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# *Grand Rondo de Concert*

*Composé  
Pour le Piano*

*avec accompt. d'Orchestre  
ou de Quatuor ad libit.*

*Dédié a son ami Henri Herz*

*par*

*Henri Bertini jeune*

*1798–1876*

*Op. 105*

## Henri Jérôme Bertini 1798–1876

Henri Jérôme Bertini was born in London on October 28, 1798, but his family returned to Paris six months later. He received his early musical education from his father and his brother, a pupil of Clementi. He was considered a child prodigy and at the age of 12 his father took him on a tour of England, Holland, Flanders, and Germany where he was enthusiastically received. After studies in composition in England and Scotland he was appointed professor of music in Brussels but returned to Paris in 1821. It is known that Bertini gave a concert with Franz Liszt in the Salons Pape on April 20, 1828. The program included a transcription by Bertini of Beethoven's Symphony No. 7 in A major for eight hands (the other pianists were Sowinsky and Schunke.) He was also admired as a chamber music performer, giving concerts with his friends Fontaine (violin) and Franchomme (cello). He remained active in and around Paris until around 1848 when he retired from the musical scene. In 1859 he moved to Meylan (near Grenoble) where he died on September 30, 1876.

Bertini concertized widely but was not as celebrated a virtuoso as either Kalkbrenner or Henri Herz. One of his contemporaries (Marmontel) described his playing as having Clementi's evenness and clarity in rapid passages as well as the quality of sound, the manner of phrasing, and the ability to make the instrument sing characteristic of the school of Hummel and Moschelès. Thomas Tapper, in the preface of his edition of the Études Op.100 published by Ditson, says:

He was in his time a shining example of the most admirable qualities of an artist. Living in an age of garish virtuosity, and hailed as a brilliant executant himself, he maintained nevertheless the most rigorous standards of musicianship in his playing, in his compositions, and in the music which he appeared before the public to interpret. This is the more remarkable when one considers that his manhood was reached during the luxuriant period of French romanticism and that the extravagances of the literary outburst were reflected in the musical movements of the time. Virtuosity was subjected to sore temptations and many succumbed. Bertini stood for the sounder qualities of the artist and gradually acquired an extended and remunerative *prestige*. His life was singularly devoid of incident and official distinction, but the legacy of pedagogic works which he has left to us and his honorable activity give it every right to be called a success.

Bertini was celebrated as a teacher. Antoine Marmontel, who devoted the second chapter of his work on celebrated pianists to Bertini, writes

He was unsurpassed as a teacher, giving his lessons with scrupulous care and the keenest interest in his pupils' progress. After he had given up teaching, a number of his pupils continued with me, and I recognized the soundness of the principles drawn from his instruction.

It is above all in the special class of studies and caprices, that Bertini's immense popularity is founded. It is here that he occupied a unique position and opened the path over which the next generation of composers was to rush after him. In each of his numerous collections of studies, embracing every degree of difficulty, he has insistently given to every piece, easy or difficult, brief or extended, a character of salient melody. The technical problem to be overcome presents itself as a song; even where the study is devoted to the problem of velocity the general contour falls into a melodic curve, and this is the first and transcendent cause of the universal success of these pieces, which are, furthermore, natural in respect to rhythm and carefully thought out harmonically.

Robert Schumann, in a review of a piano trio in the *Gesammelte Schriften*, comments that Bertini writes easily flowing harmony but that the movements are too long. He continues: "With the best will in the world, we find it difficult to be angry with Bertini, yet he drives us to distraction with his perfumed Parisian phrases; all his music is as smooth as silk and satin."<sup>1</sup> German sentimentality has never appreciated French elegance.

Bertini is best remembered today for his piano method *Le Rudiment du pianiste*, and his 20 books of approximately 500 studies.

For more information on the life of Bertini, see *Henri Bertini pianiste virtuose, compositeur de musique* (Grenoble, 1999) by Pascal Beyls (<http://perso.wanadoo.fr/pascal.beyls/bertini/bertini.html>).

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<sup>1</sup> from Cobbett's Cyclopedic Survey of Chamber Music, Second Edition, Volume 1, page 124.

# Grand Rondo de Concert Op : 105

Andante. M. ♩ = 100

Henri Bertini jeune (1798–1876)

Intrada.

ff      pp      ff

6      8<sup>a</sup>      Tutti. pp cres.

12      f

18      Solo.      Tutti. ff Solo.

21      Tutti. ff      Tutti. pp

2

27                      *Tutti.*                      *pp Solo.*                      *ff*

31                      *Piano seul.*                      *8a*

33                      *ff*

36                      *p legato.*

39                      *rall*

Allegro moderato. M.  $\text{♩} = 132$

42 Rondo.

46

50

54

58

8<sup>a</sup>

poco rit.

leggiero.

in Tempo.

*p espress.*

*tr*

4

8<sup>a</sup>

62

8<sup>a</sup>8<sup>a</sup>

66

f

tr

8<sup>a</sup>

70

f

75

f

p

79

rall

cres.

in

p

Tempo.

tr

legato.

84 > tr

89 >

cres.

93 > > > >

ff p

97 8a -

8a -

101 8a -

rall.

105

Cors.

109

113

8<sup>a</sup>

117

8<sup>a</sup>

121

Tutti

ff

125 *ff* *Solo.* *Tutti*

129 *ff* *Solo.* *Tutti.* *pp*

133 *p* *Solo.* *tr* *8a*

138 *tr* *leggiero.* *p* *8a*

142 *8a* *8a*

The musical score consists of five staves of music for two voices. Staff 1 (Treble) and Staff 2 (Bass) are shown in G major (two sharps). The first three staves begin with dynamic *ff* and instruction *Solo.* The fourth staff begins with *p* and *Solo.* The fifth staff begins with *p*. Performance instructions include *Tutti*, *Tutti.*, *tr* (trill), *leggiero.*, and slurs. Measure numbers 125, 129, 133, 138, and 142 are indicated at the start of each staff.

8

8<sup>a</sup>

146

8<sup>a</sup>

150

*ff*

8<sup>a</sup>

Reed.

Reed.

8<sup>a</sup>

154

*pp*

8<sup>a</sup>

Reed.

Reed.

8<sup>a</sup>

158

*p*

8<sup>a</sup>

\* Reed.

\* Reed.

162

*ff*

166

169      8<sup>a</sup>

*dim.*

173      8<sup>a</sup>

*rall.*

176      Cantabile. M. ♩ = 112

*p espresso.*

*And.*

181      *in Tempo.*

*rall.*

*p*

186

191

196

in Tempo

rall.

p

B. B.

\*

\*

201

cres.

8<sup>a</sup>

206

leggiero

p con grazia.

8<sup>a</sup>

210 *8a*

214 *f*

218 *ff*

222 *pp* *legato.*

226 *pp* *legato.*

230

*cres.*

in Tempo.

234

*tr*

*pp leggiero.*

*rall:*

238

243

*fz*

248

*8a*

*poco rit.*

*f*

in Tempo.

252

*cres.*

*rall.*

*ff*

*Risoluto veloce.*

in Tempo.

257

260

Allegro brillante. M.  $\text{♩} = 184$

*p*

263

265

*p*

14

8<sup>a</sup>

267

269

8<sup>a</sup>  
*pp con gracia.*

271

8<sup>a</sup>*con espress legiero poco rit.*

273

8<sup>a</sup>*in Tempo.*

275

8<sup>a</sup>*con espress: poco rit.*

in Tempo.

277 8<sup>a</sup>

*leggiero.*

279 8<sup>a</sup>

281 8<sup>a</sup>

*p*

*espress: legatissimo.*

283

*cres.*

285

287

288

*ff*

*Ped.*

*Tutti.*

*ff Solo.*

*Tutti.*

*Piano seul.*

*p leggiero.*

*8a*

*ff*

*8a*

*ff*

*8a*

*ff*

*8a*

*ff*

299

301 8<sup>a</sup>

303 *Tutti. M. ♩ = 100*  
ff

*pp leggiero con grazia.  
Solo.*

307 8<sup>a</sup>

309 *tr*

*ped.* \*

*ped.* \* *ped.* \*

*ped.* \*

The musical score consists of five staves of music. Staff 1 (treble clef) starts with a dynamic 'f'. Staff 2 (bass clef) has sustained notes. Staff 3 (bass clef) has sustained notes. Staff 4 (bass clef) has sustained notes. Staff 5 (bass clef) has sustained notes. Measure 299 ends with a fermata over the bass staff. Measure 301 begins with a dynamic 'ff'. Measure 303 starts with a dynamic 'ff' followed by a dynamic 'pp' with instructions 'leggiero con grazia.' and 'Solo.'. Measure 307 begins with a dynamic 'ff'. Measure 309 begins with a dynamic 'tr'.

312                          *Tutti.*  
*ff*

8<sup>a</sup> - - - - -  
*pp Solo.*

315                          8<sup>a</sup> - - - - -  
*tr*

317                          8<sup>a</sup> - - - - -  
*tr*

320                          *p express:*

323

326

329 8<sup>a</sup>

332 8<sup>a</sup>

335 8<sup>a</sup>

338

20

341

*8<sup>a</sup>*

343

346

*pp*

*poco rit*

*8<sup>a</sup>*

*in Tempo.*

349

*ff*

*prestissimo.*

*8<sup>a</sup>*

350a

*rall*

*dim.*

*Adagio*      *Tempo 1.*

$\frac{2}{4}$        $\frac{4}{4}$

Allegro moderato.

352

356

360

in Tempo.

364

369

*8<sup>a</sup>*

22

8<sup>a</sup>

373 *tr* *cres.* *f* *tr*

378 *f* *v*

383 *f* *v*

387 *p* *rall.* *cres.* *p* *in Tempo.* *tr*

392 *tr*

397

402

406

410

414

418

*p leggiero.*

422

*8<sup>a</sup>*

426

*8<sup>a</sup>*

430

*poco rall*

Cantabile. M. ♩ = 112

435

in Tempo.

*p*

*fz*

439 *tr*

443 *fz*

448 *espress:*

452 *tr*

457 *tr*

461

466

471

476

480

485

ff

dim.

fz

poco rit:

cresc.

507

poco rall ————— ff prestissimo.

*c*

511 Allegro brillante. M.  $\text{d} = 100$

8a

pp leggiero.

*c*

513

8a

515

8a

517

8a

Allegro risoluto con brio. M.  $\text{d} = 126$ 

519

ff

522

ff

524

f

ff

530

f

30 8<sup>a</sup>

533

*p express:*

536

539 8<sup>a</sup>

542 8<sup>a</sup>

*ff*

*Piano seul*

545 8<sup>a</sup>

8<sup>a</sup>

548      8<sup>a</sup>

551      ff

553      8<sup>a</sup>

*pp*      *poco rit.*

557      8<sup>a</sup>

*pp*

*3d.*      \*      *3d.*

560      8<sup>a</sup>

*ff*

*Piano seul.*

\*      \*

563

8<sup>a</sup>

566

ff

569

8<sup>a</sup>

8<sup>a</sup>

572

8<sup>a</sup>

575

ff

578

*con Calore.*

581 8<sup>a</sup>

584 8<sup>a</sup>

587 M. d = 138  
ff Tutti. 8<sup>a</sup> Solo.

590 8<sup>a</sup> ff Tutti. 8<sup>a</sup> Solo.

593 8<sup>a</sup>

596

599

603

607 Fin.

8<sup>a</sup>

*Piano seul.*

*Rédo.*

## Variants

294

544

549

562

595

599

The present edition is based on a collection of pieces by Bertini which I bought in northern France from a used book store. The pages measure 25.5 cm × 34 cm. The compositions were obviously bought separately and later bound together. It contains the following:

Grande Fantaisie Etude, Op. 46. 24 pages.

Variations de Concert (for piano and string orchestra), Op. 69. 14 pages.

Trois Nocturnes (L'Espérance, 4 pages, Les Regrets, 8 pages, Le Calme, 4 pages), Op. 87.

Grande Polonaise (for piano and orchestra or string quartet ad libitum), Op. 93. 19 pages.

Deux Nocturnes (A Toi!!! et La Solitude), Op. 102. 8 pages.

Grand Rondo de Concert (piano and orchestra or string quartet ad libitum), Op. 105. 20 pages.

Dell'aura tua Profetica, Varié pour le Piano, Op. 106. 14 pages.

Solo pour le Concours de l'Ecole Royale de Musique, Année 1836, Op. 109. 16 pages.

Grande Fantaisie sur une cavatine par Rubini dans La Straniera, Op. 113. 22 pages.

Grande Fantaisie Dramatique, Op. 118. 22 pages.

2<sup>e</sup> Solo pour le Concours de l'Ecole Royale de Musique, Année 1838, Op. 121. 19 pages.

All were published by Henry Lemoine except the first which was published by S. Richault.

As time permits I intend to typeset all these pieces and make them available at the Werner Icking Music Archive. Although the three compositions for piano and strings can be played as solo piano pieces I would greatly appreciate it if someone could supply me with the string parts so I can make them available as well.

#### Revisions

At four places (bars 294, 544, 562, and 595) the score splits. The main line continues with the lines lines on page 35; these are intended to be played with the string accompaniment. Above this is printed the lines used in this edition; they are marked *Piano seul* and are intended to be used in a solo piano performance.

No attempt has been made to indicate the line or page breaks. Accidentals which are in parentheses are not found in the original; accidentals which are redundant because they occur earlier in the bar, either in the original or editorial, have been silently dropped. In addition, the following changes have been made:

bar 23, left hand, second quarter: chord has b43 rather than c44.

bar 29, left hand: no change to treble clef.

bar 30, left hand: no change to bass clef.

bar 32, right hand: the b-sharp–c-natural in the run is in the original.

bar 75, right hand, first beat: b85 sharp.

bar 251, right hand: no tie on the lower f44

bar 278, left hand: no change to bass clef.

bar 296, left hand: first rest missing.

bar 510, left hand: no change to bass clef.

bar 546, right hand: octavation terminates at the end of the previous bar.

bar 557, left hand: no change to bass clef.

bar 584, left hand: no octavation indication.

Approximate duration: 11:00

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