

Hunters Chorus from "Freischütz"

Alto Saxophone

CARL MARIA VON WEBER (1786-1826)
Arr. by Sigurd Rascher

The musical score is written for Alto Saxophone in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. It begins with the tempo marking "Lively". The first staff starts with a whole rest followed by a quarter rest, then a quarter note G4, and continues with a series of eighth and sixteenth notes. Dynamic markings include *mf* (mezzo-forte) at the beginning, *p* (piano) in the fourth staff, and *mf* in the fifth staff. A *cresc.* (crescendo) marking is present in the sixth staff. The piece concludes with a final cadence in the eighth staff.

Carl Maria von Weber's romantic Opera "Der Freischütz" (The Free Hunter) was completed in 1821 and first performed in that year in Berlin, Germany. The "Hunters Chorus" is a joyful piece of music, thought to be played on the hunting-horn, a forerunner of our french horn. In Germany this instrument is called "Waldhorn", literally meaning forest horn!

As conductor of the opera in Dresden, it was Weber who first used a baton (conductor's stick).