

und noch eduar!



Approaches to Richard Wagner's *Ring* for period woodwinds

Dr. Benjamin Reissenberger, Köln

- Flutes



Flute by Theobald Böhm, Munich

- Oboes



„Munich Oboe“



Englischhorn/Altoboe  
by Joseph Pöschl, Munich

- Clarinets



Richard Mühlfeld's Clarinets  
bei Georg Ottensteiner, Munich



Bass clarinet in A, by Simon Stengel, Bayreuth

- Bassoons



Bassoon by Heckel, Biebrich, No. 3039, 1879

Fig. 1 *Rheingold*, bar 608 to 611

Musical score for orchestra and choir from Wagner's *Rheingold*, bars 608 to 611. The score includes parts for Flute 1, 2; Clarinet (B); Bassoon 1, 2; WELLGUNDE; FLOSSHILDE; Violin II; and Bassoon (Br). The vocal parts have lyrics in German. A red circle highlights a specific melodic line in the upper woodwind section (Flutes and Clarinets) in bar 610.

Fl 1, 2  
Klar (B)  
Fag 1, 2  
WELLGUNDE  
FLOSSHILDE  
Viol II  
Br

610

Hort, daß kein Fal-scher der Flut ihn ent-füh - - re: drum schweigt, ihr schwatzen-des Heer!

610

p ppp  
p ppp  
p  
p  
p  
Du  
p  
pizz p  
Bogen p

Fig. 2 *Rheingold*, bar 398 to 402

Ob 1,2  
EH (F)  
Klar (B) 1,2  
Fag 1,2  
Hr (Es) 2

**WOGLINDE**  
*(Woglinde und Wellgunde sind nahe herabgetaucht.)*

**WELLGUNDE**

**FLOSSHILDE**  
dürft' ich stau-nend und stumm  
sie nur hö - ren und sehn!

**ALBERICH**  
*(erschreckt auffahren)*  
Lacht ihr Bö - senmich

Viol I  
Viol II  
Br  
Vc  
Kb

Fig. 3 *Rheingold*, bar 178 to 182

Musical score for orchestra and choir from bar 178 to 182. The score includes parts for Flute 1,2; Oboe 1,2; Clarinet (B) 1,2; Bassoon (B) 1,2; Bassoon (B) 3; Bassoon (Fag) 1,2; Bassoon (Fag) 3; Horn (E♭) 1,2; Trombone (Kb); Violin I; Violin II; Trombone (Br); Cello (Vc); and Double Bass (Kb). The score shows various dynamics (e.g., *pizz*, *cresc*, *dim*, *f*) and performance instructions (e.g., *Bogen*, *ummer pizz f*). A red circle highlights a specific note in the Bassoon (Fag) 1,2 part in bar 178.

Fl 1,2  
Ob 1,2  
Klar (B)  
Baßkl (B)  
Fag  
Hr (Es) 1,2  
Kbtb  
Viol  
II  
Br  
Vc  
Kb

178

180

*pizz p*

*cresc*

*dim*

*p*

*cresc*

*dim*

*p*

*f*

*cresc*

*dim*

*p*

*f*

*f*

*dim*

*p*

*mf*

*p*

*dim*

*tr*

*tr*

*tr*

*dim*

*tr*

*tr*

*tr*

*dim*

*p*

*f*

*pizz*

*Bogen*

*ummer pizz f*

6

Fig. 4 *Rheingold*, bar 183 to 188

Fig. 5 *Rheingold*, bar 189 to 193

190

Klar (B) 2  
Klar (B) 3  
Baßkl (B)  
Fag 3

WOGLINDE  
WELLGUNDE  
FLOSSHILDE  
ALBERICH\*

naht' ich mich gern, neigtet ihr euch zu mir!

I Viol II  
Br Vc Kb

pizz nur 6 Vc

Hei! Wer ist dort?  
Lugt, wer uns be-lauscht!  
Es däm-mert und ruft!

190 8 Viol  
pizz p  
p

Fig. 6 *Rheingold*, bar 234 to 237

Klar (B) 1, 2

Fag 1, 2, 3

ALBERICH

Vc

Kb

235

*p*

*f*

*f*

*p*

*hastig*

-ze des Riffes zu.)

Garstig glatter glitschriger Glimmer! Wie gleit' ich aus!

Mit Händen und Füßen nicht fasse noch

*p*

*geteilt*

*p*

*f*

*f*

*p*

235

*p*

*f*

*f*

*p*

*hastig*

-ze des Riffes zu.)

Garstig glatter glitschriger Glimmer! Wie gleit' ich aus!

Mit Händen und Füßen nicht fasse noch

*p*

*geteilt*

*p*

*f*

*f*

*p*

Fig. 7 *Rheingold*,  
bar 238 to 240

Musical score for orchestra and choir from bar 238 to 240. The score includes parts for Oboe 1, 2; English Horn (F); Clarinet (B) 1, 2, 3; Bassoon 1, 2; Trombone 1 (E); Trombones 2, 4 (Es); Trombones 3, 5 (F); ALBERICH (bass); Bassoon (Br); Cello (Vc); and Double Bass (Kb). The vocal part for ALBERICH is shown with lyrics in German: "halt' ich das schle-cke Ge-schlüpf-fer! Feuch-tes Naß füllt mir die Na-se —". The score features dynamic markings such as crescendo, forte (f), and ff. Two specific melodic patterns are circled in red: one in the Trombone 1 (E) part around bar 240, and another in the Bassoon (Br) part starting at bar 240.

Fig. 8 *Rheingold*, bar 660 to 663

Musical score for orchestra, bars 660 to 663. The score includes parts for Violin I (Viol I), Violin II (Viol II), Bassoon (Br), and Cello/Kontrabass (Vc, Kb). The score shows two measures of music. In the first measure, Violin I has a sixteenth-note pattern circled in red. In the second measure, Violin II has a sixteenth-note pattern circled in red. The dynamics include *tr*, *f*, *pizz p*, and *p*.

Viol I  
Viol II  
Br  
Vc, Kb

660

*tr* *f* *pizz p* *p*

Fig. 9 *Rheingold*, bar 932 to 937

935

FREIA  
- - de käm'er zu ho - len.

FRICKA

WOTAN  
Daß am lieb - sten du im-mer dem  
Laß ihn drohn ! Sahst du nicht Lo - ge?

935

I Viol II  
*f* *p* *p* *p*

Br  
*f* *p* *p* *fp*

Vc, Kb  
*f* *dim* - - *p* *p*



Fig. 10 *Rheingold*, bar 982 to 986

Sehr wuchtig und zurückhaltend im Zeitmaß\*

985

Baßtrp (Es)

Pos

2,3

Kbpos

Kbtb

Pk

FRICKA\*\*

rie - ten, sie al- le ber-gen sich nun!

(Fasolt und Fafner, beide in riesiger Gestalt, mit starken Pfählen bewaffnet, treten auf.)

Sehr wuchtig und zurückhaltend im Zeitmaß\*

985

I

Viol

II

Br

Vc

Kb

pizz f Bogen ff

pizz p Bogen ff

f pizz p Bogen ff

f

f pizz p Bogen ff

pizz f Bogen ff

Fig. 11 *Rheingold*, bar 1984 to 1991

Fig. 12 *Rheingold*, bar 1978 to 1983

Musical score for orchestra, showing measures 1978 to 1983. The score includes parts for Violin I (Viol I), Violin II (Viol II), Bassoon (Br), Cello (Vc), and Double Bass (Kb). The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). Measure 1978: Viol I has sixteenth-note patterns with dynamics *più f*. Measure 1979: Viol I has eighth-note patterns with dynamic *più f*. Measure 1980: Viol I has sixteenth-note patterns with dynamic *più f*. Measure 1981: Viol I has sixteenth-note patterns with dynamic *f*. Measure 1982: Viol I has eighth-note patterns with dynamic *f*. Measure 1983: Viol I has eighth-note patterns with dynamic *f*. Measures 1978-1980 are circled in red. Measures 1981-1983 are circled in red.

Fig. 13 *Rheingold*, bar 744 to 746

etwas langsamer\*  
ausdrucksvoill\*\*

745

EH (F)      Klar (B) 2,3      Baßkl (B)

Hr (F) 1      1,2 (B)      Tub

3,4 (F)      Kbtb

Pk

Vc      Kb

The musical score displays a series of measures from a composition. The instrumentation includes woodwind instruments (EH, Klar, Baßkl), brass instruments (Hr, 1,2, Tub, 3,4, Kbtb), and strings (Pk, Vc, Kb). The score is annotated with dynamic markings like *p* and *pp*, and expressive instructions like "ausdrucksvoill" and "etwas langsamer". Three specific notes in the double bass (Pk) part are highlighted with red circles.

Fig. 14 *Rheingold*,  
bar 747 to 751

(in Es)

Hr (F) 1  
 1 (B)  
 Tub  
 3,4 (F)  
 Trp (C) 1 (in Es)  
 Kbtb  
 Pk  
 Bck

pp

pp

pp

pp

pp

pp

pp

(Allmählich sind die Wogen in Gewölk übergegangen, welches, als eine immer heller däm-

mit Dämpfer tremolo

750

pp

pp

pp

pp

pp

tremolo

pp

pp

pp

pizz pp Bogen

nur 4

Kb

Fig. 15 *Rheingold*, bar 888 to 892

Musical score for Fig. 15 of Wagner's *Rheingold*, showing parts for Trp (F), Baßtrp (Es), Kbtb, and Pk. The score is in 2/4 time with a key signature of one sharp. Measures 888-892 are shown. A red oval highlights a melodic line in the Baßtrp (Es) part starting in measure 889. Dynamics include *p* and *pp*.

Trp (F)

Baßtrp (Es)

Kbtb

Pk

Fig. 16 *Walküre*, bar 547 to 549

Musical score for *Walküre*, bar 547 to 549, showing parts for Fag, Hr (F), Siegmund, Viol II, Br, Vc, and Kb. The score includes lyrics in German:

SIEGMUND: Sprau zer-stob uns der Feind.  
Doch ward ich vom Va - ter ver-sprengt, sei-ne Spur ver -

The score features four specific musical entries circled in red:

- A eighth-note figure in Viol II at the beginning of the first measure.
- A sixteenth-note figure in Viol II at the beginning of the second measure.
- A eighth-note figure in Kb at the beginning of the first measure.
- A sixteenth-note figure in Kb at the beginning of the second measure.

Measure numbers 26 and 27 are indicated at the bottom left.

Fig. 17 *Walküre*, bar 844 to 848

Musical score for *Walküre*, bar 845 to 848, showing parts for Violin I (Viol), Violin II (II), Bassoon (Br), Cello (Vc), and Double Bass (Kb).

The score indicates the following dynamics and performance instructions:

- Bar 845:
  - Viol I: **fp**
  - Viol II: **fp**
  - Br: **b**
  - Vc: **fp**
  - Kb: **b**
- Bar 846:
  - Viol I: **f**
  - Viol II: **f**
  - Br: **b**
  - Vc: **mf**
  - Kb: **b**
- Bar 847:
  - Viol I: **f**
  - Viol II: **f**
  - Br: **b**
  - Vc: **f**
  - Kb: **f**
- Bar 848:
  - Viol I: **p**
  - Viol II: **p**
  - Br: **b**
  - Vc: **cresc**
  - Kb: **cresc**

Performance instructions include:

- accelerando** (indicated above bar 848)
- cresc** (indicated above bar 848)

Two specific measures (bar 846 and bar 847) are circled in red.

Fig. 18 *Walküre*, bar 821 to 826

825

Hr (D) 3,4

Pos 1,2,3

Kbpos

SIEGMUND

Ra-che Pfand ra-ste ich hier:  
ein Weib sah ich, won-nig und hehr;

Solo-Vc

2 Vc 2. Pult

2 Vc 3. Pult

2 Vc 4. Pult

2 Vc 5. Pult

825

Fig. 19 *Walküre*, bar 1154 to 1155

1155

The musical score displays five staves representing different instruments:

- Fl (Flute):** The first staff, with dynamics **f**, **più f**, **ff**, and **dim**.
- Ob (Oboe):** The second staff, with dynamics **f**, **più f**, **ff**, and **dim**.
- EH (F) (English Horn):** The third staff, with dynamics **f**, **più f**, **ff**, and **dim**.
- Klar (B) (Clarinet):** The fourth staff, with dynamics **f**, **più f**, **ff**, and **dim**. A specific sixteenth-note cluster in this staff is circled in red.
- Fag (Bassoon):** The fifth staff, with dynamics **f**, **più f**, **ff**, and **dim**.

Measure 1154 consists of eighth-note patterns across all staves. Measure 1155 begins with eighth-note patterns, followed by sixteenth-note patterns starting at the beginning of the third measure. The circled sixteenth-note cluster in the Klar (B) staff occurs during the transition between measures 1154 and 1155.

# Articulation and dynamics

- $\wedge$  → strong accent?

See hammerstrokes on anvils in *Siegfried*:

- $\wedge$  strong stroke
- $\vee$  medium stroke
- $|$  light stroke

Fig. 20 *Rheingold*, bar 769 to 775

Ruhiges Zeitmaß

770                    775

1 (B)

2 (B)

Tub

3 (F)

4 (F)

p sehr weich

p sehr weich

p sehr weich

p sehr weich

tenuto

tenuto

tenuto

tenuto

775

Fig. 21 *Rheingold*, bar 1142 to 1147

Musical score for orchestra, measures 1142 to 1147. The score includes parts for Oboe 1, 2; Clarinet (A) 1, 2; Bassoon 1; Bassoon 2, 3; Flute 1 (F); Horn 2 (F); Bassoon 3, 4 (D); and Trombone (D) 1, 2.

A red oval highlights the beginning of the section, starting with measure 1142. The bassoon parts (measures 1142-1144) show eighth-note patterns. Measures 1145-1147 feature dynamic markings: **ff** (fortissimo) for the bassoons and flutes, and **f** (forte) for the brass. The bassoon parts transition to different keys: (in C), (in C), (in E), and (in C) respectively. The brass parts remain in C major throughout this section.

Measure 1142: Bassoon 1, Bassoon 2, Bassoon 3, Trombone 1, Trombone 2. Measure 1143: Bassoon 1, Bassoon 2, Bassoon 3, Trombone 1, Trombone 2. Measure 1144: Bassoon 1, Bassoon 2, Bassoon 3, Trombone 1, Trombone 2. Measure 1145: Bassoon 1, Bassoon 2, Bassoon 3, Trombone 1, Trombone 2. Measure 1146: Bassoon 1, Bassoon 2, Bassoon 3, Trombone 1, Trombone 2. Measure 1147: Bassoon 1, Bassoon 2, Bassoon 3, Trombone 1, Trombone 2.

Fig. 22 *Rheingold*, bar 1476 to 1481

Musical score for orchestra, showing parts for Oboe 1, English Horn (F), Clarinet (A) 1, Clarinet (A) 2, and Clarinet (A) 3. The score spans from bar 1476 to 1481. The parts are as follows:

- Ob 1:** Starts with a rest, then plays eighth-note pairs (3).
- EH (F):** Starts with a rest, then plays eighth-note pairs (3). Red circles highlight two melodic patterns: one starting with a sharp note followed by eighth-note pairs (3), and another starting with a sharp note followed by eighth-note pairs (3).
- 1:** Plays eighth-note pairs (3).
- Klar (A) 2:** Starts with a rest, then plays eighth-note pairs (3). Red circles highlight two melodic patterns: one starting with a sharp note followed by eighth-note pairs (3), and another starting with a sharp note followed by eighth-note pairs (3).
- 3:** Starts with a rest.

Measure 1480 begins with a dynamic *p*. The parts continue with their respective melodic patterns, ending with a dynamic *p*.



Thank you for your attention!