

Erwin Schulhoff

1894 - 1937

Susi

Fox-Song

für Klavier solo

oder für ein Melodie-Instrument (in C, B, Es)

for Piano solo

or for a Melodic Instrument (in C, B, Eb) and

(1937)

Partitur und Stimme (in C, B, Es)

Score and Part (in C, B, Eb)

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PREVIEW
Low Resolution

Preface

The fox-song *Susi* is one of the numerous compositions that Erwin Schulhoff published under a pseudonym. Besides the name *Erwin Baltar*, he used the pseudonyms *Hanus Petr*, *George Hannel*, *Lu Gaspar*, *Joe Fillel*, *Joe*, and *Franta Michálek*.

Susi was written at a time when things were difficult for Schulhoff and his job as pianist at Jaroslav Ježek's *Osvobodné divadlo* (Liberated Theatre) in Ostrava. On 24 July 1935 he found himself obliged to sign a contract with the radio news broadcasting branch in Ostrava. Although he had not had a secure income again, this meant having to leave his beloved Ostrava. In Ostrava his chief responsibility was the production of a radio programme of music; only very rarely might a piano concerto be featured on the programme. Schulhoff had long been a virtuoso pianist and improviser; to this new job as a pianist he brought a combination of his many years of experience in playing and his acquaintance with Moravian folk music and his political conviction of "socialist realism".

Against this background in September 1935 he wrote the fox-song *Susi*, whose pop-style charm and wit seem to have struck Schulhoff. It is not actually specified for solo instrument, but it may be assumed that, while he was writing it, he had in mind the use of the violin. In order to make it possible to play the piece on other instruments, this edition is prepared with a piano accompaniment. Schulhoff's composition can also be performed as a solo piece, if the solo part also appears as the melodic line of the piano.

Michael Rische
(Translation Julia Rushworth)

