No. 59 Sonata

for E^b Tenor Horn or French Horn & Piano

Marcello Benedetto edited Sandy Smith

- 1. Largo
- 2. Allegro
- 3. Largo
- 4. Presto

Code Schwierigkeitsgrad code degré de difficulté code degree of difficulty

C = medium



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The Sandy Smith Collection

Tenor Horn players have always suffered from a lack of quality Solo repertoire, both composed and arranged. Much of the "borrowed" repertoire which has been taken from music originally for other instruments, has come to the Tenor Horn player in adaptations which has left them contending with either unsuitable key signatures and/or music sitting in a tessitura which is uncharacteristic of the instrument. One thinks particularly of adaptations of Orchestral Horn music and Solo Editions supplied with both E^b and B^b Solo copies where the E^b copy is provided with little thought to its suitability for the instrument.

This collection of Solo repertoire is an attempt, at least in part, to address this problem and provide the Tenor Horn player with quality Solos in a range of styles which have been thought out with the specific characteristics of the instrument in mind.

Benedetto Marcello

Marcello was born in Venice in 1686. He trained as a lawyer and held important sate posts outside the music profession. He was a violinist, singer and poet as well as a composer of Opera, Oratorios, Cantatas and Instrumental Concertos. His brother Alessandro (1669-1747) was also a composer. Benedetto Marcello died in Brescia in 1739.

Sonata

This sonata was originally number one of a set of sonatas for "Cello and Continuo". These sonatas have been borowwed by various instruments, among them the Trombone and the Bassoon – testament to the quality of their melodic invention and rhythmic verve. The original keiy was F major which for this transcription I have changed to the key of concert Bb major, this being a mor suitable key for the Eb Tenor Horn as a solo instrument.

The opening Largo should have a stately simplicity with care taken to avoid a too "romantic" interpretation. Be careful with the tempo of the following Allegro. Clarity and style should not be sacrificed for speed. Pay particular attention to dynamic detail. The next Largo should again be stately and not too romantic. Aim for a full open sound here. The concluding Presto should be full of life and energy with clarity and style taking precedence over speed. Variety of articulation and attention to dynamic detail can help greatly in creating the correct style.

As with all music originally conceived for other instruments, the performer is strongly advised to acquaint themselves with as many different recorded versions as possible in order to inform their own interpretation and as a useful way to gain an insight into the many ways the music can be interpreted.

Sonata (Eb Tenor Horn & Piano)

Benedetto Marcello edited by Sandy Smith









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