

**Mark
Kroll**

*Johann Nepomuk
Hummel*

A Musician's Life and World



hudobné  entrum
MUSIC CENTRE SLOVAKIA

MARK KROLL

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J.N.HUMMEL.

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Second Revised Edition

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**For Carol Lieberman Kroll
and
In Memory of Manfred Kanngießer**

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Abbreviations

Periodicals

<i>AMA</i>	<i>Allgemeine Musikalische Anzeiger</i>
<i>AMZ</i>	<i>Allgemeine Musikalische Zeitung</i>
<i>BAMZ</i>	<i>Berliner Allgemeine Musikalische Zeitung</i>
<i>ML</i>	<i>The Musical Library</i>
<i>MMLM</i>	<i>Monthly Musical and Literary Magazine</i>
<i>MW</i>	<i>The Musical World</i>
<i>NZfM</i>	<i>Neue Zeitschrift für Musik</i>
<i>QMM</i>	<i>Quarterly Musical Magazine and Review</i>
<i>WAMZ</i>	<i>Wiener Allgemeine Musikalische Zeitung</i>

Library sigla

<i>Bsb</i>	Berlin, Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin Preussischer Kulturbesitz
<i>Cu</i>	Cambridge, Cambridge University Library
<i>DÜk</i>	Düsseldorf, Goethe-Museum
<i>En</i>	Edinburgh, National Library of Scotland
<i>Lbl</i>	London, British Library
<i>Pn</i>	Paris, Bibliothèque Nationale de France
<i>WRgs</i>	Weimar, Stiftung Weimarer Klassik, Goethe-Schiller-Archiv
<i>WRL</i>	Weimar, Thüringisches Hauptstaatsarchiv Weimar
<i>WRz</i>	Weimar, Stiftung Weimarer Klassik, Herzogin Anna Amalia Bibliothek
<i>Zsch</i>	Zwickau, Robert-Schumann House

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help throughout this project, including providing me with several kilograms of material about Hummel that he had collected over the years, all of which I used for this book. I congratulate him and his colleagues at the *Hummel-Gesellschaft* for their indefatigable efforts in making Hummel and his music better known to the world.

My sincere thanks go to Scarecrow Press for the first edition of this book and, in particular, to Bruce Phillips, who first accepted my proposal; Renée Camus, who shepherded me through the process of preparing and submitting the manuscript; and Nicole McCullough, who brought the project to completion. Bruce's broad knowledge and experience in the field became apparent from the first moment we discussed this idea, as was his immediate understanding of the need and importance of a first English-language biography of Hummel. Renée and Nicole were equally helpful as they turned these ideas into a reality, showing admirable patience with all my questions and requests.

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Preface to the Second Edition

I was very happy to receive the invitation from the Music Centre Slovakia (Hudobné centrum) to prepare a second edition of my book, particularly because it would be published in Hummel's birthplace. It also gives me the opportunity to correct any errors in the first edition, and more significantly, to include all that we have learned and discovered about Hummel's life and music during these past fifteen years. Indeed, much has happened in the world of Johann Nepomuk Hummel since my monograph appeared in 2007. There have been many excellent performances and recordings of his music, in all genres, and the number continues to grow. Scholarship in the field is also being expanded and enriched, with publications of fine editions of Hummel's works and insightful studies into various aspects of his life and career. It is a source of great satisfaction that Hummel is no longer known simply as the composer of that famous trumpet concerto.

For this second edition and Slovakian translation, I want to express my appreciation to Pavol Šuška of the Hudobné centrum in Bratislava for his guidance and assistance; Ivan Koska, for his meticulous and invaluable editing and corrections; Regine Zeller of the Goethe-Museum Düsseldorf, who provided the images for my first edition and was just as helpful in sending them again for this volume; Marta Syrzistie of the Muzeum Fryderyka Chopina / The Fryderyk Chopin Museum in Warsaw, who sent a fresh copy of Carl Hummel's sketch of Chopin; Christina Johnson and Meghan Hansen of the FIDM Museum, Los Angeles, for providing the image of Hummel's Court Uniform and granted permission for its use; and Yvonne Hummel, the widow of Mike (Hummel's great-great-great grandson), who was unfailingly helpful and generous in providing Hummel family information, all of which I used in the revised Family Tree that appears in this book.

Introduction

Johann Nepomuk Hummel: A Musician's Life and World is not only a book about a great artist whom history seems to have forgotten, although that would have been reason enough to write one. It is also about the many worlds in which he lived. Hummel flourished during one of the most dynamic periods in music history and was at the center of the transformation from the classical to the romantic style of playing and writing music. As Mozart's most famous student, Haydn's protégé, and Beethoven's friend and chief competitor, he was the ultimate classicist. Hummel the romantic, however, exerted a powerful influence on the next generation of composers, notably Schubert, Schumann, Liszt, and Chopin.

The political, economic, and cultural environment in which Hummel lived and worked was also constantly shifting under his feet, resulting in a new world of opportunities and responsibilities for the artist. Hummel took full advantage of these changes and even initiated some of his own.

Each new discovery about Hummel will surely increase the reader's respect and admiration for this superb musician and fascinating human being. A child prodigy who could read music at the age of four and play the violin at five and the piano at six, Hummel went on to become one of the great virtuoso pianists of his era. He toured more extensively than any of his contemporaries, essentially creating the model for today's touring artist, and was an innovator in the commercial aspects of the music business, such as advertising, promotion, and copyright protection. Hummel was also a highly respected conductor, a Kapellmeister to the important courts of Eisenstadt, Stuttgart, and Weimar, and one of the most sought-after piano teachers in Europe. Hummel the composer was held in as high esteem as Hummel the performer. He was, in fact, the most popular composer of his era, the appearance of every new composition being heralded as a major event by critics, the public, and fellow musicians.