ELEGY
FOR VIOLA AND PIANO

Ferdinand Praeger
(1815–1891)
Preface

Born into a musical family in Leipzig on January 22, 1815, Ferdinand Praeger studied piano, violin, cello, and composition. In 1834 he moved to London, where he worked as a teacher, pianist, composer, and writer for Robert Schumann’s music journal, *Neue Zeitschrift für Musik*. England remained his home until his death in 1891, though he continued to travel to the continent. Despite his musical contributions in many areas, Praeger is best remembered as the author of the book *Wagner, As I Knew Him*, written shortly after Wagner’s death and first published in 1892. While the two musicians had been friends (Wagner was godfather to Praeger’s son, Richard Wagner Praeger), the book depicts Wagner in a less flattering light than his many hero-worshippers were ready to accept. Critical response was particularly hostile in Germany, and the German edition was withdrawn from publication.

Interest in Praeger has recently been rekindled, and more than 450 of his works have been made available as part of the Ferdinand Praeger Collection of Scores, circa 1829–1891, Music Library, The State University of New York at Buffalo. Five manuscript works for viola and piano are part of this collection, with the digital version of each accessible at: http://purl.org/net/findingaids/view?docId=ead/music/ubmu0046.xml). *Elegy, Lamentation, and Romanza* all date from 1885, and *Sweet Sorrow* and the incomplete *Morceau* date from 1888. Each work is short and tuneful and presents relatively limited technical difficulties for the viola. These qualities suggest that Praeger intended them for Britain’s burgeoning populace of amateurs, who were turning toward the viola at the end of the nineteenth century.

The publication of this edition was made possible by the kind assistance of John Bewley, Associate Librarian/Archivist at the Music Library, University at Buffalo Libraries.

Editorial Note

The manuscript piano score and viola part for the *Elegy for Viola and Piano* have only one dynamic marking: *a piano* in the viola line at the beginning of each. Editorial dynamics have been added for both parts in this AVS edition. The manuscript sources have several discrepancies, and the AVS edition’s piano score represents an attempt to reconcile those differences; the viola part, however, includes bowings by the editor.

David M. Bynog, editor
Elegy
for Viola and Piano

Viola

Andante

mp mesto

mp
dolce

a tempo

mp
dolce

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Praeger - Elegy
### VIOLA SOLO

- **Bob Cobert**  
  Music for Only One Lonely Viola. AVS 028

- **John Duke**  
  Suite for Viola Alone. AVS 027

- **Ivan Langstroth**  
  Viola Suite. AVS 022

- **Quincy Porter**  
  Suite for Viola Alone. AVS 008

- **Frederick Slee**  
  Variations on a Hymn Tune for Solo Viola. AVS 003

### VIOLIN AND VIOLA

- **Louise Lincoln Kerr**  
  Etude. AVS 020

- **J. N. Pychowski**  
  Perpetual Canon. AVS 017

### TWO VIOLAS

- **Bob Cobert**  
  Three Moods for Two Violas. AVS 030

- **Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy**  
  Canon for Two Violas. AVS 004

### THREE VIOLAS

- **Scott Slapin**  
  Capricious. AVS 012

### VIOLA AND PIANO

- **Blanche Blood**  
  Barcarolle for Viola and Piano. AVS 002

- **Léo Delibes**  
  La Paix, from Coppélia, for Viola and Piano. AVS 023

- **Arthur Foote**  
  Melody for Viola and Piano, op. 44a. AVS 015

- **Carl Fuerstner**  
  Two Pieces for Viola and Piano. AVS 021

- **Quincy Porter**  
  Speed Etude for Viola and Piano. AVS 007

- **Ferdinand Praeger**  
  Elegy for Viola and Piano. AVS 031

- **Gustav Strube**  
  Regrets for Viola and Piano. AVS 010

- **Theodore Thomas**  
  Divertissement for Viola and Piano. AVS 006

### VIOLA AND ORCHESTRA (CONT.)

- **W. A. Mozart**  
  Principal Viola Part for Sinfonia Concertante, K. 364, Extended Scordatura Edition. AVS 019

- **G. P. Telemann**  

### MIXED ENSEMBLES

- **J. S. Bach**  
  Chorale: Ich, dein betrubtes Kind, for Soprano, Viola obligata, and Continuo from the Cantata Mein Herz schwimmt im Blut. AVS 013

- **Hochgelobter Gottessohn, Aria for Alto, Viola, and Continuo from the Cantata Bleib bei uns, denn es will Abend werden. AVS 029

- **Michael Colgrass**  
  Revisions to Variations for Four Drums and Viola. AVS 016

- **Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy**  
  Adagio from String Sinfonia VIII. AVS 011

- **Quincy Porter**  
  Little Trio (Suite in E Major) for Flute, Violin, and Viola. AVS 026

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