

# ASGER HAMERIK

**QVARTETTO** 

UDGIVET AF Edited by

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DANSK CENTER FOR MUSIKUDGIVELSE

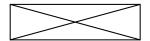
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### **PREFACE**

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## **INDLEDNING**

#### Asger Hamerik

Asger Hamerik (1843-1923) var søn af teolog og historiker Frederik Hammerich og bror til musikhistoriker Angul Hammerich – desuden fætter til komponist C.F.E. Horneman og beslægtet med komponist J.P.E. Hartmanns første kone, Emma Hartmann.

Oprindeligt planlagde han at studere teologi, men i stedet begyndte han i 1859 at studere musikteori hos Gottfred Matthison-Hansen og komposition hos Niels W. Gade og J.P.E. Hartmann. I 1862 rejste han først til London og siden til Berlin, hvor han studerede hos Hans von Bülow. I Berlin stiftede han desuden bekendtskab med Richard Wagner, som inviterede ham til at besøge sig i München, men efter krigen mellem Danmark og Preussen brød ud i 1864 besluttede Hamerik at forlade Tyskland. Han fortsatte sine kompositionsstudier hos Hector Berlioz i Paris, hvor han blev introduceret til en række fremtrædende musikpersonligheder og, i samarbejde med Berlioz, fik arrangeret en koncert med egne værker.

Koncertrejser i de følgende år førte Hamerik til bl.a. Danmark og Sverige, og under en rejse i Italien modtog han et tilbud fra den amerikanske konsul om at overtage stillingen som direktør for konservatoriet og musikforeningen i Baltimore. Efter nogen tids overvejelser besluttede han at acceptere tilbuddet og rejste i 1871 til USA, hvor han i mange år underviste i musikteori og komposition. Han komponerede også en række værker, som blev opført af konservatoriets symfoniorkester og gjorde en indsats for at fremme nordiske komponister i det amerikanske musikliv, som hidtil havde været domineret af tysk musik.

I 1894 giftede han sig med pianisten Margaret Williams, og efter en periode med koncertrejser i Europa i slutningen af århundredet slog de sig ned i Danmark, på Frederiksberg, hvor Hamerik var bosat indtil sin død i 1923.

#### Qvartetto

Qvartetto for strygere er et ungdomsværk, komponeret i 1859, og består kun af en enkelt sats.2 Af en artikel i Dansk Musiktidsskrift om Asger Hamerik fra 1926 fremgår det, at "Nogle Kompositioner i Aaret 1859 skaffede ham Gades og J.P.E. Hartmanns Anerkendelse og Opmuntring til at hellige sig Tonekunsten".3 I en tidligere artikel i tidsskriftet Musik er disse kompositioner specificeret. 4 Qvartetto ikke er nævnt, men det faktum, at kvartetten er renskrevet som partitur - muligvis af en professionel nodeskriver - kunne tyde på, at den har været blandt de værker han har fremvist i sin helt tidlige kompositionsvirksomhed. Udover partituret i fremmed hånd findes et sæt stemmer i Hameriks håndskrift med nogle blyantstilføjelser, som kan være foretaget i forbindelse med en opførelse. I så fald forekommer det dog sandsynligt, at det er foregået i privat regi, da kvartetten, udover at være blandt hans tidligste kompositioner, ikke figurerer i værkfortegnelsen i Musik, som bygger på Hameriks eget manuskript.5

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<sup>1</sup> Det var i øvrigt i forbindelse med krigen i 1864, at Hamerik besluttede at ændre sit navn, så det i stedet for den tyske stavemåde fik en mere nordisk form jf. Kristian Ribers, "Asger Hamerik", Dansk Musiktidsskrift, 8 (maj 1926), s. 126.

<sup>2</sup> Asger Hameriks første komposition er dateret i 1856 og tilegnet moderen jf. Kristian Ribers, "Asger Hamerik in memoriam", Musik, 8 (1923), s. 109.

<sup>3</sup> Kristian Ribers, "Asger Hamerik", Dansk Musiktidsskrift, 8 (maj 1926), s. 126.

<sup>4</sup> Kristian Ribers, "Asger Hamerik in memoriam", Musik, 8 (1926), s. 109.

<sup>5</sup> Kristian Ribers, "Asger Hamerik in memoriam", Musik, 10 (1923), s. 135.

# INTRODUCTION

#### Asger Hamerik

Asger Hamerik (1843–1923) was the son of the theologian and historian Frederik Hammerich and brother to the musicologist Angul Hammerich; he was also a cousin of the composer C.F.E. Horneman and related to the composer J.P.E. Hartmann's first wife, Emma Hartmann.

He originally planned to study theology: however, in 1859 he began to study music theory with Gottfred Matthison-Hansen and composition with Niels W. Gade and J.P.E. Hartmann. In 1862, he travelled to London and later on to Berlin, where he studied with Hans von Bülow. In Berlin, he also got acquainted with Richard Wagner, who invited him to pay him a visit in Munich, but when the war between Denmark and Prussia broke out in 1864, Hamerik decided to leave Germany. He continued his compositional studies with Hector Berlioz in Paris, where he was introduced to a number of leading musical figures, and, along with Berlioz, he also arranged a concert with his own works.

In the following years, concert tours brought Hamerik to Denmark and Sweden amongst other countries, and during a stay in Italy the American consul offered Hamerik the post as director of the conservatory and music society in Baltimore. After some thought, he decided to accept the offer and left for America in 1871, where he spent many years teaching music theory and composition. He also composed a number of works which were performed by the conservatory's symphony orchestra and made an effort to promote Scandinavian composers in American musical life, which so far had been dominated by German music.

In 1894, he married the pianist Margaret Williams, and after a period of concert tours in Europe at the end of the century, they settled down in Denmark, in Frederiksberg, where Hamerik lived until he passed away in 1923.

#### Qvartetto

Qvartetto for strings is an early work, composed in 1859, and consists of only one movement.2 In an article on Asger Hamerik, published in Dansk Musiktidsskrift of 1926, it appears that 'some compositions in the year 1859 gave him the recognition and encouragement of Gade and J.P.E. Hartmann, to devote himself to the art of music'.3 In an earlier article from the periodical Musik, these compositions are specified without Qvartetto being mentioned,4 but the fact that the score exists in a fair copy, perhaps written by a professional copyist, could suggest that it was one of the works he presented during his early compositional activities. Besides the score written in a foreign hand, a set of parts exist in Hamerik's handwriting with some pencil additions that could have been made in connection with a performance. In that case, however, it seems likely that it took place in private settings, since the quartet, apart from being among his earliest compositions, does not appear in the work catalogue from Musik which is based on Hamerik's own manuscript.5

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Hamerik's decision to change his name so that the spelling appeared Scandianvian rather than German, was also made in connection with the war in 1864; cf. Kristian Ribers, 'Asger Hamerik', Dansk Musiktidsskrift, 8 (May 1926), p. 126.

<sup>2</sup> Asger Hamerik's first composition is dated in 1856 and dedicated to his mother; cf. Kristian Ribers, 'Asger Hamerik in memoriam', Musik, 8 (1923), p. 109.

<sup>3</sup> Kristian Ribers, 'Asger Hamerik', *Dansk* Musiktidsskrift, 8 (May 1926), p.126.

<sup>4</sup> Kristian Ribers, 'Asger Hamerik in memoriam', Musik, 8 (1923), p. 109.

<sup>5</sup> Kristian Ribers, 'Asger Hamerik in memoriam', Musik, 10 (1923), p. 135.

# **ABBREVIATIONS**

 $\mathit{DK} ext{-}\mathit{Kk}$  Det Kongelige Bibliotek, København

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stacc. staccato
va. viola
vc. violoncello
vl. violino

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# CRITICAL COMMENTARY

#### DESCRIPTION OF SOURCES

- A Parts, autograph, fair copy
- B Score, transcript, fair copy

#### A Parts, autograph, fair copy.

DK-Kk, ms 3799, mu 9601.1600.

On the first music page (in ink): 'Violino  $I^{\rm mo}$  / Qvartetto / Asger Hammerich'.

Four bifolios (one for each part).

35x25.8 cm, four orchestral parts (vl.1, vl.2, va., vc.); written in ink with corrections and additions in pencil.

#### B Score, transcript, fair copy.

*DK-Kk*, ms 3799, mu 9601.1600.

Title on the first music page (in ink): 'Qvartetto / Asger Hammerich'.

Dating on the first music page (in pencil): '1859'.

One bifolio; three folios.

10 numbered pages.

34.7x25.6 cm, scoring four orchestral parts (vl.1, vl.2, va., vc.); written in ink with corrections in ink and a few additions in pencil.

#### EVALUATION OF SOURCES

The two sources have been kept in the same cover, entitled 'Ovartetto' in ink and dated '1859' in pencil. It is striking that the parts (A) are in Hamerik's hand while the score (B) is in a foreign hand, perhaps by a professional copyist. It would usually be the other way around and it seems reasonable to assume that a score in Hamerik's hand once existed. It is clear that the two sources are related (the score is probably a copy of the assumed missing score), since they contain the same errors, such as a missing natural in b. 110 (vl.1) and a missing slur in b. 134 (vl.2). The score contains a few corrections in ink and a few additions in pencil. The parts contain numerous pencil additions, especially in the last section of the quartet which repeats certain themes but with less slurring and dynamics than in the first section. The added slurs, however, seem somewhat casual. A few of the pencil additions are clearly in Hamerik's hand, but others are in a foreign hand and also with a different type of pencil; in some cases, though, and especially when it comes to slurring, it is not possible to distinguish the handwriting of one from the other. In the present edition, the parts (A) have been chosen as the main source, but without the pencil additions. Important variants can be found in the list of emendations and variant readings.

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EDITORIAL EMENDATIONS AND ALTERNATIVE READINGS		59 vl.2	vl.2	notes 7-9, 10-12: slur added by analogy with notes 1-3, 4-6 and vc. and as in <b>B</b>	
In the present edition, short-hand notation has been expanded.			63	vl.1	notes 12–14: slur added by analogy with notes 9–11 and vl.2 and as in B
The exact placement and duration of dynamics such as crescendo and diminuendo (both as hairpins and in written form) are		64	vl.1	end of emended from note 8 to end of bar	
-				by analogy with vl.2, va., vc.	
sometimes difficult to determine which in some cases is due to short-hand notation; this has been normalized tacitly.		66 68	va. vc.	fz added by analogy with vl.1,2 and vc. and as in B slur added by analogy with vl.2 and as in B and in ac-	
SHOIT-I	ianu nota	ation; this has been normalized tacity.	00	vc.	cordance with pencil additions in A; note 2: b added
Bar	Part	Comment			by analogy with vl.2 (note 4) and as in <b>B</b> and in accor-
8	vl.2	two last notes: stacc. added by analogy with vl.1, va.,			dance with pencil additions in A; arco added in accor-
_		vc. and as in B			dance with pencil additions in A
10	vl.2	notes 1,2,9,10: stacc. added by analogy with b.98 and as in B	69	vl.1 va.	arco added in accordance with pencil additions in A and pencil additions in B
11	vl.1 va.	added by analogy with vl.2, vc. and as in B	74	vl.1	A: notes 1–4: slur added in pencil
11	vl.1	B:ends b.12 note 1	75	vl.1	slur added by analogy with b.73 and in accordance
13	vl.1	B: dolce e con espressione	, 0		with pencil additions in A
14	vl.2	last chord, upper note: # added by analogy with vl.1	76	vl.1	A: notes 1–4: slur added in pencil
		and as in <b>B</b> and in accordance with pencil additions	76	vl.1,2	
		in A		va. vc.	<b>A</b> : fourth crotchet: $fz$ added in pencil
17	vl.2	dolce added by analogy with vl.1 and b.105 and as in B	78	vl.1	B: note 1: stacc.
20	vl.1	notes 1-5: one slur emended to two slurs by analogy	80	vc.	B: note 1: stacc.
		with b.108	81-82	vl.1	slurs added by analogy with bb.83-84
20	vl.2	slur added by analogy with va. and b.108; B: notes 1-3:	87	vl.1	B: slur ends b.88 note 1
		slur	90	vl.1	chord 1, lower note: $c'$ emended to $e'$ by analogy with
22	va.	last chord, lower note: 4 added by analogy with vl.1,2,			b.2 and as in B
		vc. and in accordance with pencil additions in A	96	vc.	two last notes: stacc. added by analogy with vl.1,2, va.
24	va.	chord 3, upper note: $c'$ emended to $e'$ as in <b>B</b> and in ac-			and b.8 and as in B
		cordance with pencil corrections in A	97-98	vl.2	cresc added by analogy with vl.1 and bb.9-10 and
25-26	vc.	b.25 note 3 to b.26 note 1: slur added by analogy with		1	as in B
		vl.2 and as in B and in accordance with pencil addi-	98	vl.1	two last notes: stacc. added by analogy with vl.2, va.
	1	tions in A		-1.4	and as in B
27-28	vl.2	b.27 note 3 to b.28 note 1: slur added by analogy with	99	vl.1 vl.1	added by analogy with vl.2, va., vc. and as in B dolce e con espressione emended to dolce con espres-
		bb.25-26, 29-30 and as in <b>B</b> and in accordance with	101	VI.1	sione by analogy with bb.13-14
28	vl.1	pencil additions in <b>A</b> added by analogy with vl.2, va., vc. and as in <b>B</b>	104	vl.1	beginning of emended from note 3 to note 1
28-29	vl.1	b.28 last crotchet to b.29 note 1: slur (from upper	104	****	by analogy with vl.2, va., vc. and b.16 and as in B
20 29	VI.1	note) emended to tie (from lower note) by analogy	105	vc.	pizz. added in accordance with pencil additions in A
		with bb.116-117	110	vl.1	last four notes: $g^{\sharp}$ , emended to $g^{\natural}$ , by analogy with vl.2,
28	vl.2 va. vo	c. B: ends in middle of bar			va., vc.
28-29	va.	B: slur ends b.28 note 6	113-11	4 vl.1	b.113 note 3 to b.114 note 1: slur added by analogy
29-30	vl.1	end of slur emended from b.29 note 6 to b.30 note 1			with bb.25-26 (vl.2) and in accordance with pencil ad-
		by analogy with vl.2			ditions in A
30	vc.	tie added by analogy with b.118 and as in B	113	va.	A: notes 3-6: slur added in pencil
31-32	vl.1	A: b. 31 notes 3-6: slur added in pencil; B: b.31 note 3	113	vc.	end of slur added as in B and in accordance with pen-
		to b.32 note 1: slur			cil additions in A; A: change of system bb.112-113
32	vc.	slur added by analogy with b.120; beginning of	114	vl.1	notes 2-3: slur added by analogy with b.26 (vl.2); A:
		emended from note 2 to note 3 by analogy			notes 2–5: slur added in pencil
		with vl.1,2, va. and as in B	114	vl.2	notes 5-6: tie added by analogy with b.26 (va.) and as
34	vc.	beginning of emended from b.33 note 3			in B
		to b.34 note 1 by analogy with vl.2; end of	115-11	6 vl.2	b.115 note 3 to b.116 note 1: slur added by analogy
		emended from note 3 to note 2 by analogy with vl.2			with bb.25–26, 29–30; <b>A</b> : b.115 notes 3–6: slur added
		and as in B		C	in pencil
36	vl.1	notes 4-6: slur added by analogy with notes 1-3 and	115-11	ovc.	b.115 note 3 to b.116 note 1: slur added by analogy with bb.27–28; A: b.115 notes 3–6: slur added in pencil
		va. and as in B	116-11	7 vl 1	b.116 note 2 to b.117 note 1: slur added by analogy
27	va.	f added by analogy with vl.1,2 and as in B and in ac-	110-11	/ *1.1	with bb.28-29; <b>A</b> : b.116 notes 1-3, 4-7: slur added in
37		cordance with pencil additions in A  f added by analogy with vl.1,2 and as in B			pencil
	ve	, added by analogy with vi. 1, 2 allu do lli D			•
37	vc.		116	V1.2	slur added by analogy with b.28: A: notes 2-5: slur
37 37 40	vc. va.	slur added by analogy with b.44 and in accordance	116	vl.2	slur added by analogy with b.28; A: notes 2–5: slur added in pencil
37		slur added by analogy with b.44 and in accordance with pencil corrections in A; B: notes 1-4: slur added			added in pencil
37 40	va.	slur added by analogy with b.44 and in accordance with pencil corrections in A; B: notes 1-4: slur added in pencil	116-11	7 va.	added in pencil slur added by analogy with bb.28–29
37		slur added by analogy with b.44 and in accordance with pencil corrections in A; B: notes 1-4: slur added		7 va.	added in pencil

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117-118 vl.1	b.117 note 3 to b.118 note 1: slur added by analogy with bb.29–30 (vl.2) and in accordance with pencil ad-		vl.1	slur added by analogy with bb.39, 43 and in accordance with pencil additions in $\bf A$
	ditions in A	127	vc.	tie added by analogy with bb.39, 43 and as in B
117-118 vl.2	b.117 note 3 to b.118 note 1: slur added by analogy	129	va.	note 14: $a^{\sharp}$ " emended to $g^{\sharp}$ " by analogy with notes 9, 12
	with bb.29-30	131	vl.1	slur added by analogy with bb.39, 43
117-118 vc.	b.117 note 3 to b.118 note 1: slur added by analogy	131	vc.	tie added by analogy with bb.39, 43
	with bb.29-30; B: b.117 notes 3-6: slur added in pencil	134	vl.2	notes 8-10: slur added by analogy with vl.1 and in ac-
118 vl.1	notes 2-3: slur added by analogy with b.30; A: notes			cordance with pencil additions in A
	2-5: slur added in pencil	139	vc.	$m{f}$ added by analogy with vl.1,2, va. and as in $m{B}$
118 vl.2	notes 2-3: slur added by analogy with b.30; A: notes	139	vl.1,2	A: p changed to pp in pencil
	2-4: slur added in pencil	139-1	40 vl.1	slur added by analogy with vl.2 and as in B and in ac-
119 vl.1	A: notes 3-6: slur added in pencil			cordance with pencil additions in A
119 vl.2	slur added by analogy with b.31 and in accordance	141	va.vc.	A: <b>p</b> changed to <b>pp</b> in pencil
	with pencil additions in A	143	vc.	ff added by analogy with vl.1,2, va. and as in B and in
119 vc.	slur added by analogy with b.31; A: notes 3-4: slur			accordance with pencil additions in A
	added in pencil			

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