

“Romanze” By Johann Kaspar Mertz
Sequence Document

Romanze is an all Level 4 piece by Hungarian composer and virtuoso guitarist, Johann Mertz. There are two primary technical considerations in this piece. First, parts one and two will be playing i and m together in the accompaniment sections and it is very important that these notes (often thirds) ring out simultaneously. Second, the students playing part three will be reading bass notes on strings 5 and 6. It might be beneficial to have the students learn the two-octave e minor scale from GuitarCurriculum.com. As always, good tone is of the utmost importance as well as accent and dynamic contrast.

Historical/Cultural Context:

Johann Kaspar Mertz was a Hungarian composer and virtuoso guitarist who lived from 1806-1856. His music is quintessential romantic repertoire for every classical guitarist. His most famous works come from his opus 13 entitled “Bardenklänge”. Have the students listen to various performs play his exciting repertoire such as, “Elegie”, “Gondeliera”, “Tarantelle”, etc...

Romanze

Score

Johann Kaspar Mertz
Travis Marcum

The score is written for three guitars (Guitar 1, 2, and 3) in a 3/4 time signature with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The music is divided into three systems, each with three staves. The first system (measures 1-4) features Guitar 1 with a melody starting on a half note G4 (fingered 'i'), followed by eighth notes. Guitar 2 provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes, starting on a half note G4 (fingered 'm'). Guitar 3 plays a bass line with chords and single notes, starting on a half note G2 (fingered 'p'). The second system (measures 5-8) continues the melodic and harmonic development. Guitar 1 has a melodic line with a half note G4 (fingered 'i') and eighth notes. Guitar 2 has a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes, including a half note G4 (fingered 'm'). Guitar 3 plays a bass line with chords and single notes, including a half note G2 (fingered 'p'). The third system (measures 9-12) concludes the piece. Guitar 1 has a melodic line with a half note G4 (fingered 'i') and eighth notes. Guitar 2 has a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes, including a half note G4 (fingered 'm'). Guitar 3 plays a bass line with chords and single notes, including a half note G2 (fingered 'p'). The score includes dynamic markings such as *mp*, *p*, *mf*, and *f*, as well as performance instructions like *rit.* and *H12*. Fingering numbers (0-4) are provided for various notes.

14

Gtr. 1

Gtr. 2

Gtr. 3

mf *f* *p* *f* *p*

mf *p*

mf *p*

H12

H12

H12

19

Gtr. 1

Gtr. 2

Gtr. 3

rit.

rit.

rit.

0

0

0

3