



SØFFREN DEGEN

Pastorale Melanconico, op. 11

for violoncello and guitar

TECLA EDITIONS

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PREFACE

by Jens Bang-Rasmussen

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Melody is the foundation of Degen's music. The cello sings beautifully all the way through the piece. Degen truly treats the cello as an elegy.

The guitar part resembles the guitar parts known of N. Paganini. The piece is in Danish national romantic style. Degen's use of contrast between major and minor is a means of expression throughout most of his own compositions. The melodic material is inspired from Danish folk songs. The harmonisation in Degen's arrangement has a touch of late romantic music, especially in the way he uses the subdominant minor towards the end of the piece. There seem to be small inconsequencies in Degen's writing especially in the guitar part. After spending many hours with Degen's music, this appears to be a very sophisticated way of orchestrating cello and guitar.

Pastorale Melanconico

Søffren Degen (1816-1885)

Opus 11

Andante cantabile

Violoncello

Guitar

6

11

16

20