

HUMMEL

Mozart's Symphonies Nos. 38 'Prague', 39 and 40

Arranged for Flute, Violin, Cello and Piano

Uwe Grodd • Friedemann Eichhorn
Martin Rummel • Roland Krüger



Johann Nepomuk Hummel (1778–1837)
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)
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arranged by Hummel for flute, violin, cello and piano

In 1786, at the age of eight, Hummel went to live and study with Wolfgang Amadé Mozart in Vienna. During his two years as a lodger in the family's apartment in the Domgasse, he would have listened many times to his teacher singing, humming and trying out the odd phrase from the music composed and performed during those years, which included Mozart's two operatic masterpieces *Le nozze di Figaro* and *Don Giovanni*. On leaving the Mozarts, Hummel began his own career as a virtuoso pianist. His first concert tour was surprisingly successful, lasting some four years. Touring with his father, Johannes Hummel, provided a means of developing and establishing his reputation to an extent unimaginable even to his well-travelled teacher. That touring should become such a major part of Hummel's life was testament to his immense skill as a pianist. He was especially renowned for his breathtaking improvisations. In the middle of one performance, the pealing of church bells resulted in a spontaneous harmonization and an extempore fugue.

At the turn of the century improved road conditions and communication made visiting distant cities easier and touring more reliable. This was just as well for Hummel, as freelancing meant his income was not entirely reliant on the patronage of a single city or court. Nevertheless he did manage to maintain several important court positions between touring schedules. His first permanent post was at the court of Prince Nikolaus Esterházy in Eisenstadt in 1804, supporting Joseph Haydn, who was nearing the end of his career. Despite his having been recommended for the post by Haydn, Hummel's appointment was not entirely successful. His responsibilities included conducting and composing, and during his tenure he wrote five Masses for the Esterházy court, including the *Missa Solemnis* for the wedding of Princess Leopoldina Esterházy in 1806 (Naxos 8.557193). His position provided him with opportunities to conduct several Mozart operas, including *Le nozze di Figaro* sung in German for his début performance, *Die Zauberflöte*, *Der Schauspieldirektor*, and *Die Entführung*

aus dem Serail. Hummel's lack of diplomacy, however, combined with his disregard of dress codes, "loud and pushy" manner and devotion to his own performing career meant his seven years at the Esterházy court were unhappy ones. The Prince even dismissed him after a particularly disastrous Christmas Day performance in 1808 but relented when Haydn asked for him to be reinstated. Some years later, having thrown a lavish and very expensive party in the Prince's absence, Hummel was again sacked, this time without redress.

From 1811 Hummel established himself successfully as a freelance pianist, teacher and composer following in the footsteps of his teacher. His marriage to the opera singer Elisabeth Röckel two years later no doubt added impetus to his second attempt in 1816 at full-time employment. Despite his experiences, his time as *Kapellmeister* in Stuttgart was even more disastrous. Hummel had come highly recommended to the court and was able to dictate his terms of employment, including generous remuneration and being put in sole charge of music at the court. His first performance at Württemberg was conducting a popular opera and met with general approval. Unfortunately King Friedrich, who had hired Hummel, died just one week later and his son Wilhelm was fond of neither music nor Hummel. Baron Karl von Wächter, an incompetent and arrogant former music and theatre director, complained to the King at every opportunity, ensuring that the *Kapellmeister* faced obstacles at every turn. Hummel ended up continually fighting either for his salary or his wife's reputation as a singer. In the end he asked to be released from his contract and, as it became clear he intended leaving regardless, the court dismissed him in 1818.

The following year Hummel finally settled at the Ducal Court at Weimar where he was appointed *Kapellmeister* and continued conducting and composing in this position until his death eighteen years later. Weimar was rich in artistic traditions, particularly art, poetry and music. One of the first appointments Archduke Carl August had made to

his privy council, after acceding to the throne in 1775, was that of poet, artist and politician Johann Wolfgang von Goethe. The court theatre immediately became the central focus of city life and the addition of the new Hoftheater in 1791 ensured the predominance of music. Hummel's dedication of his arrangement of the *Prague Symphony* reads "This Symphony is respectfully dedicated to His Excellency Baron von Goethe, Minister of State to His Royal Highness the Grand Duke of Saxe Weimar by J.N. Hummel".

While in Weimar, Hummel was extremely busy conducting and composing, fulfilling his duties to the Duke, as well as participating in an array of musical activities that brought the court closer to the community. He instigated a series of benefit concerts, which continued after his death, for the widows and orphans of deceased court orchestra members, bringing much needed income to the families of these musicians. He also had the privilege of conducting many famous travelling musicians, including violin virtuoso Nicolò Paganini in a notable concert at the Hoftheater in 1829.

Hummel died a wealthy and famous man, the last of the great Viennese line that embraced Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven. His works fell into obscurity after his death, swept away by changes in musical fashion.

Hummel's triumphs as a conductor, composer and virtuoso pianist did nothing to ease his feelings of obligation and reverence towards Mozart as he arranged his celebrated teacher's most famous works. The commissions from J.R. Schultz in 1823 and 1824 for arrangements of Mozart's symphonies were completed during his time as *Kapellmeister* at the Court of Weimar. Hummel cared deeply for these symphonies and his arrangements demonstrate a profound understanding of Mozart's art. In a review of the London editions of these works, it is stated that Hummel "never bestowed upon any arrangement, not even his own compositions, so much care as upon these symphonies, and he says he did so out of a tribute of respect due to his immortal master". That Hummel might have heard his "immortal master" at the fortepiano writing some of these symphonies nearly four decades earlier makes it clear why these arrangements reveal such heartfelt appreciation and understanding.

The arrangements were lucrative for Hummel, although

pirated copies of his original manuscripts were always a threat. Hummel was suspicious of editions published on the continent. In a letter to a friend he wrote: "How come ... you do not find a single note from an honourable German publisher?" The editions for this recording were made using Hummel's English publications from Chappell and Co (1823-4) for which J.R. Schultz acted as intermediary in London. While England and France had regulations governing copyright, this was not the case in Germany. Hummel's German editions of these works are thought to be pirated copies.

Schultz, who was working as a musician in England at the time, asked that the arrangements make some changes to harmonies and extend or alter cadenzas to suit the "current market". Hummel remained uncomfortable at the thought of tampering with his teacher's works despite the gentle insistence of his friend and fellow composer Ignaz Moscheles. The arrangements for piano, flute, violin and cello saw Hummel give the lion's share of melodies to the piano, with the other instruments frequently accompanying. They also formed part of his repertoire as a soloist on concert tours. He subsequently arranged more than fifty works for piano, flute, violin and cello.

Hummel's respect for Mozart's compositions prevented him from varying a single harmony. He did, however, make many changes to accommodate contemporary tastes, as well as his virtuosity as a pianist. He changed the occasional rhythm to imitate effectively the intensity of orchestral colour, for example, string double stopping or full tutti crescendi. He also made numerous changes to articulations, modernising the dynamics in line with the tastes of the early romantic period, and frequently using indications such as *fortissimo*, *pianissimo*, and *sforzando*. This is something Mozart reserved only for special moments. Hummel constantly inserted crescendos, a common device at the beginning of the nineteenth century but not often found in Mozart's original compositions. The use of ornamentation had also changed dramatically over the years. Hummel's piano treatise asks for all trills to be executed from the note and not from the note above as was common in Mozart's day. Hummel gave every movement a precise metronome marking and, at times, these markings ask for extremely fast tempos. It is not clear whether he conducted the symphonies at these speeds and early

metronomes were not yet reliable. It is obvious, however, that these metronome markings are there to explain Hummel's reading of his teacher's works on the piano. The metronome markings, dynamic changes and accents are all retained in the new edition used for this recording which intends to convey Hummel's unique understanding of these symphonies whilst cleverly imprinting on them his own personality.

One noteworthy difference between Hummel's arrangement of *Symphony No. 40 in G minor* and the original with which we are familiar concerns the inclusion of

eight additional bars in the *Andante*. These eight bars have a fraught history because of confusion in Mozart's original manuscript. They appear to have been written by Mozart at a later date but until recently it has been unclear what was intended. We know now that "the eight revised bars in the slow movement are not to be understood as an alternative version of the text but ... as a replacement for the original." (Eisen, 1997.) The replacement eight bars are included in the first Chappell and Co print, as well as in the edition used here.

Uwe Grodd



Uwe Grodd

The New Zealand based German flautist and conductor Uwe Grodd first gained worldwide recognition when he won First Prize at the Cannes Classical Awards 2000 for the *Best Eighteenth Century Orchestral Recording* with his CD of *Symphonies* by J.B. Vanhal (8.554341). Two recordings of music by Hummel have received Editor's Choice in the *Gramophone* magazine (2004/2008). His recording of the complete works for piano and orchestra of Beethoven's longstanding friend Ferdinand Ries (1784-1838) with Christopher Hinterhuber began in 2003 and in 2013 the final volume received the IRR Outstanding accolade from *International Record Review*. Performance highlights include eight concerts with the Mexico City Philharmonic, televised open-air concerts of the 53rd and the 54th Handel Festival in Halle, with a choir of 280 voices and the State Philharmonic Orchestra. These were followed by a highly successful season in the Halle Opera House of Handel's opera *Imeneo*. Grodd has been involved in more than fifty commissions and conducted the premières of the New Zealand operas *Len Lye: The Opera*, by Eve de Castro-Robinson and Roger Horrocks, and *Galileo* by John Rimmer and Witi Ihimaera. From 1998 until 2002 he was Artistic Director of the New Zealand International Music Festival. A graduate of Mainz University, Germany, he studied with teachers of international repute, including André Jaunet, Robert Aitken and Sergiu Celibidache. Uwe Grodd is Professor of Flute and Conducting at the University of Auckland, New Zealand, and has made the editions of quartets for flute and strings by J. B. Vanhal (8.570234) and Ferdinand Ries's works for flute and piano (8.572038).

The orchestral parts and scores of the following works are available from:

www.artaria.com

Sources

The sources upon which the editions used in this recording have been made are:

W. A. Mozart: Symphony No. 38 in D major, 'Prague', K. 504, arr. J. N. Hummel

Edited by Uwe Grodd – Artaria Editions AE546
Chappell and Co. print [London, 1823-4]:
London, The British Library (h.408)

W. A. Mozart: Symphony No. 39 in E flat major, K. 543, arr. J. N. Hummel

Edited by Uwe Grodd – Artaria Editions AE548
Chappell and Co. print [London, 1823-4]:
London, The British Library (h.408)

W. A. Mozart: Symphony No. 40 in G minor, K. 550, arr. J. N. Hummel

Edited by Uwe Grodd – Artaria Editions AE547
Chappell and Co. print [London, 1823-4]:
London, The British Library (h.408)



Photo: Guido Werner

Friedemann Eichhorn

Born in Münster in 1971, Friedemann Eichhorn appears as a soloist throughout Europe with distinguished orchestras and conductors, and as a chamber musician he has collaborated with Yuri Bashmet, Gidon Kremer and Boris Pergamenschikov. He records extensively for Naxos (including the complete Pierre Rode *Violin Concertos* and works by François Servais with Alexander Hülshoff), and for Hänssler Classics, Oehms and Claves. A professor at the Liszt School of Music in Weimar, he regularly gives master-classes at the Salzburg Mozarteum, and is director of the International Louis Spohr Competition. An alumnus of Kronberg Academy, Friedemann Eichhorn has directed Kronberg Academy Master Studies since 2012, and is a member of the International Chamber Music Academy Villa Musica. He studied with Valery Gradow in Mannheim, Alberto Lysy at the International Menuhin Music Academy in Switzerland and Margaret Pardee at The Juilliard School in New York, and was greatly influenced by Saschko Gawriloff. Friedemann Eichhorn holds a doctoral degree in Musicology from the University of Mainz (with a dissertation on Gidon Kremer), contributes entries to dictionaries, and researches and edits music for Schott-Verlag and others. He plays the violin by Jean-Baptiste Vuillaume "Ex Huberman". For further information, please visit : www.friedemannreichhorn.com.



Martin Rummel

After early lessons from Wilfried Tachezi and a soloist's diploma from what is today the Anton Bruckner Privatuniversität, where he was its youngest graduate ever at the time, Martin Rummel continued his studies with Maria Kliegel in Cologne, as well as with William Pleeth in London, whose last pupil he was to become. Aged only sixteen, he worked with composer Alfred Schnittke. He has also collaborated with other composers including Jörn Arnecke, Howard Blake, Sofia Gubaidulina, Rudolf Kelterborn, Matthias Pintscher, Thomas Daniel Schlee and Graham Whettam. His repertoire now includes some forty cello concertos, ranging from the baroque to the present. Born in 1974, Martin Rummel is based in Vienna and is a highly active soloist and chamber musician. He teaches cello at the University of Auckland (New Zealand) and has received worldwide recognition for his editions of all the major cello études, with accompanying CDs, published between 2004 and 2008 by Bärenreiter-Verlag. He uses strings by Thomastik-Infeld, Vienna.

www.martinrummel.com



Roland Krüger

First prize winner of the prestigious Concours de Genève in 2001, Roland Krüger regularly performs in important international venues such as the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, the Palais des Beaux-Arts in Brussels, the Victoria Hall in Geneva, the Brucknerhaus in Linz and the Musikhalle in Hamburg. As a soloist he has worked with orchestras such as the Orchestre National de Belgique, the NDR Radio-Philharmonie Hannover, the Basler Sinfonie-Orchester and the Orchestre de la Suisse Romande under conductors including Dennis Russell Davies, Fabio Luisi, Eiji Oue and Marc Soustrot. He studied with Karl-Heinz Kämmerling, Oleg Maisenberg and Krystian Zimerman and is today a professor of piano at the Hanover University of Music. Besides his solo activities, he is a passionate chamber musician, collaborating with distinguished artists all over the world. Roland Krüger has recorded the Debussy *Etudes* for Ars Musici, as well as Schubert, Bartók and Janáček for paladino music. For more information, please visit **www.rolandkrueger.com**.

Hummel stands as the last in the great Viennese line which embraced Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven. He lived and studied with Mozart in his youth and, despite a career which saw him triumph as a conductor, composer and virtuoso pianist, Hummel never lost his reverence for his celebrated teacher. Intensified through changes in dynamics and the addition of extra accents, these stunningly effective arrangements preserve the integrity of Mozart's masterpieces while demonstrating a heartfelt appreciation and understanding of the greatest symphonies of his "immortal master".



**Wolfgang Amadeus
MOZART**
(1756–1791)

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**Johann Nepomuk
HUMMEL**
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Symphony No. 38 in D major,		6 Minuetto: Allegro	3:57
'Prague', K. 504 (AE 546) 25:39		7 Finale: Allegro assai	4:41
1 Adagio – Allegro	12:50	Symphony No. 39 in E flat	
2 Andante	7:29	major, K. 543 (AE 548) 26:11	
3 Presto	5:19	8 Adagio – Allegro	9:55
Symphony No. 40 in G minor,		9 Andante	7:43
K. 550 (AE 547) 23:33		10 Minuetto: Allegretto	3:00
4 Allegro molto	7:43	11 Finale: Allegro	5:33
5 Andante	7:12		

Uwe Grodd, Flute • Friedemann Eichhorn, Violin
Martin Rummel, Cello • Roland Krüger, Piano

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