PREFATORY NOTE

The Concerto Grosso from which this "Intermezzo" has been arranged has had a strange history. Originally it was printed as No. 11 in a set of Twelve Concerti Grossi for strings by Antonio Vivaldi (ca. 1675–1743), published before 1716 under the title of "L'Estro Armonico" as Vivaldi's Opera Terza.

For more than sixty years it circulated in printed form as an organ concerto by Wilhelm Friedemann Bach, son of the great John Sebastian. The real authorship and the circumstances which led to the confusion of names were first clearly set forth by Max Schneider in the Bach Jahrbuch for 1911. He shows that John Sebastian Bach had arranged this work for the organ. One of John Sebastian's manuscripts seems to have had the name of Wilhelm Friedemann added at the top of the first page. Led astray by this note, F. K. Griepenkerl published the work as an Organ Concerto by Wilhelm Friedemann Bach in 1844. Alexandre Guilmant followed suit with a French edition ascribed to the same composer. The work became popular and in 1897 August Stradal edited an arrangement for piano solo. About 1910 Michael von Zadora entered the field with still another arrangement for piano solo. These arrangements are often entered on recitalists' programmes under Bach's name up to the present day.

The concerto was revived under my direction in Berlin, on February 7, 1912, in its original form for string orchestra exactly as written by Vivaldi. An arrangement for full orchestra was published by Alexander Siloti in 1913. My concert arrangement for string orchestra was published by Schirmer in New York in 1917.

The present transcription, which I have called "Intermezzo," is really the second movement (Largo) of the original concerto. The graceful and expressive melody is a violin solo with a short tutti introduction and postlude.

SAM FRANKO.

Intermezzo

From the Concerto grosso in Dminor



Intermezzo

From the Concerto grosso in Dminor

