

Abstract

Vítězslav Novák wrote his second opus of choral ballads, *Two Ballads on Words of Moravian Folk Verses Op. 23 Vražedný milý and Nešťasná vojna*, in 1900. He set Moravian folk song texts from contemporary song collections to music, the first version was for mixed choir and piano four hands, followed by an orchestration for symphony orchestra. The ballads were a great contribution to choir repertoire and have made their mark in choral concert life, as evidenced by the press. Despite such a great interest, the orchestral score has never been printed and is only available in manuscript. Even critical literature did not deal with this topic more specifically, so there is still some ambiguity, for example, concerning premieres or the state of the sheet music.