

String Quartet No. 2
in D minor

by

Alexander von Zemlinsky

Op. 15

Full Score

Alexander Zemlinsky was born in 1871 in Vienna and died in 1942 in Larchmont, N. Y. He studied at the Vienna Conservatory: piano with A. Door, counterpoint with F. Krenn and R. Fuchs and composition with J. N. Fuchs. Apart from his duties as conductor at various operetta-theatres in Vienna, Zemlinsky devoted his remaining time to composition. He was greatly encouraged by Johannes Brahms with whom he was friendly and during this time numerous works of his were performed. Zemlinsky also directed the orchestral society "Polyhymnia" of which Arnold Schoenberg, who played the cello, was a member. Schoenberg became Zemlinsky's pupil in composition; later he married Zemlinsky's sister. In 1906 Rainer Simons engaged Zemlinsky as principal conductor of the newly founded Vienna Volksoper. In 1908 Gustav Mahler called him to the Hofoper, but Zemlinsky returned a year later to the Volksoper. In 1911 he became director of opera at the Deutsches Landestheater in Prague. There too he was appointed in 1920 dean of the Deutsche Musikakademie, which had just been established. For four years from 1927 he worked at the Kroll Oper in Berlin, then returned again to Vienna and emigrated in 1938 to the USA.

Zemlinsky was firstly a composer of operas. He was awarded the Luitpold Prize in 1896 for his first opera "Sarema". His second opera "Es war einmal", was performed most successfully by Gustav Mahler at the Vienna Hofoper in 1900. There followed "Traumgörge", "Kleider machen Leute" (1911, at the Vienna Volksoper), "Eine Florentinische Tragödie" (Stuttgart, 1916), "Der Zwerg" (Cologne, 1922) and "Der Kreidekreis" (Zurich, 1933). Apart from these operatic works Zemlinsky composed numerous vocal works: among them the "Lyrische Symphonie" for soprano and baritone with orchestra based on poems by R. Tagore; two psalms; songs both with orchestral accompaniment and with piano. Of his instrumental works two symphonies, a sinfonietta and four string quartets deserve to be mentioned.

The Second String Quartet Op. 15 was composed in 1915 and was first performed in 1924 in Vienna by the Rosé-Quartet.

sfz

ff

Ruhig.

dim. - - pp

pizz. (ohne espr.)

zart hervortreten

dim. - - p

dim. - - p pizz.

dim. - - p pp

molto espress. f arco

cresc. - - f

f espr.

arco

pp

cresc. - - f espr.

cresc. - - f espr.

dim. - - pp dim.

dim. - - p sempre espress.

dim. - - p

dim. - - p espr.

5

Nicht schleppend.

G Saite.

D Saite.

In fortwährender Steigerung.

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

cresc. sempre espr. cresc. - -

II. QUARTETT.

VIOLINE I.

Alexander Zemlinsky, Op. 15.

Sehr mäßig. (*quasi andante*)

G Saite bis

Von da ab etwas bewegter und steigernd.

1 Heftig und leidenschaftlich. (*Moderato*)

2 Sehr lebhaft bewegt.

3

G Saite Tempo I. (*breit*)

4

Ruhig.

P zart hervortreten

5

II. QUARTETT.

VIOLINE II.

Alexander Zemlinsky, Op. 15.

Sehr mäßig. (*quasi andante.*)

1. Viol. 1. Viol.

Von da ab etwas bewegter und steigernd.

espr. *sempre cresc.*

1

Hefig und leidenschaftlich. (*Moderato.*)

f *sfz* *sfz*

Sehr heftig bewegt.

2

sfz *ff* *accel.*

mf

3

Tempo I. (*breit.*)

G Saite

dim.

Ruhig.

p

II. QUARTETT.

BRATSCHES.

Alexander Zemlinsky, Op. 15.

Sehr mäßig. (*quasi andante*) Von da ab etwas beweg-
 ter und steigernd. **1** Heftig und leidenschaftlich. (*Moderato*)
sempre cresc. *f* *sfz* *sfz* *mf* *ff*
2 Sehr heftig bewegt. *ff* *mf* *ff*
3 Tempo I. (*brett*) Ruhig. *rit.* *ruhiger* *dim.* *p*
4 *pp*
cresc. *mf* *f* *espr.* *mf* *mp*
5 Nicht schleppend. *dim.* *p* *dim.* *pppp*
 In fortwährender Steigerung. **6** *cresc.*
 Heftig bewegt (*Allegro furioso*) (*d=d*) hervortretend *f* *ff* *ff*
7 *ff* *ff* *ff* *f* *ff* *sfz* *ff*
ff *mp*

II. QUARTETT.

VOLONCELL.

Alexander Zemlinsky, Op. 15.

Sehr mäßig. (*quasi andante*)

p

Von da ab etwas bewegter und steigend.

sempre cresc.

1 Heftig und leidenschaftlich. (*Moderato*)

f

sfz

2 Sehr heftig bewegt.

3 accel.
ff

ff

3 Tempo I. (*breit*) Ruhig.

pizz.
3
dim.
p
pp

Bratsche