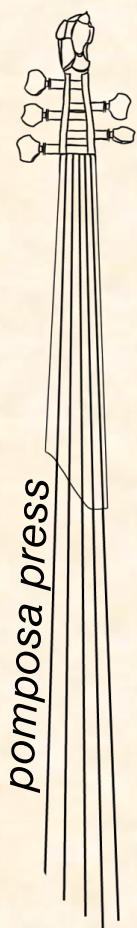


**RUDOLF
HAKEN**

**POLONAISE
for Viola and Piano**

VIOLA



Rudolf Haken

Polonaise for Viola and Piano

1990

Recording on “Romancing the Viola” CD (MSR Classics 1609)

This polonaise was originally composed for trumpet and piano for Paul Merkelo, principal trumpet of the Montreal Symphony. Initially I transcribed the work for the viola only in order to play it for Paul to give him an idea of the character I had in mind. I found that, with considerable revision, it worked quite well on the viola, and it has been performed frequently as a viola work.

Throughout this Polonaise, the rhythm is deliberately distorted, rendering the work impractical for actual dancing. In the second theme, the viola appears to enter a half-beat early, one of a series of “ensemble problems” deliberately built into the piece.

A challenge in performing this work, (as with Paganini caprices) is always to play with humor despite all the technical demands. It should sound like a lopsided, awkward dance.

Allegro (♩=116)

ff

6

14

mf espr.

19

dim. *rall.* *p* *a tempo* *mf* *giocososo*

23

27

f

32

agitato

37

molto allarg. *a tempo*

43

f

51

60 *f* *rall.*

66 *Meno mosso* (♩=96) *mf cantabile*

74 *p*

78 *subito Tempo I* (♩=116) *imp grazioso*

87 *agitato*

90 *dim.*

93 *p*

97 *pp*

102 *Lento* *fff* *Tempo I* *rall.*

111 *piano cadenza*

114

a tempo

mf

117

giocoso

121

f

126

agitato

p sub.

131

ff

rit.

a tempo

fff

137

f

dim.

p

dim.

141

pp

f

147

f

154

ff

162

f

171 *mf* *Meno mosso* (♩=96) *dim.* *rall.*

176 *mp* *accomp.* *p*

181

186

191 *Tempo I* (♩=116) *melody* *mf* *cresc.*

195 *f* *ff* *fff*

201 *secco*

206 *tempo ad lib.* *allarg.* *fff*

214

217 *mf giocoso*