

Heinrich HOFMANN (1842-1902)

Waldvöglein Op 77 No 15

INTERMEDIATE

This 'Woodbird' belongs to a set of Sketches, 19 in all, by a Berlin-born composer and pianist who would have understood the central place occupied by forests and forest creatures within German culture and mythology, represented most enduringly by the tales recorded and embroidered by the Brothers Grimm and by the *Ring* tetralogy of Richard Wagner.

Playing tips: You can hear the woodbird's chirping in acciaccaturas that should be played quickly (just before the beat) but without aggression. The dynamic is

piano or *pianissimo* almost throughout, which will require you to establish a scale of pressure to be applied to the keys so that they sound softly but distinctly. Try practising slowly at first so that from the outset you can build all the different types of articulation needed into your playing. The climax occurs at bars 27-28: take your time over the pauses here before returning to the main tempo at bar 29 and rounding off as innocently and gracefully as you began.

Pedal tips: See markings on the score.

Andante con moto

The musical score for 'Waldvöglein Op 77 No 15' by Heinrich Hofmann is presented in four systems. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 3/8. The tempo/mood is 'Andante con moto'. The score begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic and a 'Ped.' (pedal) marking. The first system (measures 1-4) includes fingerings 3, 2, 4, 1, 5, 3, 4, and 3. The second system (measures 5-8) includes fingerings 4, 5, 5, and a complex fingering 1, 3, 5, 1, 2. The third system (measures 9-12) starts with a piano-piano (*pp*) dynamic and includes fingerings 2, 4, 1, 4, and a 'sim.' (simile) marking. The fourth system (measures 13-15) includes fingerings 3, 3, 2, 2, 1, 4, 1, 3, 2, and 1. The score concludes with a final chord in measure 15.

17

p

2 1 2

5 2

2 4

21

p

25

rit.

1

1

4

4

29

a tempo

rit.

pp

3 2 1

2 1

1 2 5

1 2 5