

# Concerto per Flicornobasso

Op. 155, PP.143.11

Amilcare Ponchielli  
ed. Henry Howey

Since its return to the repertoire many questions about its existence have arisen. Among them are the circumstances of its creation. The autograph score has a curious scribble that obscures/corrects its date to 1872. One can state that there is an autograph program that (supposedly) places its first performance on Sunday, March 17, 1872 in the Piazza Roma in Cremona. However, there are also newspaper listings for three more concerts, all in the Piazza Roma. This is a never before seen occurrence and suggests that the performance was delayed for an unknown cause.

A further mystery is that no name for a soloist can be found in archival records. Though a band roster for 1872 exists, no names are listed. The position of *flicornobasso* was not filled in 1865 as the audition winner refused the position. A name surfaces in an 1865 diary, but there is no official confirmation of this person in the band.

The articulations and phrase markings are drawn from the autograph score. In measures 111 and 123, Ponchielli does intend for the soloist to phrase at the barline. This is merely another instance of the operatic roots of this piece.

This latest piano version is based upon Ponchielli's own piano-to-band version of his duet for clarinets, *Il Convegno*. Thus it is "back-engineered" as though Ponchielli himself might have done it.

Perhaps the closest modern instrument to Ponchielli's *flicornobasso* is the modern British baritone. Ponchielli treats the *flicornobasso* exclusively as the tenor voice in his many opera settings. The companion *bombardino* is always the bass/baritone voice; thus its modern equivalent would be the British euphonium.

# Concerto per Flicornobasso

Op. 155, PP.143.11

Amilcare Ponchielli  
(1834-86)  
ed. Howey

Allegro non tanto

34

The musical score consists of ten staves of bassoon music. Staff 1 (measures 35-37) starts with a dynamic **f**. Staff 2 (measures 40-42) also starts with a dynamic **f**. Staff 3 (measures 44-46) shows measure numbers 44 and 45. Staff 4 (measures 48-50) shows measure number 48. Staff 5 (measures 53-55) shows measure number 53. Staff 6 (measures 56-58) shows measure number 56. Staff 7 (measures 59-61) shows measure number 59.

Measures 35-37: Bassoon plays eighth-note patterns with grace notes, dynamic **f**.

Measures 40-42: Bassoon plays eighth-note patterns with grace notes, dynamic **f**.

Measures 44-46: Bassoon plays eighth-note patterns with grace notes, dynamic **f**.

Measures 48-50: Bassoon plays eighth-note patterns with grace notes, dynamic **f**.

Measures 53-55: Bassoon plays eighth-note patterns with grace notes, dynamic **f**.

Measures 56-58: Bassoon plays eighth-note patterns with grace notes, dynamic **f**.

Measures 59-61: Bassoon plays eighth-note patterns with grace notes, dynamic **f**.

## Concerto per Flicornobasso

3

The sheet music consists of eight staves of bassoon (Flicornobasso) music. The key signature is one flat, and the time signature varies between common time and 3/4. Measure numbers 62, 65, 68, 71, 74, 77, 79, and 81 are indicated at the beginning of each staff. The music features various note heads, stems, and beams, with some notes having dots or dashes indicating performance techniques like grace notes or slurs. Measure 81 begins with the instruction "Allegro vivo". Measures 82 through 85 show a transition with measure 82 labeled "15", measure 83 labeled "[Moderato]", and measure 84 labeled "3". Measure 85 concludes with a measure number "8".

# Concerto per Flicornobasso

4

Allegretto moderato

108

*mp*

112

116

*rall.*

120

*a tempo*

124

128

Variazione 1a

132

135

Concerto per Flicornobasso

5

Musical score for page 5, featuring three staves of bassoon music. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). Measure 138 consists of six measures of eighth-note patterns. Measure 139 begins with a single eighth note followed by six measures of eighth-note patterns. Measure 140 concludes the section.

141

Musical score for page 5, measure 141. The bassoon plays a continuous eighth-note pattern across the entire measure.

144

Musical score for page 5, measures 144-146. The bassoon plays a eighth-note pattern with dynamic markings: *cromatica*, *rall.*, and *a tempo*. Measure 146 ends with a half note.

147

Musical score for page 5, measure 150. The bassoon plays a eighth-note pattern across the entire measure.

150

Musical score for page 5, measure 153. The bassoon plays a eighth-note pattern across the entire measure.

153

[Allegro]

15

Musical score for page 5, measure 156. The bassoon rests throughout the measure.

156

## Concerto per Flicornobasso

## Variazione 2a



171

Musical score for Variazione 2a, measures 173-174. The bass clef is used. Measures 173 and 174 show sixteenth-note patterns with some eighth-note figures. The dynamic *rall.* (rallentando) is indicated above the staff in measure 174.

173

Musical score for Variazione 2a, measures 175-176. The bass clef is used. Measures 175 and 176 show sixteenth-note patterns with some eighth-note figures. The dynamic *a tempo* is indicated above the staff in measure 175.

175

Musical score for Variazione 2a, measures 177-178. The bass clef is used. Measures 177 and 178 show sixteenth-note patterns with some eighth-note figures.

177

Musical score for Variazione 2a, measures 179-180. The bass clef is used. Measures 179 and 180 show sixteenth-note patterns with some eighth-note figures.

179

Musical score for Variazione 2a, measures 181-182. The bass clef is used. Measures 181 and 182 show sixteenth-note patterns with some eighth-note figures. The dynamic *oppure* (or) is indicated above the staff in measure 181.

181

## Concerto per Flicornobasso

7

Musical score for page 7, measures 183-184. The score consists of two staves for bassoon. Measure 183 starts with a sixteenth-note pattern followed by eighth-note pairs. Measure 184 continues with eighth-note pairs and includes dynamic markings '3' and '(b)'.

185

Musical score for page 7, measure 185. The bassoon plays eighth-note pairs with dynamic '3' markings.

186

Musical score for page 7, measure 186. The bassoon plays eighth-note pairs with dynamic '6' markings, followed by a dynamic 'rall.' (rallentando).

187

Musical score for page 7, measure 187. The bassoon plays eighth-note pairs with dynamic '6' markings, followed by a dynamic '3' marking.

189

Musical score for page 7, measure 189. The bassoon plays eighth-note pairs with dynamic '6' markings, followed by a dynamic 'rall.' (rallentando) marking.

191

Musical score for page 7, measure 191. The bassoon plays eighth-note pairs with dynamic '6' markings, followed by a dynamic '6' marking.

193

Musical score for page 7, measure 193. The bassoon plays eighth-note pairs with dynamic '6' markings, followed by a dynamic '(b)' marking.

## Concerto per Flicornobasso

[Allegro]

15

195

## Variazione 3a

210

212

*a tempo*

214

216

218

220

## Concerto per Flicornobasso

9

*a tempo*

3

222

3

224

225

3

226

rall.

3

6

228

*a tempo*

230

6

6

6

***ff***

232

10

## Concerto per Flicornobasso

Allegro

**14**

234

Meno

248

251

253

255

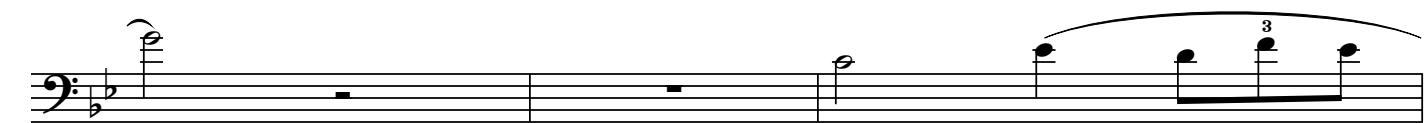
256

262

266

## Concerto per Flicornobasso

11



271



274

Poco mosso



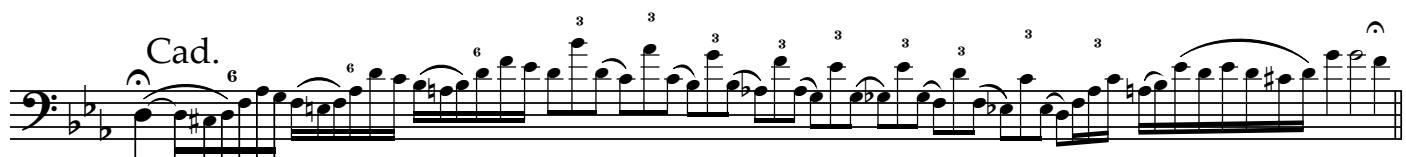
279



284



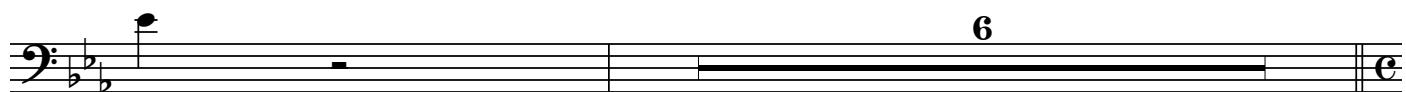
292



295

Moderato

6



296

## Concerto per Flicornobasso

12

Allegro

303

306

309

311

313

315

317

319

321

325

