

Paul Hindemith

1895 - 1962

Kleine Sonate

Little Sonata

für Cello und Klavier
for Cello and Piano

(1942)

Nach dem Text der Ausgabe *Paul Hindemith, Klavierwerke*, herausgegeben von J.
Edited from the Edition *Paul Hindemith, Selected Works*, edited by
Luitgard Schader

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PREVIEW
Low Resolution

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PREVIEW
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Aufführungsdauer: ca. 12 Minuten

Vorwort

Die *Kleine Sonate für Cello und Klavier* entstand 1942 in New Haven, Connecticut. Bereits in den 1920er Jahren hatte Paul Hindemith (1895-1963) mehrere Stücke für Kinder oder erwachsene Laienmusiker geschrieben und direkt nach ihrer Fertigstellung publiziert. Damals stand der Komponist im Zentrum des deutschen Musiklebens. Unter der nationalsozialistischen Diktatur wurde er als „entarteter Künstler“ diffamiert. Nur wenige Interpreten setzten seine Kompositionen in Deutschland auf ihr Programm, im Oktober 1936 erließ der Staatssekretär Walther Funk sogar ein generelles Aufführungsverbot für die Werke Paul Hindemiths. Als Bratschen-Virtuose erhielt er in Deutschland keine Engagements, von seiner Professur an der Berliner Musikhochschule ließ er sich mehrfach beurlauben, um ins Ausland zu arbeiten. Schließlich zogen Paul und Gertrud Hindemith im September 1938 nach Bluche in der Schweiz. Zwei Jahre später nahm Hindemith eine Professur an der renommierten Yale University in New Haven, im Bundesstaat Connecticut, an.

In diesen Jahren widmeten sich das Ehepaar mit großem Vergnügen der gemeinsamen Hausmusik. Da Gertrud Hindemith als Erwachsene begonnen hatte, Cello zu spielen, komponierte ihr Mann zwischen 1938 und 1944 sechs Duette für Cello mit Begleitung von unterschiedlichen Instrumenten. Das Cellostimmchen war auf ein mittleres Niveau Gertrud Hindemiths angepasst, die zweite Stimme spielte der Komponist selbst. Mit Ausnahme der 1938 noch in Europa entstandenen *Drei kleinen Stücke für Cello und Klavier* (Schott ED 2771) verließen diese Duette zu Hindemiths Lebzeiten niemals den privaten Rahmen, in dem sie entstanden waren. Erst nach dem Tod des Ehepaares wurden sie veröffentlicht.

Hindemith schrieb die *Kleine Sonate für Cello und Klavier* am 13. und 14. Mai 1942, wahrscheinlich als Geschenk für seine Frau zum Hochzeitstag am 15. Mai. In einem Brief an seinen amerikanischen Verleger bezeichnete er das Werk scherzhaft als *kleine Sonate für Cello-Säuglinge*.

Die vorliegende Einzelausgabe folgt dem Notentext der Gesamtausgabe *Paul Hindemith, Sämtliche Werke*. Die *Kleine Sonate für Cello und Klavier* ist in Band VIII,3 der Ausgabe von 1975 enthalten. In der Einleitung des Bandes sind weitere Informationen zur Komposition zusammengestellt.

Luitgard Schader

This *Little Sonata for Cello and Piano* was written in New Haven, Connecticut, in 1942. Paul Hindemith (1895-1963) had already written several pieces for children, adult amateur players and published them straight after completion in the 1920s. In those days he composed as a central figure in German musical life. Under the National Socialist dictatorship, however, he was regarded as a 'degenerate artist'; very few performers included his compositions in their concert programmes. In October 1936 Walther Funk, Secretary of State, issued a general ban on performance of Paul Hindemith's works. Professional engagements were offered to Hindemith as a virtuoso viola player; he took leave of absence from his teaching position at the Berlin Academy of Music to work abroad. Paul and Gertrud Hindemith eventually moved to Bluche in Switzerland in September 1938. Two years later Paul Hindemith was appointed as a professor at Yale University in New Haven in the American state of Connecticut.

In those years the couple devoted themselves to enjoying music making at home; since Gertrud Hindemith had started playing the cello as an adult, between 1938 and 1944 her husband composed six duets for her to play on the cello accompanied by various instruments: the cello part was designed to suit the technical abilities of Gertrud Hindemith, with the second part played by the composer himself, who was proficient on most instruments. Apart from *Three Little Pieces for Cello and Piano* (Schott ED 2771), written in 1938 before the Hindemiths left Europe, these duets were not played outside the domestic setting for which they had been composed during Hindemith's lifetime; they were not published until after the deaths of the couple.

Hindemith wrote his *Little Sonata for Cello and Piano* on 13 and 14 May 1942, probably as a present for his wife on their wedding anniversary, 15 May. In a letter to his American publisher he jokingly called the work a *Little Sonata for Newborn Cellists*.

This separate edition is based on the score that appears in the complete edition, *Paul Hindemith, Sämtliche Werke*. The *Little Sonata for Cello and Piano* was published in volume VIII,3 of that edition, with further information on the composition presented in the introduction to that volume.

Luitgard Schader
English translation Julia Rushworth

Kleine Sonate

Little Sonata

Paul Hindemith
1895–1963

I

Breit

Violoncello

Klavier

5

9

13

f

mf

cresc.

p

cresc.

mf

p

mf

mf

16

Musical score for measures 16-19. The system includes a bass line and a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). Measure 16 starts with a bass line marked *f*. The grand staff begins with a treble clef marked *f* and a bass clef marked *mf*. The music features various note values, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests.

20

Musical score for measures 20-23. The system includes a bass line and a grand staff. Measure 20 starts with a bass line marked *mp*. The grand staff begins with a treble clef marked *mf* and a bass clef marked *f*. The music continues with complex rhythmic patterns and dynamics.

24

Musical score for measures 24-27. The system includes a bass line and a grand staff. Measure 24 starts with a bass line marked *mf*. The grand staff begins with a treble clef marked *mf* and a bass clef marked *mf*. The music features a mix of note values and rests.

28

Musical score for measures 28-31. The system includes a bass line and a grand staff. Measure 28 starts with a bass line marked *p*. The grand staff begins with a treble clef marked *mf* and a bass clef marked *p*. The music concludes with a double bar line and repeat signs.

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Lebhaft

Violoncello

Klavier

4

7

13

(15a)
1.

p

16a

(15b)
12.

f

17

mf

f

p

23

Musical score for measures 23-24. The score is written for bass, treble, and piano staves. Measure 23 shows a bass line with eighth notes and a treble line with sixteenth notes. Measure 24 continues the bass line and features a piano dynamic marking (*p*) in the treble line.

25

Musical score for measures 25-26. The score is written for bass, treble, and piano staves. Measure 25 shows a bass line with eighth notes and a treble line with sixteenth notes. Measure 26 continues the bass line and features a piano dynamic marking (*p*) in the treble line.

27

Musical score for measures 27-28. The score is written for bass, treble, and piano staves. Measure 27 shows a bass line with eighth notes and a treble line with sixteenth notes. Measure 28 continues the bass line and features a piano dynamic marking (*p*) in the treble line.

Musical score for measures 29-32. The score is written for bass, treble, and piano staves. Measure 29 shows a bass line with eighth notes and a treble line with sixteenth notes. Measure 30 continues the bass line and features a piano dynamic marking (*p*) in the treble line. Measure 31 shows a bass line with eighth notes and a treble line with sixteenth notes. Measure 32 continues the bass line and features a piano dynamic marking (*p*) in the treble line.