

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

## Sinfonie in g-moll KV 550 / Symphony in G Minor K.550

Faksimile der autographen Partitur in erster und zweiter Fassung (1788)

Mit einem Kommentar von Otto Biba.

Gesellschaft der Musikfreunde

Vienna, 2009. Oblong, 4°, 106, 43 pp. \$575



Beautiful color facsimile of both versions of the autograph score. This facsimile edition sheds light on Mozart's composing process; the accompanying commentary by Otto Biba addresses the complicated relationship between the two versions and suggests that the first autograph version, rather than representing a different version, may in fact be an intermediate "stadium" of a complicated compositional process. Commentary in Ger-Eng-Jap. Limited bibliophile edition of 500 copies. An indispensable source for all Mozart lovers and researchers.

Of his last three symphonies, Symphony No.40 is the most influential and visionary in its technical detail and emotional effect. Throughout the nineteenth century, its darker tone was hailed as a rare advance from the presumed superficiality of Mozart's other work. Opinion among conductors varies as to which version, the first or second (the one with the addition of two clarinets, perhaps made for a specific performance), is the most powerful. The autograph

scores, now in the possession of Gesellschaft der Musikfreunde in Vienna were once proudly owned by Johannes Brahms—he received them as a gift from Princess Anne of Hesse to whom the composer had dedicated his Piano Quintet in F Minor, op.34.

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