

Sivan Etedgee: The Piano Music of Erwin Schulhoff  
New England Piano Teachers' Association Editions Committee Presentation:  
Neglected Corners of the Piano Repertoire

## Erwin Schulhoff

June 8, 1894 (Czech Republic) - August 18, 1942 (Germany)

### Musical Style

**Before 1914:** Post-Romantic, influenced by Reger, Debussy, Strauss, Ravel

**1914-1923:** Expressionist/Free Atonality, also influenced by Dada art movement to write provocative and radical pieces. Use of jazz at this time was meant to provoke and shock.

**1923-1932:** Continued to use elements of jazz. Influenced by French-neoclassicism and Slavonic folk music.

**1932-1942:** Socialist Realism. Composed mainly in larger forms, such as symphonies.

A prolific composer, Schulhoff made serious contributions in nearly every genre: opera, chamber music, symphonic music, solo piano, concertos, etc.

### Works Demonstrated Today

*Partita for Piano* (1922): Fox-like (A), Tango-Rag (AI)

*Esquisses de Jazz* (1927): Boston, Tango, Blues (AI)

*Ostinato* (1925): Papa, Mama (AI)

*Five Jazz Etudes* (1927): Tango (Adv+)

### Selected Editions of piano works

These two recent publications contain the three mature sonatas, and many of the jazz-inspired piano works (includes those that were demonstrated today). If purchasing scores, this is more cost-efficient than buying individual pieces.

Sonatas 1-3: Baerenreiter Urtext (BA 9560) \$63.95

Jazz-inspired Piano Works: Baerenreiter Urtext (BA 9559) \$68.95

Besides Baerenreiter, the two main publishers of Schulhoff's solo piano music are Universal Edition and Schott. Individual pieces are available from both of those publishers, and Universal offers on-demand printing of certain pieces (including "Ostinato") that do not appear in the above volumes.

*Ostinato* and many other works are available on IMSLP:

[http://imslp.org/wiki/Category:Schulhoff,\\_Erwin](http://imslp.org/wiki/Category:Schulhoff,_Erwin)

Select Discography

*Hot Music - Schulhoff (2003)*: BIS 1249 (Kathryn Stott, piano)

*Schulhoff Piano Works, vol 1 (2012)*: Grand Piano 604 (Caroline Weichert, piano)

*Schulhoff Piano Works, vol 2 (2013)*: Grand Piano 631 (Caroline Weichert, piano)

*Erwin Schulhoff: His Complete Piano Recordings (2014)*: Parnassus 96011 (Erwin Schulhoff, piano)

*Erwin Schulhoff Music for Solo Piano (2014)*: Centaur 3375 (Michal Tal, piano)

Further Reading

Unfortunately, there are not yet any English language books on Schulhoff. However, excellent online biographies can be found on these two websites: [http://orelfoundation.org/index.php/composers/article/erwin\\_schulhoff/](http://orelfoundation.org/index.php/composers/article/erwin_schulhoff/) and <http://holocaustmusic.ort.org/places/camps/central-europe/wlzburg/schulhofferwin/>

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III. In futurum.

Zeitmaß-zeitlos.

tutto il canzone con espressione e sentimento ad libitum, sempre, sin al fine!

R. 11 427 E.

“In Futurum” from *5 Pittoresken, op. 31*, by Erwin Schulhoff