A survey of the operettas of Emmerich Kálmán

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Degree
Doctor of Musical Arts (DMA)

Department
Music

Document Type
Major Paper

Abstract
The purpose of this document is to introduce singers, teachers, and devotees of musical theater to the prolific stage output of Hungarian composer Emmerich Kálmán (1882-1953), who ranks with Johann Strauss II and Franz Lehár as one of the most important and most-often performed among the composers of Viennese operetta. Although today relatively unknown in this country, Kálmán's operettas have been performed consistently in Europe for almost a century. Most of his twenty-two works provide excellent vehicles for both collegiate and professional companies that wish to explore the genre of operetta. Following a biography and brief analysis of his compositional style, each of his operettas will be discussed and detailed with a cast list, synopsis, and list of musical numbers (verse and refrain). The author’s hope is that readers will be able to use this document as a resource in selecting repertoire for individual students, college opera productions, and professional opera and operetta companies.

Date
2005

Document Availability at the Time of Submission
Release the entire work immediately for access worldwide.

Recommended Citation

Committee Chair
Lori Bade