

Haydn Triptychon

Franz Joseph Haydn/Nikolaus Fheodoroff

Trio No. 1 in E-flat Major, Hob. IV

Trio No. 2 in E-flat Major, Hob. IV

Trio No. 3 in B-flat Major, Hob. IV

The three trios written for clarinet *d'amour*, violin and *basso* are the only known pieces of Haydn that assign a solo part to the clarinet. They were first listed in the Breikopf and Härtel catalog of 1781 and in a subsequent catalog of 1836. There is no known score of the trios, and copies of the part, with many errors, were stored in the Christienweise Library in Zittau. The present edition is based on the only source: hand-copied parts of the three trios which are now located in the Sachiesche Library in Dresden.

These short trios of divertimento character are simple pieces, probably intended as *Hausmusik* for the evening's *Hauskonzert*. They are written for an instrument of the same tonality as the B-flat clarinet. The clarinet *d'amour* was popular in the eighteenth century but today is only found in public and private museum collections. It was probably constructed to resemble the oboe *d'amore*, for the bell of the instrument was pear shaped and the bore small, which accounted for the mellower, softer, and more plaintive tone of the instrument.

The *basso* line has been realized by Nikolaus Fheodoroff at the request of the Verdehr Trio.

Nikolaus Fheodoroff (1931–2011) was an Austrian composer, conductor, pianist, and sound engineer. He studied composition and music theory with Felix Petyrek and Alfred Uhl, conducting with Hans Swarowsky, and organ with Alois Forer at the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna. He had German studies with Dietrich Kralik, Hans Rupprich, and Wilhelm Meister at the University of Vienna.

Fheodoroff was a founding member of the ORF-Musikredaktion and served at its chairman for thirty years. He was also led the music department of the ORF State Studio, Carinthia for twenty-seven years. He worked as a manager of the Salzburg Festival, as a consultant to the Austrian Composers' Union, and as a board member of the International Society for New Music. From 1980–2010, he was chairman of the Carinthischer Sommer Music Festival.