

Bruckner's Symphony in B Flat

Translation from Goellerich—Auer Biography

It was in the autumn of 1869 when new symphonic project showed up.

In the estate sketches were found notes of a later discarded:

"Symphony in B flat"

which reveals so much of Bruckner's compositional style that we must regret that it was not completed. Obviously laid out for a first movement, the sketches are dated on October 29th and 31st, 1869. The theme strides along in the main rhythm of the 5th symphony, the one B-flat-major symphony to be completed, and is reminiscent of the same as well as of the main theme of the printed Second Symphony. At the marked spots, further pre-echoes of those works appear, in particular of the finale movements thereof.

The image displays four staves of musical notation, arranged vertically. The first three staves are piano accompaniment, each consisting of a treble and bass clef staff. The fourth staff is for Violin, indicated by the word "Violen" written above the staff. The notation includes various rhythmic values, accidentals, and dynamic markings, representing a sketch of a musical piece.

(vgl. Finale der II ten)

V. Symph. Gesangs-Periode

V. Symph. I. S.

Finale d. II ten

Finale d. II ten

114

vgl. Wiederkehr der Einleitung d.V. Symph. I. Satz

8*

115

On the flip side of the same 18-stave-music paper, dated on February 1st, 1870 the following thoughts were recorded, which may show the first drafts for the Finale of the Second Symphony.

etc.
(Wiederholungsteil d. Beginnes vom Finale d. II ten)

Th. d. Finale d. II ten (2. Takt)
Finale d. II ten (3. Takt)

Es dur

etc.

Beginn der V ten

Gesangsperiode

vgl. Haupt-Th. d. IV. Symph.

Hpt-Th. d. III. Symph. (I. Satz) vgl. Hpt-Th. d. Finale d. V ten etc.



Some thereof have passed into this work as well as into the Finale of the Fifth true to the notes. Bruckner's predilection for quintuplets, which show off in the string groups of the First and Second symphonies, seems to want to be expanded to Septuplets according to some notes annotated here.



Skizze zum 1. Satz einer nicht ausgeführten B-dur-Symphonie
(1. Blatt)

Opening page of the Symphony in B Flat Sketch