

The Life and Keyboard Works of (Franz) Xaver Scharwenka (1850-1924)

Michael P. Mihalyo Jr.
Research Project

Submitted to the College of Creative Arts
at West Virginia University
in Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree of
Doctor of Musical Arts
DMA Committee

Christine Kefferstan, D.M.A., chair
Mary Ferer, Ph.D.

James Miltenberger, D.M.A.

Rosemary Srebalus, Ed.D.

David Taddie, Ph.D.

Virginia Thompson, D.M.A.

Morgantown, West Virginia

2002

Keywords: Scharwenka, Romantic, Polish, Piano

Copyright 2002 Michael P. Mihalyo Jr.

ABSTRACT

The Life and Works of (Franz) Xaver Scharwenka (1850 – 1924) Michael P. Mihalyo Jr.

(Franz) Xaver Scharwenka (1850-1924) was a highly acclaimed performer, teacher, editor, and composer of international fame during the late Romantic period. Overshadowed by the innovative styles of a number of contemporaneous composers including Ravel, Debussy, and Scriabin, Scharwenka's works gradually disappeared from the teaching studio and the concert hall. Regrettably, his compositions, although critically acclaimed in his lifetime, are now for the most part out of print and rarely performed. This study explores Scharwenka's works as a significant addition to the repertory of the late Romantic literature for study and performance. This research project, the result of a lengthy investigation of the piano works of Xaver Scharwenka, presents a biographical account of Scharwenka's life and an examination of his repertory by genre including the *Polish Dances*, sonatas, concerti, and selected character pieces. A complete list of works, a discography, and a bibliography are found at the end of the document.

iii

CONTENTS

ABSTRACT ii

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS iv

LIST OF MUSICAL EXAMPLES v

Chapter

1. INTRODUCTION 1

2. RELATED LITERATURE 7

3. A BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF SCHARWENKA'S LIFE 10

Scharwenka's Career as a Teacher 11

Scharwenka's Career as a Performer 16

Scharwenka's Career as an Editor 19

Scharwenka's Career as a Composer 20

4. THE KEYBOARD WORKS OF XAVER SCHARWENKA 25

The Polish Dances 27

The Solo Keyboard Sonatas 60

The Concertos for Piano and Orchestra 83

Other Character Pieces 105

5. CONCLUSIONS 112

APPENDIX

A. List of Works 118

B. Discography 127

BIBLIOGRAPHY 129

iv

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to express my gratitude to Dr. Mary Ferer for her patient and consistent help throughout this project. I would also like to thank Dr. David Taddie for his help with analysis. I am also indebted to Dr. Christine Kefferstan, Dr. James Miltenberger, Dr. Rosemary Srebalus, and Dr. Virginia Thompson, who provided insight in this project. This project was made possible with the assistance of many people. I would like to thank Mrs. Dorothy Clarke, whose generous gift of original documents served as the catalyst for this project. I would also like to thank Dr. Mary-Bess Halford, T. W. Phillips Memorial Library Director, Bethany College, Bethany, West Virginia for her assistance in translating selected texts. I am indebted to Miss Heather May, T. W. Phillips Memorial Library Associate Librarian, Bethany College, Bethany, West Virginia, for her help in locating and acquiring inter-library loan materials. Finally, I would like to express my thanks to the staff of the *Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin – Musikabteilung mit Mendelssohn – Archiv* of Berlin, Germany for their assistance with this research.

v

**Investigating the Prevalence of Playing-Related Musculoskeletal
Disorders in Relation to Piano Players' Playing-Techniques and
Practising Strategies**

LiLi Allsop

B Mus. with 2A Honours
B Mus. Majoring in Piano Performance

This thesis is presented for the degree of

Master of Science

of

The University of Western Australia

The School of Human Movement and Exercise Science

2007