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Twelve Duets

FOR

TWO VIOLONCELLOS

With

Some Observations on, and Rules for Violoncello Playing

Dedicated

TO ALL



Gentlemen Lovers of the Violoncello

By

J. G. C. Schetky

Op. VII

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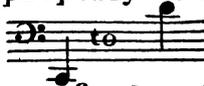
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Some **OBSERVATIONS** on
and
Rules for **VIOLONCELLO** Playing

ALTHO' the VIOLONCELLO has of late been brought to a degree of perfection unknown before, and is now the Object of many rising Geniuses, yet I think there is a want of instructive Music for that Instrument — It may be asserted that every Bass part of a well composed piece of Music is a proper Lesson for the Violoncello, and this is true when the Performer is enabled to play a part along with others, but if he be not capable of doing this, I really think that a plain Bass is too tedious and insipid for a Beginner and rather tends to discourage than entice him to proceed.

Since particular pieces of Music, the Airs of which are easily caught by the ear, are given to every beginner on other Instruments, the Violoncello may surely claim the same privilege and advantage; for pieces of this kind will not only induce him to practice, but will quicken and improve his ear by making him sensible whether he stops in tune or not.

I am at the same time however of Opinion, that very few Bass Players will make good Accompanyists if they have not a tolerable notion of fingering or playing a first part, Accompaniment should be the first Object of a Violoncellist, the Instrument being principally invented and intended for that purpose, and as such it cannot properly be wanted; for which reason I would advise every lover of it to play the Gamut from  in long and slow Notes, taking care to draw the Bow in an equal line across the String, so that the sound may be equally strong from the beginning to the end, by this method he will not only learn to draw the full tone from the Instrument, but he will likewise be able to increase or diminish it according to the nature of the Composition.

I really believe that the visible want of good Accompaniers is to be attributed to the neglect of this method, for every Violoncellist ought to be thoroughly acquainted with that part of the Instrument necessary for Accompaniment before he begins to play in the Tenor Cliff, whereas every young Beginner generally aims at playing in Altissimo, before he can play with propriety the lower notes of the Instrument.

A well played Solo on the Violoncello, is doubtless agreeable and delightful, but let the Solo player be ever so eminent, as such, he will fall considerably in the estimation of all real Connoisseurs when they find that he is not a good Accompanyer; and indeed the Audience would soon be fatigued if the performance consisted only in Solos or Concertos. A Violoncellist should be very Attentive in all full pieces; keeping his eyes on his own part and giving his ears to

that of his leader. The first Violin generally leads the whole Band, and ought to be followed by every one, but particularly by the first Violoncello; for if these two keep close together, the other parts in case of error will soon find their place again, As the second Violin often comes in with the first, and the Tenor with the Bass in the same passage, except in intricate pieces purposely Composed for four parts, and then every one ought to attend particularly to his own part.

The following Rules will I hope be found useful in playing the Violoncello.

- 1st Make yourself Master of the lower Notes of the Instrument as being principally necessary, for when you begin to play higher you will find that when the position of the Thumb comes in, it usually keeps on for a whole passage, and a Sensible, Judicious Composer, who is acquainted with the Instrument will take care to give the Performer an opportunity of Shifting from one place to another.
- 2^d Keep the longer Notes to their full extent without dragging, and play the shorter Notes with a precise distinctness, without Accelerating the time.
- 3^d Be attentive to your Leader or first part and mark the different degrees of expression, Viz: Pianissimo, Piano, Forte, Fortissimo, &c, &c,

If these rules are practised and attended to, you will soon become an able Accompanyer, and certainly an able Accompanyer is, and ought to be as much esteemed as a good Solo player, for to become the first, it requires equal if not superior Judgement to the latter.

I think it proper to mention that I have often observed a first Violin Performer though a very able Master, would never follow the other parts when they had a Solo in their turn in Trios, Quartettos or Quintettos, but under the pretence of maintaining the privilege of a Leader, often play too loud, and either Accelerated or retarded the time by which means he not only prevented the then first part from giving the proper expression, but also spoiled the production of good and able Composers.

A first Violin ought to be equally accurate both in leading and following the other parts, his privilege as a Leader ceases, as soon as any other part comes in with a Solo, during which he ought to consider himself as the chief follower, and keep up the rest of the Band, so as to support the Solo player; for Accompaniment in general is supporting the first part, and helping to make his performance easy, and at the same time producing Conjunctively an effect, which otherwise could not be accomplished.

I shall now beg leave to lay before the Publick the following Duettos, which I have Composed for the use and Improvement of all Lovers of the Violoncello, and it will afford me no small Satisfaction to hear that they have been of service to any Performer

on that Instrument - This was my view in composing them, and I do not pretend to recommend them any further than the answering that purpose, And I shall think myself extremely happy, that if from this publication, a hint may be furnished to some more able Master to enrich the Musical World with a complete Treatise on Violoncello playing.

Duetts for Two Violoncellos ought to be played with greater attention and Judgement, than Duetts for higher tuned Instruments, because when both play passages in the lower Compass of the Violoncello, if they are not played with a particular Accuracy and distinctness, nothing can be heard but an unintelligible Jargon - He who plays the Accompanying part, whether in the first or second part, should be careful to avoid playing too loud, because he will not only drown the Melody, but prevent the other Performer from doing Justice to the expression.

Whoever practises the Gamut in long and slow Notes as I have before observed, will be able with great facility to play distinctly the Piano; for it is a mistaken notion to suppose that a quick passage cannot be played distinctly or with proper Expression, unless it be play'd loud.

I advise the Learners who may have occasion to practise these Duetts to play the first part according to the Rules already laid down, twice or thrice with their Master, and then take the second part, which they should adhere to, until they can do it properly; and afterwards they will be enabled to play the first part almost to perfection.

In the three last Duetts there are some positions with the Thumb, which after the Learner can play well, the preceding Nine Duetts, will be found not very difficult, as I have taken care to make the Shift, in general easy and convenient to the hand and Instrument.

If I should be so happy as to find this Attempt favorably received by the Public, and that no other Master shall undertake a Treatise on the same Subject, I shall in the course of time, endeavour to the utmost of my Abilities to point out to the curious how they may proceed to accomplish themselves as Performers on the Violoncello.

VIOLONCELLO PRIMO

1,

DUETTO I

Larghetto

Allegro

VIOLONCELLO PRIMO

DUETTO II

Largo

Poco f

rin

rin

Poco f

f

p

rin

p

rin

Allegretto

Fine

Minore

D. C.

VIOLONCELLO PRIMO

DUETTO III

Maestoso

p *cres* *f* *w*

p *fr* *f* *w*

Andantino

p *f* *w*

f *w*

p *w*

f *w*

Minore

f *w*

D.C.

VIOLONCELLO PRIMO

Andante e Softenu.^{to}

DUETTO IV

The first part of the score consists of five staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and a common time signature. The music is written in a single voice for the cello. It features a series of eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together, with various articulations such as slurs and accents. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat signs.

Tempo di
Menuet

The second part of the score consists of seven staves of music. It begins with a treble clef, a key signature of two flats, and a 3/4 time signature. The music is written in a single voice for the cello. It features a series of eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together, with various articulations such as slurs and accents. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat signs.

VIOLONCELLO PRIMO

DUETTO V

Allegro

The first section of the score consists of ten staves of music. It begins with a treble clef, a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#), and a common time signature (C). The tempo is marked 'Allegro'. The music features a complex rhythmic pattern with many sixteenth and thirty-second notes, often beamed together. There are several slurs and accents throughout. The section concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Tempo di
Menuet

The second section, 'Tempo di Menuet', starts with a treble clef, a key signature of two sharps, and a 3/4 time signature. It consists of six staves of music. The tempo is significantly slower than the first section. The music is characterized by a steady, rhythmic accompaniment with frequent slurs and accents. The first staff includes the dynamic marking 'p' and the word 'rin' (rincrescendo) written below the notes. The section ends with a double bar line.

VIOLONCELLO PRIMO

DUETTO VI

All.^o ma non troppo

The first section of the score is written for Violoncello Primo in 3/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked 'All.^o ma non troppo'. The music is characterized by intricate sixteenth-note patterns and slurs. Dynamics include piano (*p*), forte (*f*), and accents (*acc.*). A 'rin' (ritardando) marking is present in the third staff. The section concludes with a double bar line and repeat signs.

Allegretto

$\frac{2}{4}$

The second section of the score is written for Violoncello Primo in 2/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked 'Allegretto'. The music features rhythmic patterns with slurs and accents. Dynamics include piano (*p*) and forte (*f*). The section concludes with a double bar line and repeat signs.

VIOLONCELLO PRIMO

DUETTO VIII

Moderato e con forza

The first section of the score is marked 'Moderato e con forza'. It consists of ten staves of music. The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The music features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. There are several triplet markings (indicated by a '3' above the notes) and dynamic markings such as 'p' (piano) and 'f' (forte). The section concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Andante
Grazioso

The second section of the score is marked 'Andante Grazioso'. It consists of ten staves of music. The key signature changes to two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature changes to 6/8. The music is characterized by a slower tempo and a more lyrical, graceful quality. It includes dynamic markings such as 'p' (piano), 'sf' (sforzando), 'mf' (mezzo-forte), and 'dim' (diminuendo). The section ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

VIOLONCELLO PRIMO

DUETTO IX

Allegro Softenuto *p*

The first system of the Duetto IX score consists of six staves. The first staff is the treble clef, and the subsequent five are bass clefs. The music is in 3/4 time and begins with a key signature of one flat. It features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together. Dynamic markings such as *p* (piano), *f* (forte), and *rin* (ritardando) are used throughout. The system concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Minuetto

$\frac{3}{4}$

The Minuetto section begins with a 3/4 time signature. The first system contains four staves. The music is characterized by a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the lower staves and more melodic lines in the upper staves. Dynamics range from *p* to *f*. The system ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Trio

$\frac{3}{4}$

The Trio section starts with a key signature of two sharps and a 3/4 time signature. The first system consists of four staves. The music features a consistent eighth-note accompaniment. Dynamics are marked with *p* and *f*. The system concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

DUETTO X

Allegro

The first part of the score consists of two staves of music. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The tempo is marked 'Allegro'. The music features a variety of dynamics including *h* (hairpins), *p* (piano), *f* (forte), and *fmo* (fortissimo). The notation includes eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together, and rests. There are several repeat signs and first/second endings throughout the section.

Grazioso

The second part of the score is marked 'Grazioso' and features a 3/4 time signature. It continues with two staves of music. The key signature remains one sharp (F#). The dynamics include *h*, *p*, *f*, and *fmo*. The notation includes eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together, and rests. There are several repeat signs and first/second endings throughout the section.

VIOLONCELLO PRIMO

DUETTO XI

Andante

ad lib.^o

A tempo

Adagio

Allegretto

Adagio

VIOLONCELLO PRIMO

DUETTO XII

Moderato

This musical score is for the first violin part of a duet. It is written in 3/4 time and begins with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The tempo is marked 'Moderato'. The score consists of 12 staves of music. The first staff contains the title 'DUETTO XII' and the tempo 'Moderato'. The music features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. There are several triplet markings (indicated by a '3' above the notes) and dynamic markings such as 'p' (piano) and 'f' (forte). The score includes various articulation marks, such as slurs and accents, and a repeat sign with first and second endings. The key signature changes to two flats (B-flat and E-flat) in the middle of the piece. The piece concludes with a final cadence.

VIOLONCELLO PRIMO

The first system consists of three staves. The top staff features a melodic line with eighth-note patterns and slurs. The middle and bottom staves provide harmonic accompaniment with similar rhythmic motifs. The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 2/4.

Allegretto

The second system begins with the tempo marking 'Allegretto' and a 2/4 time signature. The music continues with eighth-note patterns and slurs. A dynamic marking of *p* (piano) is present below the staff.

The third system continues the musical piece with eighth-note patterns and slurs. A dynamic marking of *p* is visible below the staff.

The fourth system continues the musical piece with eighth-note patterns and slurs. A dynamic marking of *p* is visible below the staff.

The fifth system continues the musical piece with eighth-note patterns and slurs. A dynamic marking of *p* is visible below the staff.

The sixth system continues the musical piece with eighth-note patterns and slurs. A dynamic marking of *p* is visible below the staff.

The seventh system continues the musical piece with eighth-note patterns and slurs. A dynamic marking of *p* is visible below the staff.

The eighth system continues the musical piece with eighth-note patterns and slurs. A dynamic marking of *p* is visible below the staff.

The ninth system continues the musical piece with eighth-note patterns and slurs. A dynamic marking of *f* (forte) is visible below the staff.

The tenth system continues the musical piece with eighth-note patterns and slurs. A dynamic marking of *f* is visible below the staff.

The eleventh system concludes the musical piece with eighth-note patterns and slurs. A dynamic marking of *f* is visible below the staff.