

Ph.D. Thesis

Abstract

Piano Concerto in G Minor, op. 33, by Antonín Dvořák –

Early and Final Version

Critical Edition of the Score // Study about the Origin, the First Printing and the Performance Practice

The dissertation is focused on the Concerto for Piano by Antonín Dvořák from 1876 – an outstanding composition not only in the Czech milieu but in all the European context as well – , which was a very long time condemned for its „unsuitable“ piano part.

The thesis summarizes all existing knowledge of the history of the origins and reception of the Dvořák's Piano Concerto, which is further verified on the basis of written contemporary sources (Dvořák's correspondence and contemporary press, sometimes yet unknown). Distorted and false pieces of information are corrected and supplemented with new findings (relating to the performances, interpreters, arrangements). Thanks to them, the author presents a new sight of the history of the reception of this composition from inception until the beginning of present century.

For the first time all musical sources are examined in detail and relations between them studied (autograph with revisions between years 1876–1883, a copy of the score, which Leoš Janáček let made in 1878/9 and materials of the first printing J. Hainauer from 1883). Then author draws attention to shortcomings in the edition published in 1956 (Antonín Dvořák Society, Prague) and in volumes II and III of the dissertation presents editorial manuscripts of the new critical edition - both definitive version of 1883, and the recently discovered, yet unpublished early version from 1878/9 of the Piano concerto. This Critical Edition of the Dvořák's work represents for the first time after the first publishing in 1883 an undistorted form of the work and makes the early version accessible, that allows to researchers further examination of the compositional process of Antonín Dvořák.