

Friederich August Belcke (1795-1874)

Belcke and the Danish connection.

As far as we know the German Trombone virtuoso Friederich August Belcke toured Denmark three times: 1832, 1835 and in 1838.

Belcke had an association to the Danish Court - being on friendly terms with Frederik 7th to whom he dedicated two solo works for trombone. He wrote a coronation march for Christian the 8th which was published as a piano version in the same year as the coronation (1840).

Some years before (1835) Belcke had visited Copenhagen and together with his flute playing brother (Christian Gottlob Belcke) and members of the Royal Danish Court Orchestra made a "concert spirituel" in the Royal Palace Church. The concert spiritual was a concept that the Belcke brothers embraced. You can find numerous examples and concert programs where the brothers joined forces with the local musicians and made a concert together with a program consisting of sacred and secular music. At this concert, a young aspiring composer Henrik Rung took part both in the role as violon player (double bass) and as having some of his first compositions played. (Thrane: Cæciliaforeningen og dens stifter page.32).

Schweizer-Klänge was played at this event (Allgemeiner Musikalischer Anzeiger nr. 13 29th of March 1835) with a thorough description that it was played under the presence of his Royal Highness the Crown Prince Frederik (later Christian the 8th). Apparently, it had already become a "touring piece" since Belcke also played it in Hamburg (Hamburger Musikalische Zeitung No. 12 21st of March page 94). Whether the "Preghiera" (Prayer) was played on this concert is a bit more uncertain. Since there is a distinction in the dedications – the "Schweizerklänge" is in German and "Preghiera" is in Danish (possibly the copyist) and furthermore the dedication for "Preghiera" is to the King Frederik 7th which means that either the copyist has updated the dedication or the composition is made as a tribute to Frederik 7th when he became King in 1848. There is evidence that there has been a correspondence between Belcke and Chr. 8. – letter from 1838 – which is in the royal archives (*Vello Helk: Kongehusarkivet p.67*).

Belcke had a close relationship to the Danish court and wrote at least 3 works dedicated to respectively Frederik 7th (Preghiera?) and Christian 8th (Schweizer-Klänge 1835 and Coronation March 1840).

"Schweizer-Klänge" was part of a music collection donated to the Royal Danish Library from S.A.E. Hagen (Sophus Albert Emil Hagen 1842-1929). Hagen was a musicologist, music publisher and composer.

"Schweitzer-Klänge" is scored for "harmonie musik" – wind band – solo bass trombone, 1 flute, 2 oboes, 2 clarinets, 2 bassoons and 2 horns. The bass instruments are either bass horn (serpent or ophicleide) contra bassoon, violin (double bass).

I am indebted to my esteemed colleague prof. emeritus Mogens Andresen who made me aware of the "Preghiera" (Prayer) and its origin.

Niels Ole-Bo Johansen

February 23, 2021

Schweizer-Klänge

Solo Bass Trombone

für die Bassposaune
mit militärischer Begleitung componiert und

Seiner Königlichen Hoheit dem Prinzen Christian Friederich von Dänemark

Friederich Belcke

edited by Niels-Ole Bo Johansen

Introduzione

Andante

9

solo

Andantino



mf dolce

16



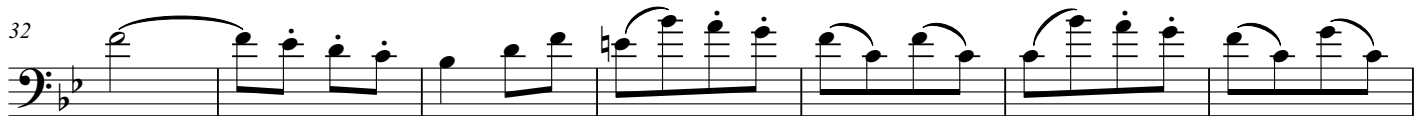
Allegro

25



mp

32



39



rallentando a tempo

48



106

Musical notation for measures 106-114. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The notation consists of eighth and sixteenth notes, some with accents, and some beamed together. There are several slurs and a fermata over a measure in measure 114.

115

Musical notation for measures 115-123. Measure 115 starts with a trill (tr) and a wavy line. The tempo marking *Andantino* is present. The time signature changes to 3/4. The dynamic marking *mf* is present. The notation includes slurs and accents.

124

Musical notation for measures 124-132. The dynamic marking *pp* is present. The tempo marking *dolce* is present. The notation includes slurs and accents.

Schweizer-Klänge

für die Bassposaune
mit militärischer Begleitung komponiert und
Seiner Königlichen Hoheit dem Prinzen Christian Friederich von Dänemark

Friederich Belcke
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Introduzione Andante

Solo Bass Trombone

Flute *f* 3

Oboe 1 *f*

Oboe 2 *f*

Clarinet in B \flat 1 *f* 3

Clarinet in B \flat 2 *f*

Horn 1 in B \flat *f*

Horn 2 in B \flat *f*

Bassoon 1 *f* 3

Bassoon 2 *f*

Contrabassoon *f*

Bass Horn (Tuba) *f*

Violon (Double Bass) *f*

Triangle *p* solo

13

The musical score is arranged in a vertical stack of staves. From top to bottom, the instruments are: B. Tbn., Fl., Ob. 1, Ob. 2, Cl. 1, Cl. 2, B♭ Hn. 1, B♭ Hn. 2, Bsn. 1, Bsn. 2, Cbsn., Tba., Db., and Tri. The B. Tbn. staff starts with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats, and contains a melodic line with eighth notes and slurs. The Fl. staff is in treble clef with a melodic line featuring some grace notes. The woodwind staves (Ob. 1, Ob. 2, Cl. 1, Cl. 2, Bsn. 1, Bsn. 2, Cbsn., Tba., Db.) are mostly in treble clef, with some woodwinds (Cl. 1, Cl. 2, Bsn. 1, Cbsn., Tba., Db.) starting with rests and slurs. The B♭ Hn. 1 and B♭ Hn. 2 staves are in treble clef and feature a 'solo' section with a more active melodic line. The percussion staff (Tri.) is at the bottom and consists of a single line with a vertical line and a double bar line. The page number '13' is located at the top left. The page number '3' is at the top right. The title 'Belcke - Schweizer-Klänge' is at the top center. The instruments are labeled on the left side of each staff. Dynamic markings 'p' (piano) are present in several staves. Some staves have a repeat sign (double slash with dots). Some staves have a fermata symbol. Some staves have a 'solo' marking. Some staves have a 'p' marking. Some staves have a 'p' marking. Some staves have a 'p' marking. Some staves have a 'p' marking. Some staves have a 'p' marking.

Belcke - Schweizer-Klänge

21 **Allegro**

B. Tbn. *mp*

Fl. *p*

Ob. 1 *p*

Ob. 2 *p*

Cl. 1 *p*

Cl. 2 *p*

Bb Hn. 1 *p*

Bb Hn. 2 *p*

Bsn. 1 *p*

Bsn. 2 *p*

Cbsn. *p*

Tba. *p*

Db. *p*

Tri. *p*

137

B. Tbn.

Fl.

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

B♭ Hn. 1

B♭ Hn. 2

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2

Cbsn.

Tba.

Db.

Tri.

3

3

3

4

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for a woodwind and brass ensemble. The page is numbered 18 in the top left corner. The title at the top center is "Belcke - Schweizer-Klänge". The score begins at measure 137. The instruments listed on the left are: B. Tbn. (Bass Trombone), Fl. (Flute), Ob. 1 and Ob. 2 (Oboes), Cl. 1 and Cl. 2 (Clarinets), B♭ Hn. 1 and B♭ Hn. 2 (Bass Horns), Bsn. 1 and Bsn. 2 (Bassoons), Cbsn. (Contrabassoon), Tba. (Tuba), Db. (Double Bass), and Tri. (Triangle). The B. Tbn. part features a triplet of eighth notes in the first measure, followed by a long note with a slur. The Fl. part has a triplet of eighth notes in the second measure. The Ob. 1 and Ob. 2 parts have long notes with slurs. The Cl. 1 and Cl. 2 parts have slurs. The B♭ Hn. 1 and B♭ Hn. 2 parts have eighth notes. The Bsn. 1 and Bsn. 2 parts have eighth notes and a triplet in the fourth measure. The Cbsn., Tba., and Db. parts have long notes with slurs. The Tri. part has a fourth measure with a "4" above it and slurs. Dynamic markings like "f" and "mf" are present. The score ends with a double bar line.