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SCHUBERT

RONDO IN A MAJOR OPUS 107; D. 951
FOR ONE PIANO, FOUR HANDS

EDITED BY MAURICE HINSON AND ALLISON NELSON



AN ALFRED MASTERWORK EDITION



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FRANZ SCHUBERT

RONDO IN A MAJOR, OP. 107; D. 951 (FOR ONE PIANO, FOUR HANDS)

Edited by Maurice Hinson and Allison Nelson

Foreword

Franz Schubert (1797–1828) wrote three rondos for piano duet. The first, *Rondo in D Major*, Op. 138; D. 608, was composed early in his career (1818), but published much later (1835). The second, *Rondeau brillant*, Op. 84, No. 2, was composed circa 1825, but not published until 1827. It was meant to be the last movement of a three-movement *Divertissement*, D. 823, for four hands (the other movements being the *Marche brillante*, Op. 63, No. 1, and the *Andantino varié*, Op. 84, No. 1).

The third and final rondo, *Rondo in A Major*, Op. 107; D. 951, is warm and lyrical, having been called “the apotheosis of all Schubert compositions for four hands.”¹ It was composed in 1828 for the Viennese company Artaria, which published it shortly after Schubert’s death later that year.

ABOUT THE MUSIC

The lyrical themes in the *Rondo* are highly decorative, treated freely, and full of exciting rhythms. Although the dynamic range is limited, exquisite use of *p* and *pp* over long periods of time (measures 1–137 for example) create a haunting effect. The writing for both the Primo and Secondo is highly effective and equally difficult.

Care should be taken when studying this work. Notice that almost every time a phrase is repeated there is a slight change either in notes or rhythm. In these cases, the fingering must be changed accordingly.

Form: quasi sonata-allegro. **A B A¹ / C / A² B¹ A³**;
the **C** section varies the **B** theme

A = measures 1–68; **B** = 68–102; **A¹** = 102–137;
C = 138–175;
A² = 175–219; **B¹** = 219–241; **A³** = 241–292;
Coda = 292–310.

¹ Albert Einstein, *Schubert: A Musical Portrait* (London: Oxford University Press, 1951), 282.

Rondo in A Major

SECONDO

Franz Schubert (1797–1828)
Op. 107; D. 951

Allegretto quasi Andantino (♩ = 108)

The image displays the musical score for the second movement of Franz Schubert's Rondo in A Major, Op. 107, D. 951. The score is written for piano and is in 2/4 time. It begins with a dynamic marking of *p* (piano). The tempo is marked as "Allegretto quasi Andantino" with a quarter note equal to 108 beats per minute. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 2/4. The score is divided into five systems, each starting with a measure number in a box: 6, 11, 16, and 20. The first system starts at measure 1. The score features intricate fingerings and articulation marks throughout. The right hand plays a complex, rhythmic melody with frequent triplets and sixteenth-note patterns, while the left hand provides a steady accompaniment of quarter notes and eighth notes. The piece concludes with a final cadence in the fifth system.

Rondo in A Major

PRIMO

Franz Schubert (1797–1828)
Op. 107; D. 951

Allegretto quasi Andantino (♩ = 108)

p

6

11

16

20