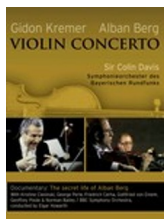


Alban Berg - Violin Concerto - Gidon Kremer (1984)

Written by bluesever

Friday, 11 December 2009 12:34 - Last Updated Saturday, 24 August 2013 11:57

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1. *Andante –Allegretto*

2. *Allegro – Adagio*

Gidon Kremer - violin BBC Symphony Orchestra Sir Colin Davis - conductor

Berg composed his Violin Concerto, which also incorporates material by Bach, was composed during the summer of 1935 under a commission from the American violinist Louis Krasner, who gave the premiere at the ISCM Festival in Barcelona on April 19, 1936, with Hermann Scherchen conducting.

According to her mother, Berg was so moved that he “could not finish his opera Lulu . He composed the Violin Concerto and dedicated it to the memory of Manon.” Indeed, Berg spoke of the Concerto as a “Requiem for Manon”; it was to become his own requiem as well: it was the last work he completed, and its many-faceted involvement with death has been assumed to include an acknowledgement of the dissolution of the world in which both he and young Manon lived. It may be further noted, however, that the Concerto, like several of the other works Berg composed in the last ten years of his life, carried a “secret program.” While the elegiac character of the music and the gesture toward Manon can stand as sufficient background, the actual dedication, in Berg's mind, was a dual one: to Hanna Fuchs-Robettin, his love for whom inspired the numerological and musical references in his Lyric Suite for strings, and to a young servant girl who had borne him a child many years earlier. ---kennedy-center.org

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