

**HISTORICAL, THEORETICAL, AND
TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR
TEACHING AND PERFORMING RUMEN
BAIRAKTAROV'S *CONCERTO FOR
VIOLIN AND ORCHESTRA***



Rumen Bairaktarov

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RUMEN BAIRAKTAROV, B.1946

- Born in the city of Bourgas, Bulgaria
- Considered part of the third generation of Bulgarian composers
- Studied composition under Alexander Raychev and Olivier Messiaen
- In his monumental works (symphonies, concertos, etc.), avoided incorporating Bulgarian folk elements
- Incorporated elements from Eastern Orthodox chant into his *Concerto for Violin and Orchestra*



BAIRAKTAROV: *CONCERTO FOR VIOLIN AND ORCHESTRA*

- In 1980, Bairaktarov decided to compose concerto after visiting several monasteries in Bulgaria
- Written in 1981, the concerto was dedicated to virtuoso violinist and pedagogue, Elisaveta Kazakova
- Concerto premiered in 1981 by Elisaveta Kazakova and the Bulgarian National Radio Orchestra
- Received outstanding reviews from critics in Bulgaria
- The concerto won the annual award for compositions of this genre by the Union of Bulgarian Composers
- A recording of the concerto together with his *First Symphony* won Best Record of the Year Prize by the US-based Koussevitzky Foundation (1985)
- Henri Dutilleux, in 1988, upon hearing in Paris the recording of the concerto as interpreted by Kazakova, wrote a letter to Bairaktarov, offering his highest praise for the work, stating that it was “remarkably well-written and magnificently performed.”



CONCERTO FOR VIOLIN AND ORCHESTRA: FORM AND STRUCTURE

Structure and form reveal two layers:

Exposition		Development		Recapitulation (Mirror)		
A	B	A+B	C	B'	A+B+C (Bridge)	A'
First Theme	Second Theme		New Thematic Material			
Mm. A-23	24-35	36-130	131-201	202-213	214-290	291 - End

Introduzione	Toccata	Aria 1	Ostinato	Aria 2
Mm. A-35	36-130	131-213	214-267	268-End



INTRODUZIONE: OPENING THEME

INTRODUZIONE

The image shows a page of a musical score for a piece titled "Lento". The score is written for piano (p) and includes a variety of musical notations and performance instructions.

Section 1: Introduction

- Tempo/Character:** Lento
- Key Signature:** B-flat major (two flats: B-flat and E-flat).
- Time Signature:** 4/4
- Performance Instructions:**
 - senza misura* (without measure) with a tempo marking of $(\text{♩} = 72-76)$.
 - con sord.* (with mutes).
 - pp* (pianissimo).
- Notation:** The introduction consists of several staves of music, primarily using eighth and sixteenth notes, with some triplet markings (3).

Section 2: Main Section

- Tempo/Character:** **1** tempo precedente (previous tempo).
- Key Signature:** B-flat major (two flats: B-flat and E-flat).
- Time Signature:** 4/4
- Performance Instructions:**
 - poco cresc.* (a little crescendo).
- Notation:**
 - The section begins with a measure marked **1**.
 - There are several measures with notes and rests, some with dynamic markings like *p* (piano).
 - A measure marked **2** is followed by a measure marked **3**.
 - There are measures with notes and rests, some with dynamic markings like *p* (piano).
 - A measure marked **4** is followed by a measure marked **5**.
 - The section ends with a measure marked **6**.

INTRODUZIONE: SECOND THEME

Allegro ($\text{♩} = 120-126$)

ff¹ V V G V G

IV V G -3

V -2 2 V 2 1 1

† От цифра 4 до цифра 5 преходната партия не се изпълнява в клавирен вариант.
Von Ziffer 4 bis Ziffer 5 wird die Überleitungsstelle in der Klavierversion nicht ausgeführt

TEACHING AND PERFORMANCE PRACTICE CONSIDERATIONS

- Written by a former violinists in collaboration with one of Bulgaria's leading violinists and pedagogues, so seemingly daunting passages quite idiomatic to the instrument
- Requires familiarity with Eastern Orthodox sonorities
- Since the division of movements represents changes in character, requires extensive tonal palette
- Phrasing and articulation must be carefully considered and planned



INTRODUZIONE: OPENING THEME

INTRODUZIONE

[illegible]

INTRODUZIONE: SECOND THEME

Allegro ($\text{♩} = 120-126$)

ff¹ V V G V G

IV V G -3

V -2 V

† От цифра 4 до цифра 5 преходната партия не се изпълнява в клавирен вариант.
Von Ziffer 4 bis Ziffer 5 wird die Überleitungsstelle in der Klavierfassung nicht ausgeführt

ARIA I (NEW THEME)

ARIA 1

20

Doppio movimento

Meno mosso (♩ = 60)

Handwritten musical score for ARIA 1, measures 20-21. The score is written on a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). Measure 20 is marked 'Doppio movimento' and 'Meno mosso (♩ = 60)'. It features a complex melodic line with many slurs and fingerings. Measure 21 is marked 'Doppio movimento' and 'Meno mosso (♩ = 60)'. It continues the melodic line with slurs and fingerings. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and fingerings. There are also some handwritten annotations like 'V' and 'mf'.

A PLACE IN THE VIOLIN LITERATURE

- As pedagogical tool, excellent for teaching students to bring out a wide range of tonal colors in their performances
- From a violinist's perspective, it is a rich addition to the literature that is sure to inspire audiences



QUESTIONS???

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