



TOCCA 0418

Linguist, journalist, composer, choir-leader, songwriter, historian, literary philologist and encyclopaedist, Karl August Hermann (1851–1909) has long been recognised as one of the founder-figures of Estonian national awakening in the second half of the nineteenth century. But in spite of his cultural and historical significance, his output of piano pieces has been overlooked until now. This first recording reveals them to be charming miniatures, blending echoes of Chopin and Grieg with the essence of Estonian folksong.

KARL AUGUST HERMANN Complete Piano Music

1	<i>Suve õhtu eha ajal</i> ('Summer Evening at Twilight')	2:20	14	<i>Pensées de vie</i> ('Thoughts of Life'; 1898)	2:44
2	<i>Tundline unistus</i> ('Emotional Dream'; 1872)	2:31	15	<i>Pensée musicale</i> ('Musical Thought'; 1898)	2:36
3	<i>Des Lebens Kampf</i> ('The Combat of Life'; 1896)	2:16	16	<i>Marche de Fête</i> ('Festival March'; 1873)	3:08
4	<i>Winter und Frühling</i> ('Winter and Spring'; 1891)	1:22	17	<i>Walzerstimmung</i> ('Waltz Mood'; 1896)	1:38
5	<i>Valse nationale des Esthoniens</i> (National Waltz of the Estonians'; 1882)	1:28	18	<i>Andantino in A major</i> (1897)	3:58
6	<i>Ausser Athem!</i> ('Out of Breath!'; 1875)	3:09	19	<i>Albumi leht</i> ('Album Leaf'; 1897)	2:20
7	<i>Air estonien varié et modulé</i> (Varied and Modulated Estonian Tune'; 1897)	4:10	20	<i>Allegretto in F major</i>	1:42
8	<i>Die Lösung des Rätsels</i> (The Solution to the Puzzle)	2:03	21	<i>Kadund kinnas</i> ('Lost Glove')	0:45
9	<i>Estnische Volkslied</i> ('Estonian Folksong')	2:36	22	<i>Concert-Étude in C major</i> (1893)	2:42
10	<i>Air d'été</i> ('Song of Summer'; 1885)	1:35	23	<i>Traurig und freudig</i> ('Sad and Happy'; 1891)	1:41
11	<i>Pulli Hansu pulmad</i> ('Funny Hans' Wedding')	1:33	<i>Kolm karakterpala</i> (Three Characteristic Pieces'; 1892–93)		8:40
12	<i>Eesti Waltz</i> ('Estonian Waltz')	1:01	24	<i>Per aspera ad astra</i>	1:52
13	<i>Alletamine ja sarve- ning torupilli lugu</i> (Humming, Horn and Bagpipe Song')	1:39	25	<i>In hilaritate</i>	4:02
			26	<i>Polca futura</i>	2:46
					TT 59:37

Nicolas Horvath, piano

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