



musica^{ph}on

Leise flehen meine Lieder

Silently my songs pray. Lieder of the 19th century by Schubert, von Weber, Giuliani, Sor und Spohr

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It may surprise the present concert visitor and CD-listener to hear songs of the early romanticism with guitar. This surprise is the greater, when the subjects are known songs by Franz Schubert, since one knows them only with piano accompaniment. Now it is, however, fact that Schubert's songs already at his lifetime were handed over and performed with guitar accompaniment. Merely between 1821-1828 26 songs were printed in Vienna by Schubert with accompaniment of a guitar. Normally they appeared simultaneously with the piano version or shortly after that; "Der Wanderer" und "Das Morgenlied" were printed even before the first piano edition!

Schubert's old confidants, Spaun, Vogl and Mayrhofer tell that they often found the composer in his bed with the guitar in the hand. While considering the deplorable economical situation of the composer it seems easier to pursue the thought, that Schubert stayed for practical reasons in bed since it could hold himself warmly without costs and he could write his songs with the guitar or try itself out. Up to now also no composer was registered by music historians, who took taken his piano into the bed. Schubert's songs betray often a linking of chords typical for guitar. We can presume, that Schubert songs with guitar must have sound as a successful combination to the ears of the early 19th century.

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