

MUSI 2000-219 Independent Study

Orchestral Excerpts

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Rossini – William Tell

I. Background

- a. Gioachino Rossini (1792-1868) - Italian
- b. Father – horn/Mother – singer
- c. Played piano and sung
- d. Wrote unusual string quartets when younger
 - i. 2 violins
 - ii. Cello
 - iii. Double Bass
- e. Musical output
 - i. 39 Operas
 - ii. Chamber Music
 - iii. Songs
 - iv. Sacred Music
 - v. Piano Works

II. Guidelines

- a. Period/Style
 - i. Nineteenth Century – Completed in 1829
 - ii. Four Act Opera
 - iii. Written for a very small orchestra
- b. Technical
 - i. Capture the right style as exemplified in the beginning of the storm scene.
 - ii. Making the scale even sounding
 - iii. Maintaining the musical line and direction
 - iv. Sectional – intonation, blend, rhythmic cohesion
- c. Context
 - i. Bass Drum on the beat
 - ii. Horns off the beat
 - iii. Strings/Woodwinds on downward scales.

III. Challenges

- a. Rhythmic stability
- b. Good sound
- c. Technique
 - i. Tricky, uneven “chromatic” scale
 - ii. Intonation
 - iii. Capturing the right spirit/style
 - iv. Intervallic Leaps in the line