EIGHTH NOTE PUBLICATIONS

Motet and Dance A Bruckner Set

Anton Bruckner Arranged by Andrew F. Poor

This two-movement horn quartet utilizes two contrasting works by Anton Bruckner. The first movement is a setting of an SATB sacred motet, *Tantum ergo*, and the second movement is the final movement from a work for piano.

Bruckner is best known as a symphonist, who was deeply influenced by the works of Wagner Lizst and Berlioz, and who later served as an inspiration for Gustav Mahler. He did, however, write three Masses, which were composed in the Viennese tradition of Haydn, Beethoven, and Schubert. Some scholars suggest that these early vocal works served as the melodic core for his nine symphonies. In addition to his three Masses, Bruckner also wrote close to 40 sacred motets. These motets demonstrate his deeply held religious beliefs as a practicing Roman Catholic and are a result of his studies of the great Renaissance masters, such as Palestrina, and the works of J.S. Bach.

Bruckner completed four settings of the *Tantum ergo*, which is a text taken from the last two verses of the Eucharistic hymn, *Pange lingua*, first set by St. Thomas Aquinas in the 13th century. This setting for horn uses *Tantum ergo* No. 4, which was written for SATB choir (key of Ab major). The key has been altered to Eb major to better suit the horn, but Bruckner's open voicing approach was preserved in this arrangement.

Although Bruckner worked most of his adult life as an organist, and was known for his ability to improvise large-scale works for the organ, he composed/transcribed a relatively small number of works for keyboard instruments. His works for piano were often written as study pieces that he used in his teaching at St. Florian. This set uses the final movement of the *Four* "*Lancior-Quadrille aus beliebten Opernmelodien zusammengestellt*" in C major c. 1850 WAB 120. This movement is a light and whimsical dance, reminiscent of a folk-like hunting call, and contrasted nicely with the austere and serious, *Tantum ergo*.

This two-movement work was written for the 2012 Fayette County High School (Fayetteville, Georgia) horn ensemble, which featured the arrangers daughter, Kayla Poor, and was premiered in May of 2012.



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A. Bruckner (1824-1896) Arranged by Andrew F. Poor





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