinberger
WoO 5

herausgegeben von / edited by
Uwe Wolf

Einzelausgabe aus: Josef Gabriel Rheinberger, Werke
Band 48: Bearbeitungen fremder Werke für zwei Klaviere



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Foreword

Among Josef Gabriel Rheinberger's arrangements of music by other composers, Mozart is the name most frequently found.¹ Rheinberger's veneration of Mozart extended throughout his entire musical career. A childhood photograph shows the fourteen-year-old Rheinberger alongside a statue of Mozart;² and as late as 1900 he wrote to Henriette Hecker³: "Of all composers Mozart is my personal favorite."⁴

The arrangement of the Piano Variations in B-flat major KV 500 (WoO 5) dates from the turn of the year from 1890 to 1891. In any event, the sketches were completed on 4 January 1891 and the fair copy a mere four days later, on 8 January. Two months thereafter Rheinberger sent the work (presumably already the printed edition) to his friend, the pianist Isidor Seiss⁵, who thanked him in his reply of 14 March 1891.⁶ The arrangement is dedicated to the pianist Hans Bußmeyer⁷.

The purpose of Rheinberger's arrangement is laid bare in the title both of the fair copy and the printed edition: *freely arranged by Josef Rheinberger for concert performance*. In other words, Mozart's composition was to be removed from the realm of domestic music-making and transported to the concert hall, and therefore had to be rendered suitable for the exigencies of contemporary concert life. At the very first glance we immediately notice the absence of the repeat signs found in the original. Literal repetitions are replaced throughout by varied repetitions; the bass and treble exchange functions, and the direction of the melodic lines is often reversed. Occasionally harmonic progressions are intensified, e. g. by transposing some of the parts by a third (see Variations 4 and 11). Further

the level of virtuosity is cautiously raised, for example by the triplet embellishments introduced in Variation 8, which is transposed down an octave in bars 1–4 and 12–16. Toward the end of Variation 10 we even find a run that has been obviously lengthened, with its ambitus now extended a full octave upward. Finally, Rheinberger has refreshed a triadic figure in the bass of Variation 12 into a virtuosic pattern. Equally worthy of mention are the octave doublings and other expansions of the range, especially in the bass, and the precise instructions regarding dynamics and articulation. In short, Rheinberger's arrangement for the concert hall often goes hand in hand with an adaptation intended to exploit the possibilities of the modern grand piano, especially its enlarged keyboard compass. The varied repetitions in the arrangement involve a considerable amount of newly composed material.

Our edition is based not only on the original, but also on the sketches and fair copy, which was supervised by Rheinberger. It is intended to rectify a number of ambiguities in the original edition.

Leipzig, December 2004
Translation: J. Bradbury • Uwe Wolf

¹ In addition to the two sets of variations KV 500 (WoO 5) and KV 501 (WoO 6), Rheinberger also produced arrangements of Mozart's Church Sonata KV 328 (WoO 97) and the *Laudate Dominum* (WoO 98). He also composed an *Improvisation* for piano, based on motifs from *The Magic Flute* (op. 52) and the *Don Giovanni* for the Piano Concerto KV 316a/365; see *Verzeichnis der musikalischen Werke von Josef Gabriel Rheinberger*, Regensburg, 1974 (= *Studien zur Musikwissenschaft*, 37), p. 24, where the WoO 92 in the systematic order is listed.

² Photograph of 1853, reproduced in *Josef Gabriel Rheinberger, Leben und Werke*, ed. Hans-Joachim Wenzel, Regensburg, 1974, p. 111.

³ Henriette Hecker (1853–1930), pianist, student of Rheinberger from 1870 to about 1872, later a piano teacher at the Königl. Musikschule in Munich. She was married to the banker Emil Wildbad Kreuth, with whom she lived in Regensburg. A correspondence ensued between them, which was published in *Die Rheinberger-Familie* (Harald Wanger, Regensburg, 1974), pp. 110f., quote on p. 111.

⁴ Letter to Isidor Seiss, 14 March 1891, in *Josef Gabriel Rheinberger, Briefe und Dokumente seines Lebens*, ed. Hans-Joachim Wenzel, Regensburg, 1974, pp. 110f., quote on p. 111.

⁵ Isidor Seiss (1853–1930), pianist, student of Rheinberger from 1870 to about 1872, later a piano teacher at the Königl. Musikschule in Munich. He was married to the banker Emil Wildbad Kreuth, with whom she lived in Regensburg. A correspondence ensued between them, which was published in *Die Rheinberger-Familie* (Harald Wanger, Regensburg, 1974), pp. 110f., quote on p. 111.

⁶ Letter to Isidor Seiss, 14 March 1891, in *Josef Gabriel Rheinberger, Briefe und Dokumente seines Lebens*, ed. Hans-Joachim Wenzel, Regensburg, 1974, pp. 110f., quote on p. 111.

⁷ Hans-Joachim Wenzel (1853–1930), pianist, student of Rheinberger from 1870 to about 1872, later a piano teacher at the Königl. Musikschule in Munich. He was married to the banker Emil Wildbad Kreuth, with whom she lived in Regensburg. A correspondence ensued between them, which was published in *Die Rheinberger-Familie* (Harald Wanger, Regensburg, 1974), pp. 110f., quote on p. 111.

⁸ A detailed account of the sources can be found on pp. 130f. of the *Critical Report to Josef Gabriel Rheinberger, Bearbeitungen fremder Werke für ein bzw. zwei Klaviere*, Stuttgart, 2004 (= *Josef Gabriel Rheinberger, Sämtliche Werke*, ser. IX, vol. 48, edited by Uwe Wolf).

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Thema mit Variationen in B

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, KV 500
für den Konzertvortrag frei bearbeitet von
Josef Gabriel Rheinberger, WoO 5 (1891)

Allegretto $\text{♩} = 76$

Pianoforte

The first system of the musical score is for the piano. It consists of two staves. The right staff (treble clef) begins with a trill (tr.) on a quarter note, followed by a series of eighth notes. The left staff (bass clef) has a piano (p) dynamic marking and features a series of eighth notes. A crescendo (cresc.) marking is placed above the right staff.

The second system continues the piano part. The right staff has a forte (f) dynamic marking and a series of eighth notes. The left staff has a piano (p) dynamic marking and a trill (tr.) on a quarter note.

The third system continues the piano part. The right staff has a forte (f) dynamic marking and a series of eighth notes. The left staff has a piano (p) dynamic marking and a trill (tr.) on a quarter note.

The fourth system continues the piano part. The right staff has a fortissimo (ff) dynamic marking and a series of eighth notes. The left staff has a piano (p) dynamic marking and a trill (tr.) on a quarter note.

The fifth system continues the piano part. The right staff has a piano (p) dynamic marking and a series of eighth notes. The left staff has a fortissimo (sf) dynamic marking and a trill (tr.) on a quarter note. A 'poco rit.' (poco ritardando) marking is placed above the right staff.

Variation 1

a tempo
tr
cresc.
f

tr
tr
tr
tr

tr
f
p

f
tr
f

poco rit.

Variation 2

Un poco meno mosso ♩ = 126

f *simile* *tr*

4 *dim.* *p*

7 *f* *tr*

10 *sf* *p*

poco rit.

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Variation 3

Tempo I

pp cresc.

3 f

6

9

12 marc.

poco rit. ♩ = 126 p

Variation 4

musical score for Variation 4, measures 1 through 15. The score is written for piano (p) and features a variety of musical notations including eighth notes, quarter notes, and half notes, often beamed together. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The score includes dynamic markings such as *cresc.* (crescendo) and *ff* (fortissimo). Measure numbers 3, 6, 9, and 12 are indicated at the beginning of their respective staves. A large, diagonal watermark reading "PROBENPAPIER" is overlaid across the score. A smaller, diagonal watermark reading "Ausgabequalität gegenüber Original evtl. gemindert • Evaluation Copy - Quality may be reduced • Carus-Verlag" is also present. The Carus-Verlag logo is visible in the bottom right corner of the score area.

Variation 5

p espress. *sf* *sf* *p* *mf* dolce

5 9 13

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Variation 6

p

3 *sf* *ff*

6 *m.d.* *sf*

9 *sf* *p*

12

poco rit.

Variation 7

Minore

5

10

cresc.

14

8va

1 2 1 2

5 4

Maggiore

mf dolce

f

grazioso

3

3

3

3

8

3

p

mf

f

dim. 3

12

f

ff

Variation 9

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

p *mf* *f* *ff* *cresc.* *marc.* *p* *mf* *ff* *poco ritenuto* *ten.*

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Variation 10

Tranquillo

m.s.

p

tr

cresc.

f

mf

f

m.s.

tr

11

tr tr p cresc. tr

14

tr poco rit. a tempo ff sf dim. tr

16

p tr

18

cresc. tr rit. tr

21

legato sf

sf

Variation 11

Adagio $\text{♩} = 63$

una corda

Variation 12

Allegro ♩ = 72

mf cresc. f p

9 f

16 p

23 pp

29 cresc. ff

poco rit. a tempo p

41

cresc.

ff

rit.

47

a tempo

f

53

8 va

pp

58

f

ritenuto

Vivo

tr. *p* *cresc.* *f*

4

p *cresc.* *tr.*

7

f *p*

10

poco rit. *sf* *f* *meno mosso*

13

largo *ff*

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