

Violino 2 do

*Minuets
and
Polonaises*

by
Salomon Eklín,
Växjö, Southern Sweden
1770-1788

a selection of three of each,
edited by David Kettlewell

www.new-renaissance.net

*Violino: Primo
e Du
Salomon Eklín.*
1772.



*La Musique charme les oreilles, & ravit les esprits:
Salomon Eklín.*

Music manuscript no. 7 in the provincial library of Växjö in Southern Sweden is a collection of three part-books containing about 160 polonaises and minuet, roughly half of each, by Salomon Eklín, who was music teacher at the gymnasium there; the title pages are labelled *Violino Primo*, *Violino Secondo* and *Basso*. The title pages are dated 1772, but there are tunes in the books dated between 1770 and 1788; to the title page of the bass book is added "24th December" - an interesting way of spending Christmas Eve ...

The pages are 16.5 cm wide and 12.5 cm high - 'landscape' format, rather small and convenient, perhaps portable.

A very few of the minuets are credited to other composers:

- no. 5, 6, 7, 8, 13, 15 and 37 are "*Menuette dell Hehstscher (?)*"
- no. 39 is "*Menuette dell F.E.Z*"
- no. 143 is "*Menu: de Collenberg*"
- no. 106 is "*Menuetto dell Sigr. Esser(t)*".

The polonaises seem to be all by Salomon Eklín; most of them have the spelling "*Poloneße*", a few have "*Polonois*". The path from 18thC polonaises to the Swedish folk dance polska is traced by Anders Rosén in his suite of recordings on the Hurv label, www.hurv.com

The Växjö library staff were kind enough to provide me with a photocopy, which I cut and pasted and bound to make a kind of home-made facsimile edition. With the ensemble Musica Colorata I have played through the whole collection direct from the books just as they are: the experience is rather exciting, and rather satisfying musically, except that the bass parts are missing for about 10% of the pieces, and there are a good number of mistakes in the copying which make the harmonies feel pretty uncomfortable at times ... indeed some of the second parts feel as if they were composed by a pupil and never got checked by the master ...

So what I have done here is

- made a selection of three polonaises and three minuets; for every one I included, I had to reject 10 at least as interesting ...
- tidied up the melodies where there seemed to be wrong notes
- tidied up the second parts where they were dissonant or where a small change could make them significantly more elegant
- composed bass parts where they were missing
- written them out again with a bit more space, and perhaps a bit more clearly

It's in the spirit of the times to play the pieces on whatever instruments you have available; the bass can be rendered on a single-line instrument like cello, bassoon or double-bass, or by a polyphonic one like guitar, harpsichord, piano, harp or organ; the upper parts are often rather idiomatic for violin, but many work well on a clarinet - also used in traditional folk music in Sweden as an alternative to the violin - and no. 129 bears the inscription "oboë" in one bar to show how an oboist would play differently from the violinist.

You can hear my own interpretations here www.NewRenaissance.ibs.ee/eklin

David

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Polonaise

Salomon Eklun

59.

Handwritten musical score for a Polonaise by Salomon Eklun, page 4 of 9. The score is written on ten staves. The first staff is marked with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 3/4 time signature. The music is written in a fluid, handwritten style. The first staff begins with a measure rest, followed by a series of eighth and sixteenth notes. The second staff continues the melody, with a 'p.' (piano) marking. The third staff features a 'f.' (forte) marking. The fourth staff has a 'p.' marking. The fifth staff is marked with a 'Trio' and a 'f.' marking. The sixth staff continues the melody. The seventh staff has a key signature change to two sharps (F# and C#). The eighth staff continues the melody. The ninth staff has a key signature change to one sharp (F#). The tenth staff concludes the piece with a double bar line and repeat dots.

62 *Polonaise*

The musical score is written on seven staves. The first four staves are for the Violino 2 part, and the last three staves are for the Violoncello (Tr.) part. The music is in 3/4 time and G major. The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings.

Menuetto

74.

The first system of the *Menuetto* consists of measures 74 to 78. It is written in treble clef with a 3/4 time signature. The melody is characterized by eighth-note patterns and rests. Measure 74 begins with a half rest followed by an eighth note. Measures 75 and 76 contain eighth-note runs. Measure 77 features a half rest followed by an eighth note. Measure 78 ends with a double bar line and repeat dots. The second system contains measures 79 to 83. Measure 79 starts with a half rest and an eighth note. Measures 80 and 81 have eighth-note patterns. Measure 82 has a half rest and an eighth note. Measure 83 ends with a double bar line and repeat dots. The third system contains measures 84 to 88. Measure 84 starts with a half rest and an eighth note. Measures 85 and 86 have eighth-note patterns. Measure 87 has a half rest and an eighth note. Measure 88 ends with a double bar line and repeat dots. The fourth system, labeled *Trio.*, contains measures 89 to 93. Measure 89 starts with a half rest and an eighth note. Measures 90 and 91 have eighth-note patterns. Measure 92 has a half rest and an eighth note. Measure 93 ends with a double bar line and repeat dots. The fifth system contains measures 94 to 98. Measure 94 starts with a half rest and an eighth note. Measures 95 and 96 have eighth-note patterns. Measure 97 has a half rest and an eighth note. Measure 98 ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Trio.



Polonois

139.

The image shows a handwritten musical score on ten staves. The first section, titled 'Polonois', consists of the first seven staves. It begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 3/4 time signature. The notation includes various rhythmic values, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. There are several dynamic markings, including 'p' (piano) and 'f' (forte). The second section, titled 'Minuet', consists of the last three staves. It also begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The notation includes eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. There are dynamic markings, including 'p' and 'f'. The score is written in a cursive, handwritten style.

Menuetto

158

Trio.

Fin.