AROMIR WEINBERGER

Sonatine

for Bassoon and Piano



- BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE -

Jaromír Weinberger was born in Prague, Czechoslovakia, January 8, 1896. He was an exceedingly precocious child: his first composition was written at the age of six and by the time he was nine his works were being published.

He graduated from the master class in composition at the Prague Conservatory in 1913 and two years later received a degree for piano. Shortly afterward he studied composition with Max Reger in Leipzig.

In 1924 Mr. Weinberger had an important orchestral work, Overture to a Puppet Show, performed in Vienna. During the same year he came to America to accept an appointment as director of the theory department at the Ithaca (New York) Conservatory.

1926 saw the first performance of the Overture to a Cavalier's Play at Prague. Meanwhile the composer had left the Ithaca Conservatory and returned to his native country, where he became stage director of the National Theatre, Bratislava. His symphonic works were steadily increasing in popularity, having been given successfully in England, Scandinavia and Germany.

The opera, Schwanda, had its premier at the Czech National Theatre, Prague, in 1927. It was enthusiastically received, and while the Czech critics were divided in their opinion, the German press prophesied international success for the work.

The succeeding years were notable for the production of the following compositions, all of which were received with enthusiastic acclaim: the orchestral works, Czech Songs and Dances (Darmstadt, 1931) and Christmas (Munich, 1931); the operas, Beloved Voice (Munich, 1931) and The Outcasts of Poker Flat (Brno, 1933). Beloved Voice was repeated with great success at the Vienna State Opera under the direction of Wallenstein in 1937.

Recently, Mr. Weinberger has returned to the United States and has composed a number of excellent works. Among his most recent compositions are three original numbers for band: Mississippi Rhapsody—Homage to the Pioneers—Prelude to the Festival; four Sonatines for wood-wind solo instruments and piano. (All published by Carl Fischer, Inc.)

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