

Divertimento II in F Major

for

Three Violas

Originally for Three Bass Horns, KV 439b

by

W. A. Mozart

Score

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Editor's Comment

Divertimento II, KV 439b, is found in *W. A. Mozart: Neue Ausgabe sämtlicher Werke*, with the information that it was composed sometime between 1783 and 1788. It is the second of five such pieces scored for three basset horns. The ranges of basset horn and viola are similar, and the two instruments, seem to share a popular 21st century identity, both being devoutly middle-range, somewhat covered in timbre, not slow, but primarily not devoted to virtuosity, useful for blending or fitting-in, supplying richness and pleasing, colorful texture. Perhaps the similar personalities of players drawn to these instruments is enough to justify the little adjustment necessary to make this music available to violists, enriching their repertory, and providing a wider reception than would be found in the basset horn community.

Mozart wrote more than a smattering of music for the basset horn, at a time when the identity of the instrument was not yet well established. These five works, which are a significant effort in this medium, stand out in the literature as trios for three identical instruments. This is clearly "commercial" Mozart . . . garden-party or social background music. It is not serious in execution or presentation, but even the flossiest Mozart has wit, charm, and beauty in abundance.

T. H.

I Allegro

Allegro ♩ = 138

Viola 1
f

Viola 2
f

Viola 3
f

Vla. 1
f

Vla. 2
f

Vla. 3
f

Vla. 1
p *f* *p*

Vla. 2
p *f* *p*

Vla. 3
p *f* *p*

Vla. 1
f

Vla. 2
f

Vla. 3
f

Vla. 1

Vla. 2

Vla. 3

Allegro

33

Vla. 1

Vla. 2

Vla. 3

II Menuetto I

Menuetto ♩ = 138

Viola 1

Viola 2

Viola 3

Vla. 1

Vla. 2

Vla. 3

Vla. 1

Vla. 2

Vla. 3

10

20

f

f

f

f

p

p

p

f

f

f

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

f

f

f

Menuetto I

Trio

30

Vla. 1

Vla. 2

Vla. 3

p

p

39

Vla. 1

Vla. 2

Vla. 3

p

f

cresc.

f

cresc.

f

46

Vla. 1

Vla. 2

Vla. 3

p

p

p

54

Vla. 1

Vla. 2

Vla. 3

cresc.

p

cresc.

p

cresc.

p

Menuetto I

62

Vla. 1

Vla. 2

Vla. 3

cresc.

f

cresc.

f

cresc.

f

68

Vla. 1

Vla. 2

Vla. 3

p

p

p

Menuetto da capo

III

Larghetto

Larghetto ♩ = 56

Viola 1

Viola 2

Viola 3

p

f

p

f

p

f

7

Vla. 1

Vla. 2

Vla. 3

p

p

p

Larghetto

13

Vla. 1

Vla. 2

Vla. 3

f *p* *f* *f*

21

Vla. 1

Vla. 2

Vla. 3

p *p* *p*

27

Vla. 1

Vla. 2

Vla. 3

f *f*

32

Vla. 1

Vla. 2

Vla. 3

f

IV

Menuetto II

Menuetto ♩ = 104

Violino 1
f *p* *f*

Violino 2
f *p* *f*

Violino 3
f *p* *f*

8
Vla. 1
p *cresc.*

Vla. 2
p *cresc.*

Vla. 3
p *cresc.*

15
Vla. 1
f *p* *f*

Vla. 2
f *p* *f*

Vla. 3
f *p* *f*

22
Vla. 1
p *f*

Vla. 2
p *f*

Vla. 3
p *f*

30
Trio
Vla. 1
p *f* *p* *f* *p*

Vla. 2
p *f* *p* *f* *p*

Vla. 3
p *f* *p* *f* *p*

Menuetto II

39

Vla. 1
cresc. *f* *p* *p* *f* *p* *f*

Vla. 2
cresc. *f* *p* *p* *f* *p* *f*

Vla. 3
cresc. *f* *p* *p* *f* *p* *f*

49

Vla. 1
p *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p*

Vla. 2
p *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *cresc.*

Vla. 3
p *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *cresc.*

59

Vla. 1
cresc. *f* *p*

Vla. 2
f

Vla. 3
f

Menuetto da capo

V
Rondo

Allegro ♩ = 126

Viola 1
p *f* *p*

Viola 2
p *f* *p*

Viola 3
p *f* *p*

Rondo

11
Vla. 1
f
Vla. 2
f
Vla. 3
f

20
Vla. 1
p *f*
Vla. 2
p *f*
Vla. 3
p *f*

31
Vla. 1
p *p*
Vla. 2
p *p*
Vla. 3
p *p*

42
Vla. 1
f
Vla. 2
f
Vla. 3
f

52
Vla. 1
p *f* *p* *f*
Vla. 2
p *f* *p* *f*
Vla. 3
p *f* *p* *f*

Detailed description: This is a musical score for three violas, labeled Vla. 1, Vla. 2, and Vla. 3. The score is in 3/4 time and consists of five systems of music. Each system contains three staves. The first system starts at measure 11 and features a forte (*f*) dynamic. The second system starts at measure 20 and includes piano (*p*) and forte (*f*) dynamics. The third system starts at measure 31 and features piano (*p*) dynamics. The fourth system starts at measure 42 and features forte (*f*) dynamics. The fifth system starts at measure 52 and includes piano (*p*) and forte (*f*) dynamics. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and repeat signs. The key signature has one flat (B-flat).

Rondo

63

Vla. 1

Vla. 2

Vla. 3

Dynamic markings: *p*

This system contains measures 63 through 73. It features three staves for Violins 1, 2, and 3. The music is in 2/4 time with a key signature of one flat. Measures 63-65 show a melodic line in the first violin with a *p* dynamic. Measures 66-73 continue with various rhythmic patterns and dynamics, including *p* and *f*. A repeat sign is present at the end of the system.

74

Vla. 1

Vla. 2

Vla. 3

Dynamic markings: *f*, *p*

This system contains measures 74 through 86. The first violin part has a *f* dynamic in measures 74-76, then *p* in measures 77-80, and *f* again in measures 81-86. The second and third violins have *f* dynamics in measures 74-76 and *p* in measures 77-80. A repeat sign is present at the end of the system.

87

Vla. 1

Vla. 2

Vla. 3

Dynamic markings: *p*, *f*

This system contains measures 87 through 98. The first violin part has a *p* dynamic in measures 87-90, then *f* in measures 91-98. The second violin part has a *p* dynamic in measures 87-90 and *f* in measures 91-98. The third violin part has a *p* dynamic in measures 87-90 and *f* in measures 91-98. A repeat sign is present at the end of the system.

99

Vla. 1

Vla. 2

Vla. 3

Dynamic markings: *p*, *f*

This system contains measures 99 through 111. The first violin part has a *p* dynamic in measures 99-102, then *f* in measures 103-106, and *p* in measures 107-111. The second violin part has a *p* dynamic in measures 99-102 and *f* in measures 103-106. The third violin part has a *p* dynamic in measures 99-102 and *f* in measures 103-106. A repeat sign is present at the end of the system.

112

Vla. 1

Vla. 2

Vla. 3

Dynamic markings: *f*, *p*, *cresc.*

This system contains measures 112 through 118. The first violin part has a *f* dynamic in measures 112-113, *p* in 114-115, *f* in 116-117, and *f p* in 118. The second violin part has a *f* dynamic in measures 112-113, *p* in 114-115, *f* in 116-117, and *f p* in 118. The third violin part has a *f* dynamic in measures 112-113, *p* in 114-115, *f* in 116-117, and *f p* in 118. A *cresc.* marking is present in measures 112-117 for all parts.

Rondo

123

Vla. 1

Vla. 2

Vla. 3

Dynamic markings: *f*, *p*

This system contains measures 123 through 133. It features three staves for Violins 1, 2, and 3. The music is in a minor key with a 3/4 time signature. The first violin part has a melodic line with slurs and accents, marked *f* and *p*. The second violin part has a similar melodic line, also marked *f*. The third violin part provides a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth notes, marked *f*.

134

Vla. 1

Vla. 2

Vla. 3

Dynamic markings: *f*, *p*

This system contains measures 134 through 145. The first violin part continues its melodic line, marked *f* and *p*. The second violin part has a more active role with sixteenth-note passages, marked *f* and *p*. The third violin part continues its rhythmic accompaniment, marked *p* and *f*.

146

Vla. 1

Vla. 2

Vla. 3

Dynamic markings: *f*

This system contains measures 146 through 155. The first violin part has a long, sustained note with a slur, marked *f*. The second violin part has a similar long note, also marked *f*. The third violin part has a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth notes, marked *f*.