

Ernst Naumann

1832 - 1910

Fünf Impromptus

für Pianoforte zu vier Händen

op. 8

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Karl Ernst Naumann wurde 1832 in Freiberg (Sachsen) als Sohn des Geologieprofessors Carl Friedrich Naumann (1797-1873) geboren. Zugleich war er ein Enkel des berühmten Dresdner Hofkapellmeisters Johann Gottlieb Naumann (1741-1801). Nach dem Umzug der Familie nach Leipzig studierte er dort bei dem Organisten Johann Gottlob Schneider (1789–1864), und den späteren Thomaskantoren Moritz Hauptmann (1792-1868) und Ernst Friedrich Richter (1808-1879). Er promovierte an der Universität Leipzig zu einem Thema aus der Theorie der Tonsysteme. 1860 wurde er zum städtischen Musikdirektor und Organist in Jena berufen, eine Position, die er Zeit seines Lebens nicht wieder aufgab.

Robert Schumann erwähnt Naumann in seinem berühmten Artikel „Neue Bahnen“, mit dem er den jungen Brahms über Nacht bekannt machte, in einer Fußnote als eines von „manchen neuen, bedeutenden Talenten“. Naumann pflegte Kontakte mit vielen berühmten Komponisten seiner Zeit, darunter Brahms, dessen *Altrhapsodie* er als Dirigent uraufführte, Liszt und d'Albert.

Naumann war unermüdlich als Herausgeber und Bearbeiter u.a. der Werke Bachs, Mozarts und Haydns tätig. Daneben ist sein eigenes kompositorisches Schaffen klein geblieben und hauptsächlich auf Kammermusik und Lieder beschränkt. Naumann veröffentlichte als erster in Deutschland eine Sonate für Bratsche, eines seiner Lieblingsinstrumente, und Klavier. Stilistisch sind seine Werke, wie auch die vorliegenden 1865 erschienenen *Fünf Impromptus* für Klavier zu vier Händen, an Schumann und Mendelssohn orientiert. Für alle Freunde des vierhändigen Spiels stellen sie eine lohnende musikalische Wiederentdeckung ohne große technische Schwierigkeiten dar.

Karl Ernst Naumann was born as a son of Carl Friedrich Naumann (1797-1873), a professor of geology, in Freiberg (Saxony) in 1832. He was a grandson of the famous Dresden music director and court composer Johann Gottlieb Naumann (1741-1801). After his family moved to Leipzig, he studied with the organist Johann Gottlob Schneider (1789–1864) as well as the future *Thomaskantors* Moritz Hauptmann and Ernst Friedrich Richter. He completed his PhD at Leipzig University with a thesis on the theory of tonal systems. In 1860 he was appointed as music director and organist in Jena, a position he kept for the rest of his life.

Robert Schumann mentioned Naumann in a footnote of his famous article 'Neue Bahnen', which made the young Brahms well-known overnight. In this article, he referred to him as one of the 'new important talents' of that time. Naumann had contacts with many renowned composers of his time, among them Brahms (Naumann conducted the premiere of his *Altrhapsodie*), Liszt, and d'Albert.

Naumann was a tireless editor and transcriber of works of Bach, Mozart, Haydn, and others. His own output as a composer remained small and is mainly restricted to chamber music and songs. Being passionate of the viola, Naumann was the first to publish a sonata for viola and piano in Germany. Stylistically, his works remind of Schumann und Mendelssohn. The present *Five Impromptus* for piano four hands were originally published in 1865. They are a rewarding musical rediscovery without technical difficulties.

Albert von Bezold gewidmet
Fünf Impromptus

**I.
Secondo**

Ernst Naumann
op. 8

Allegretto leggiero.

Piano

5

10

14

18

23

p

cresc.

mf

dim.

p

pp

p cresc.

mf

dim.

p

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I.
Primo

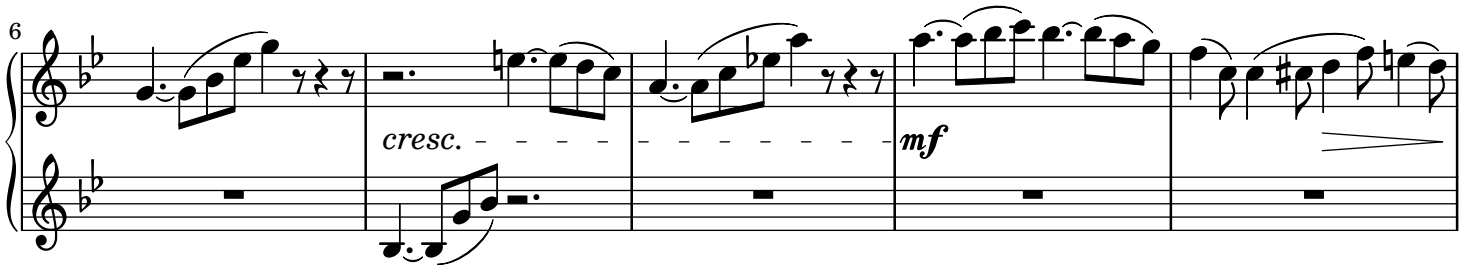
Ernst Naumann
op. 8

Allegretto leggiero.

Piano



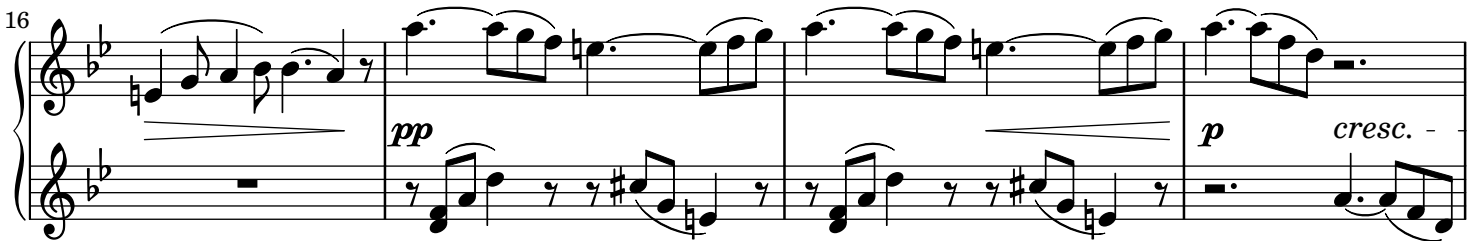
6



11



16



20



24



28

cresc. - - - - - *mf*

33

p

38

cresc. - - - - - *f*

42

dim. - - - - - *p*

46

And. * *dolce*

51

cresc. - - - - - *mf*

56

dim. *poco rallent.* *p* *dolce* *pp*

28

cresc. *mf*

32

dim. *p*

37

cresc. *f*

42

dim. *p* *dolce*

47

p

51

cresc.

55

mf *dim.* *poco rallent.* *p* *pp*

II.
Secondo

Andante con moto.

5

p

cresc. - - - - -

dim. - - - - -

p

espress.

10

cresc. - - - - -

mf

17

p

cresc.

dim.

21

cresc.

mf

dim. - - - - -

p

Detailed description: This is a musical score for piano, consisting of five systems of staves. The first system (measures 1-4) is in 2/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The tempo is marked 'Andante con moto.' The first staff has a treble clef and contains a series of eighth-note chords. The second staff has a bass clef and contains a series of quarter notes. The second system (measures 5-9) starts with a measure number '5'. The first staff has a bass clef and contains a series of eighth-note chords. The second staff has a bass clef and contains a series of quarter notes. The third system (measures 10-16) starts with a measure number '10'. The first staff has a treble clef and contains a series of eighth-note chords. The second staff has a bass clef and contains a series of quarter notes. The fourth system (measures 17-20) starts with a measure number '17'. The first staff has a treble clef and contains a series of eighth-note chords. The second staff has a bass clef and contains a series of quarter notes. The fifth system (measures 21-24) starts with a measure number '21'. The first staff has a treble clef and contains a series of eighth-note chords. The second staff has a bass clef and contains a series of quarter notes. Dynamics include *p* (piano), *cresc.* (crescendo), *dim.* (diminuendo), *mf* (mezzo-forte), and *espress.* (espressivo).

II. Primo

Andante con moto.

First system of the musical score. The right hand (treble clef) plays a melody in 2/4 time, starting with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5, then a half note D5, and finally a quarter note E5. The left hand (bass clef) is mostly silent, with a few notes in the first two measures. Dynamics include *p dolce*, *cresc.*, and *dim.*.

Second system of the musical score, starting at measure 8. The right hand continues the melody with a half note D5, followed by quarter notes E5, F#5, and G5. The left hand plays a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes. Dynamics include *p*.

Third system of the musical score, starting at measure 13. The right hand plays a melody with a half note G5, followed by quarter notes F#5, E5, and D5. The left hand continues the rhythmic accompaniment. Dynamics include *cresc.*, *mf*, and *p*.

Fourth system of the musical score, starting at measure 18. The right hand is mostly silent, with a few notes in the last two measures. The left hand plays a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes. Dynamics include *cresc.*, *mf*, *dim.*, and *p*.

25

cresc. - - - - - *dim.* - - - - -

30

p < > *p*

36

cresc. - - - - - *dim.*

41

p *cresc.* *dim.* *p* *cresc.* - - - - -

48

mf *dim.* - - - *p*

53

pp

25

cresc. - - - - - *dim.* - - - - - *p*

33

p - - - - - *cresc.* - - - - - *dim.*

41

p - - - - - *cresc.* - - - - - *dim.* - - - - - *p*

46

cresc. - - - - - *mf* - - - - - *p dolce*

52

pp

III.

Secondo

Allegro ma non troppo, un poco scherzando

First system of the musical score, measures 1-5. The music is in 6/8 time. The right hand starts with a half note G4, followed by eighth notes A4-B4, C5-B4, A4-G4, and a half note A4. The left hand starts with a half note G3, followed by eighth notes A3-B3, C4-B3, A3-G3, and a half note A3. Dynamics include *mf* at measure 1 and *p* at measure 4.

Second system of the musical score, measures 6-11. The right hand continues with eighth notes and quarter notes, including a triplet of eighth notes in measure 7. The left hand features a steady eighth-note accompaniment. Dynamics include *p* at measure 7 and *pp* at measure 10.

Third system of the musical score, measures 12-18. The right hand has a series of chords and eighth notes. The left hand has a steady eighth-note accompaniment. Dynamics include *pp* at measure 12, *poco rit.* at measure 14, *a Tempo* at measure 15, and *f* at measure 17.

Fourth system of the musical score, measures 19-23. The right hand features a series of eighth notes and quarter notes. The left hand has a steady eighth-note accompaniment. Dynamics include *mf* at measure 19, *p* at measure 21, *cresc.* at measure 22, and *dim.* at measure 23.

Fifth system of the musical score, measures 24-29. The right hand features a series of eighth notes and quarter notes, including a trill in measure 25. The left hand has a steady eighth-note accompaniment. Dynamics include *mfz* at measure 24, *dim.* at measure 26, and *p* at measure 28.

III.

Primo

Allegro ma non troppo, un poco scherzando.

Measures 1-4. Treble and bass staves. Treble staff: *mf*. Bass staff: *mf*.

Measures 5-8. Treble and bass staves. Treble staff: *mf*. Bass staff: *mf*.

Measures 9-13. Treble and bass staves. Treble staff: *p*, *pp*. Bass staff: *p*, *pp*.

Measures 14-18. Treble and bass staves. Treble staff: *poco rit.*, *f a Tempo*. Bass staff: *poco rit.*, *f a Tempo*.

Measures 19-23. Treble and bass staves. Treble staff: *p*. Bass staff: *p*.

Measures 24-28. Treble and bass staves. Treble staff: *mf dim.*, *p*. Bass staff: *mf dim.*, *p*.

30

cresc. - - - - - *mfp*

37

cresc. - - - - - *mf*

42

più cresc. *f* *ff*

48

mf *dim.* - - - - - *p*

30

cresc. - - - - *mfp*

34

8va - - - - *cresc.* - - - -

38

8va - - - - *mf*

44

8va - - - - *più cresc.* - - - - *f* *ff*

49

8va - - - - *mf* *dim.* - - - - *p*

54

p *mf*

61

p

68

pp *poco rit.* *a Tempo* *f*

76

dim. *p* *calando*

54

p *mf*

59

64

p *pp*

69

8va *poco rit.* *f a Tempo*

74

8va *mf* *dim.*

78

8va *p* *pp* *calando* *Red.*

IV.
Secondo

Agitato, con espressione.

p

cresc. - - - - - *mf*

dim. - - - - - *p*

cresc. - - - - - *mf* *dim.* *p*

cresc. *mf* *p*

60

cresc. - - - - *mf*

f

70

poco rit. *a Tempo*

dim. - - - - *p*

80

cresc. - - - - *mf*

90

dim. - - - - *p dolce*

100

cresc.

109

mf *poco rallent.* *dim.* - - - - *pp*

60 *poco rit.*

mf *f* *dim.*

72 *a Tempo*

p

85

cresc. *mf* *dim.*

97

p *cresc.*

109

mf *poco rallent.* *dim.* *pp*

V.

Secondo

Burlesca, alla Marcia.

The musical score is written for piano and bass. It begins with a 2/4 time signature. The first system (measures 1-11) features a bass line with a melody in the right hand. Dynamics include *f*, *sf*, *sf*, and *più f*. The second system (measures 12-22) continues the bass line melody, with dynamics *sf*, *ff*, *sf*, and *f*. The third system (measures 23-34) introduces a treble line with a melody, while the bass line continues. Dynamics include *p* and *f*. The fourth system (measures 35-46) continues the treble line melody, with dynamics *p* and *f*. The fifth system (measures 47-58) concludes the piece, featuring a *dim.* (diminuendo) marking and a final *p* (piano) dynamic.

Burlesca, alla Marcia.

59

p *cresc.*

71

fpp *cresc.*

83

f *sf*

93

sf *p*

105

cresc. *f* *più f* *ff* *sff*

59

3

p

cresc.

3

71

3

f

pp

cresc.

3

83

f

sf

sf

94

p

p

105

cresc.

f

ff

sff

Red.

Red.