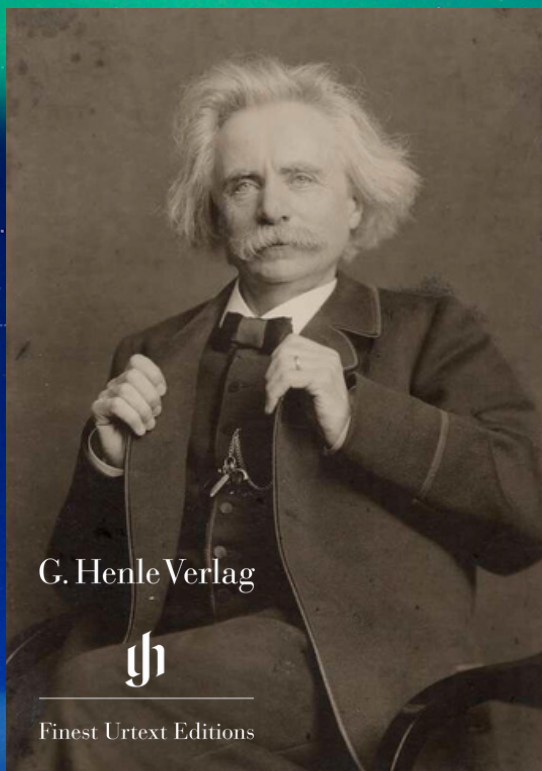


ONE OF THE MOST FAMOUS PIANO CONCERTOS IN MUSIC HISTORY



E. GRIEG

PIANO CONCERTO A MINOR OP. 16



THE CONCERTO ...

- ... is Grieg's only piano concerto.
- Around 1858, Grieg heard Clara Schumann play her husband's a minor concerto, which inspired him to write a piano concerto himself (also in a minor). It was composed ten years later.
- In 1870, Grieg met with Franz Liszt in Rome, who was very impressed by the concerto and suggested improvements.
- The concerto was a great success; Grieg himself performed it frequently. He revised the work at least seven times before his death in 1907, but made no fundamental changes.

THE HENLE EDITION

- ... takes into consideration Grieg's work modifications from 1869 to 1907.
- In cooperation with Breitkopf & Härtel, performance material matching the edition is provided.



Particular musical features

- The monumental beginning, a downward-rattling chordal passage, shows the influence of the Schumann concerto.
- Grieg sets soloistic virtuosity, classical-romantic symphonic music and Norwegian 'folk music' in relation to each other. For example, the rhythm of the Norwegian folk dance Halling was incorporated into the 1st and 3rd movements.

Fun fact

- The composer and critic Hugo Wolf, known for not exactly being too squeamish with his fellow composers, judged Grieg's concerto to be just good enough to "lull spectacled cobras into dreams or awaken rhythmic feelings in trained bears". In his opinion, it was not suitable for the concert hall.