

# Eugène Bozza, a thematic index,

And a thirty-year adventure



## Eugène Bozza

- 20<sup>th</sup> century French composer
- Known for music for wind instruments
- Technically difficult music, lyrical
- Wide range of styles

## My first Bozza project:

- Dissertation: “Thematic index of the works for woodwinds by Eugene Bozza.” 1989<sup>1</sup>
- Book proposal, 2009.
- Book: *Eugene Bozza, A Thematic Index*, 2019.
- *Yup, 30 years from dissertation to book, and 10 years from proposal to book...*

A Monograph

Submitted to the Graduate Faculty of the  
Louisiana State University and  
Agricultural and Mechanical College  
in partial fulfillment of the  
requirements for the degree of  
Doctor of Musical Arts

in

The School of Music

by

Lois Kuyper-Rushing  
B.A., Central College, 1977  
M.M., Louisiana State University, 1978  
December 1989

Here is a page from a Thematic Index for the works of Hector Berlioz

ID # →

92

Title →

La Mort d'Ophélie

Poet/Lyricist →

Ballade

Text by Legouvé  
(See also *Tristia*, 119)

Versions →

92A Version I: for voice and pf., May 1842  
92B Version II: for female chorus and orchestra, July 1848

Musical example →

92A Version I

à Madame la Comtesse d'Agoult

Dedication

Andantino con moto quasi Allegretto (♩. = 63) *sempre a mezza voce*

Sopr. ou Tén.  
(8)  
Au - près d'un tor - rent

Pf.

Scoring →

160 bars.

Length of the piece

Mss. & copies →

Sopr. ou Tén., Pf.

Labitte 31 — Hopkinson 40A.

Malherbe & Weingartner vol. XVII, xx, 212–19 (1904) — NBE vol. 15.

Date of Composition: May 1842 [from the dated autograph MS].

Comp. date

Publication details →

Sources:

AUTOGRAPH SCORE: A–Wgm A 170. *La mort d'Ophélie / Ballade / Imitée de Shakespeare / Par Ernest Legouvé / Musique de Hector Berlioz* / [upper R.:] *A Madame la Comtesse / M. D'Agoult*. 4 pp. [1–4]. Upright 26.7 x 35.8 cm.; 28 staves. P. 4, beneath music, aut.: 7 Mai 1842. Ex coll. Brahms.

PRINTED SCORE: *LA MORT D'OPHÉLIE. / BALLADE. / Imitée de SHAKESPEARE. / Par / ERNEST LEGOUVÉ. / [L.:] Musique de / HECTOR BERLIOZ. // [R.:] à Madame / LA COMTESSE D'AGOULT. In 1848 / ALBUM / DE / CHANT / de la Gazette Musicale / 1848. / [L.:] BERLIOZ / M<sup>re</sup> BOURGES / ECKERT // [C.:] FÉLICIEN DAVID / GOUIN / HALÉVY / KASTNER / [R.:] MEYERBEER / PANOFKA / VIVIER // PUBLIÉ par BRANDUS ET C<sup>ie</sup>, RUE RICHELIEU, 97, À PARIS. [TP black and red.] Paris: *Revue et Gazette musicale*, [1–1848]. Item 1 of a collection of ten songs, paginated 2–7. Announced in *R&GM*, 14–XI–47 and 26–XII–47. Hopkinson 40A. Copies of album: A–Wgm VI 23018; B–Bc XY 12,257; GB–TWmacnutt. Offprint: F–Pc A 1461 ([1] blank, 2–7, [8] blank).*

SEPARATE ISSUE: *À MADAME LA COMTESSE D'AGOULT / LA MORT D'OPHÉLIE / Ballade, imitée de Shakespeare, par E. Legouvé. / [vignette:] Imp. Thierry frères, Paris. / MUSIQUE DE / HECTOR BERLIOZ / Prix 5<sup>fr</sup>. / BRANDUS & C<sup>ie</sup> / Successeurs de Maurice Schlesinger, 97, Rue Richelieu, Paris. / [L.:] Berlin: Schlesinger. [R.:] London: Beale. / DU MÊME AUTEUR: / [L.:] *La Captive. / Le Pecheur. // [R.:] Chant de Bonheur. / Scène des Brigands.* Paris: Brandus, [1848]. No pl. no. [1] = TP,*

Barry Brook wrote,

“The thematic index derives its superiority over non-thematic lists [by providing] ... positive identification in a minimum of space and symbols...using... the ‘incipit,’ or musical citation of the opening notes. For most music, an incipit of no more than a dozen pitches is required. When rhythmic values accompany the pitches, the incipit's "uniqueness quotient" is astonishingly high.” †

--Barry Brook, *Thematic catalogues in music : an annotated bibliography*, 1973.

## Steps in creating a thematic index

- A complete title list
- Details (publication, etc.)
- Eyes on copies of the music
- “Capture” the music (find, scan, photograph scores)
- Compilation

A	B	C	F	H	I	L	N	O
KR number	Title to be used in LKR book	subtitle	Medium	Compositi	autograp	Publish	Date	Pub or comp
1	Sonata di Pietro Nardini N	per violino e	violin and pian	1917	VAL		1917a	mss
2	Sonata, op. 19	per pianofor	piano	1921	VAL		1921a	mss
3	Rifugio	lirica per car	voice and pian	1921	VAL		1921b	mss
4	Visione, op. 3		tenor or soprar	1921	VAL		1921c	mss
5	Nocturne sur le lac du Bourget		violin and piano			Mauric	1923a	pub
6	Fêtes Romaine MOVEMENTS & PLACEH		large ensemble			Edition	1930a	pub
7	Concerto, op. 14	pour violon,	violin, viola,	1932	VAL		1932a	mss
8	Fughette - sicilienne - rigau	pour hautbo	ob, cl, bsn	1933		Edition	1933a	comp (pub 193
9	Concertino	pour alto et	viola and orchestra			Edition	1934a	pub
10	Concerto di camera		chamber orche	1934			1934a	mss
11	Fugue -		string quartet	197			1974b	mss

# “Capturing the music”

- OCLC (“Worldcat”)
- Inter Library Loan
- Scan
- Alphonse Leduc, Paris
- Jean Leduc
- Invitation

PIÈCES BRÈVES  
pour Basson seul

*Durée: 8minutes*

Lento (♩=50) (*tempo rubato*) I Eugène BOZZA



## Travels to France



### Travel to France--part 1, 2011

- Paris, Jean Leduc
  - Rental library
- Valenciennes, France
  - Expectations
    - Manuscripts for published scores with shelf locations
    - Finding aids
    - Archivists eager to help
    - Community eager to speak English





**REALITIES**

## Travel to France--part 2

- 2013, with research assistant (daughter)
- Archival boxes
- Photographed
- Still incomplete

Researchers-→



## Travel to France--part 3

- 2018, with research assistant (husband)
- Complete scores
- Processing at Archive seemed complete
- Then to *Bibliothèque Nationale* (Paris)



# Many Positives

- Cecile Delplace Bozza
  - Permission to view archives
  - Stories of her father
  - Promise for support



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## Jean-Claude Poinsignon

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- Local historian
- Acquaintance of Bozza
- Extensive collection of town history
- Questions
  - Do you have ideas for illustrations for my book?
  - Why did Bozza come to Valenciennes?

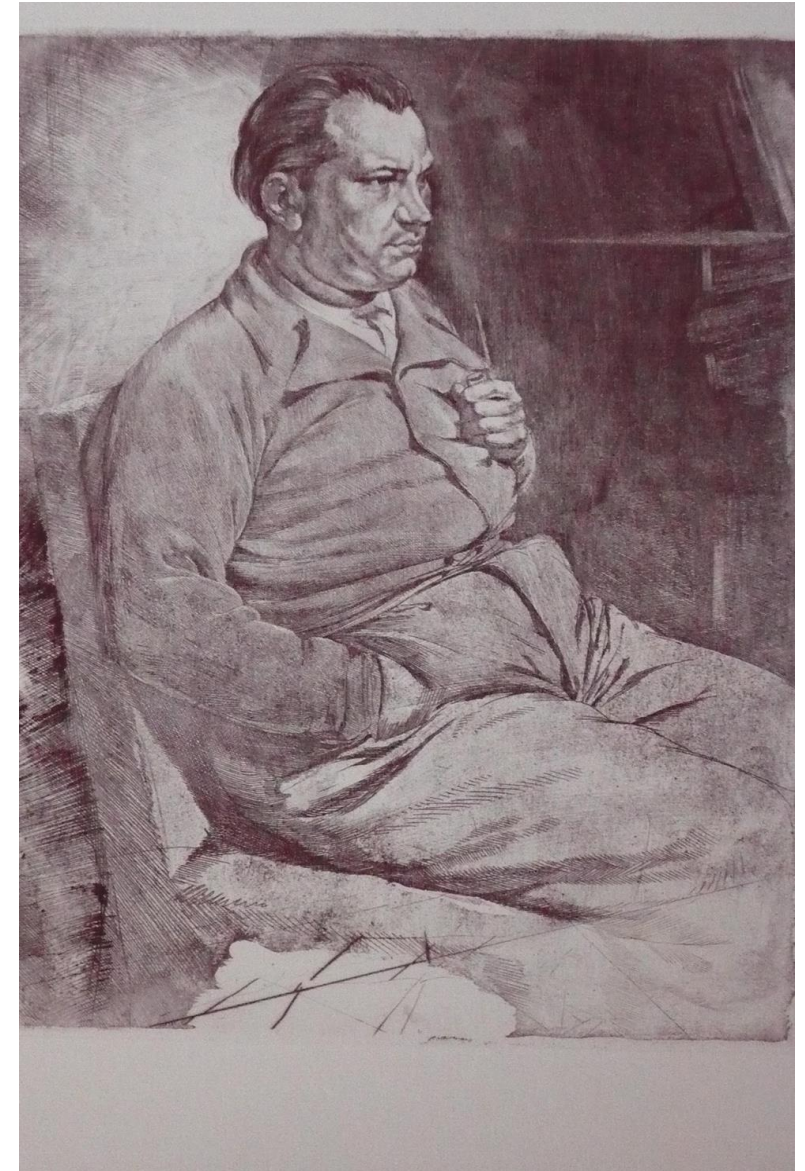


# Poinsignon and illustration possibilities

Paintings BY Bozza

Paintings OF Bozza

- Original painting
- Post-divorce painting



# Why Valenciennes?

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- Bozza's Life (1905-1992)
  - Grew up in southern France
  - Paris Conservatory-3 degrees
  - Conducted, *L'Opéra Comique* from 1939-1950.
    - Superstar
  - Became Director of *L'école Nationale de Musique* in Valenciennes, France, 1950.



# Valenciennes

- Northeast of Paris
- 245 km (150 miles)
- Current population of 41,000
- Industrial area





# AGAIN, WHY VALENCIENNES?

- Poinsignon says, “LET’S LOOK AT HISTORY...”
  - Bozza directed in Paris 1939-1950
  - What happened in Europe while he conducted in Paris?
    - *La Seconde Guerre mondiale* (WWII)
    - What was Bozza doing?
    - Post-WWII...
  - PUNISHMENT was *l’épuration*, “the purge”
  - Banished to a small town, small position



# Back to the US and the index

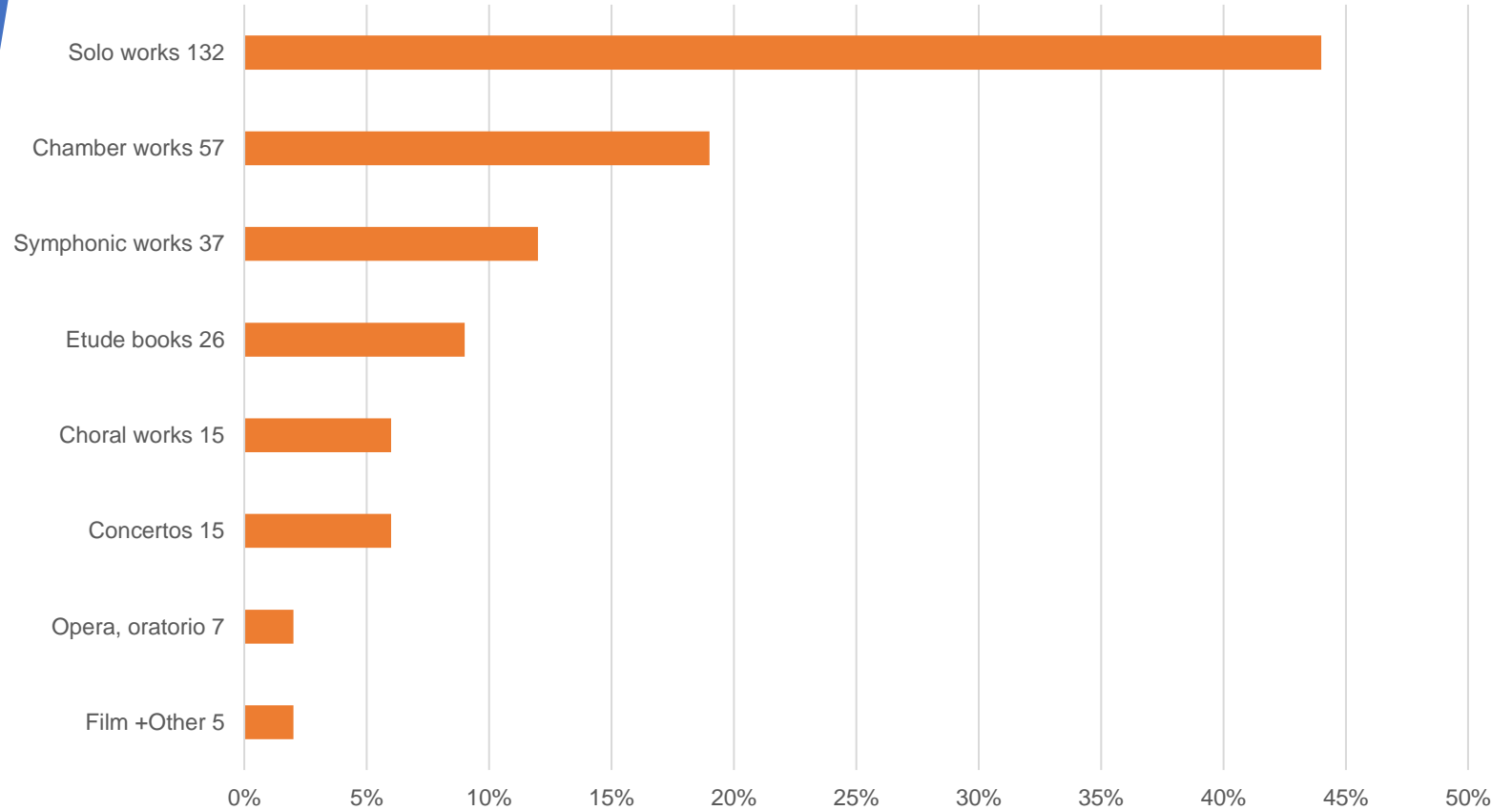
Bozza composed 298 works

- ***Work is a "distinct intellectual or artistic creation."***  
*(FRBR definition)*
- 224 published works
- 74 unpublished works
- Pie chart shows breadth of his compositions

\*Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records”

132 solo works-44%  
57 chamber works-19%  
37 symphonies-13%  
26 etude books-9%  
15 concertos-5%  
15 choral works-5%  
7 opera, oratorio-2%  
9 film & other-2%

## Bozza's Works

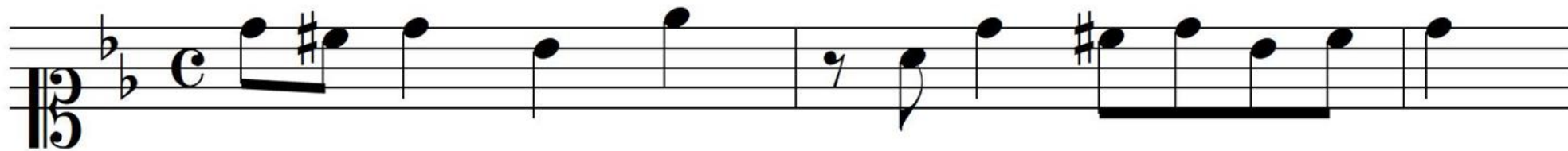


# Musical examples

## Incipits

- Remember Brooks said, “For most music, an incipit of no more than a dozen pitches is required”
- So, you might expect this:

**Andante**



But more are like this:

**Adagio**

*vn*

*p con espress.* *f* *p*

*pn* *p* *f* *p*

Or fun things like this:



These examples show the breadth of his music style

Adagio

*vn*  
*p con espress.* *f* *p*  
*pn* *p* *f* *p*

KR 1  
Suonata, 1917



$\text{♩} = 90$   
*mf* *f* *sfz* *mf*

KR 218  
Graphismes,  
clarinet, 1975



# One page from the book




KR 64  
Fantaisie  
pour basson et piano  
Scoring bn., pn.  
Description single movement

**Lent** (*avec le caractère d'une improvisation*)

The musical score is written for bassoon and piano. It begins with a treble clef and a 3/4 time signature. The tempo is marked 'Lent' with the instruction '(avec le caractère d'une improvisation)'. The music starts with a melodic line in the bassoon part, marked with a dynamic of 'mf'. A trill is indicated above the first few notes. A triplet of eighth notes is marked with a '3' below it. The piano part provides a harmonic accompaniment with a similar triplet. The score continues with a second melodic phrase, also marked 'mf', featuring another trill and triplet.

## Sources

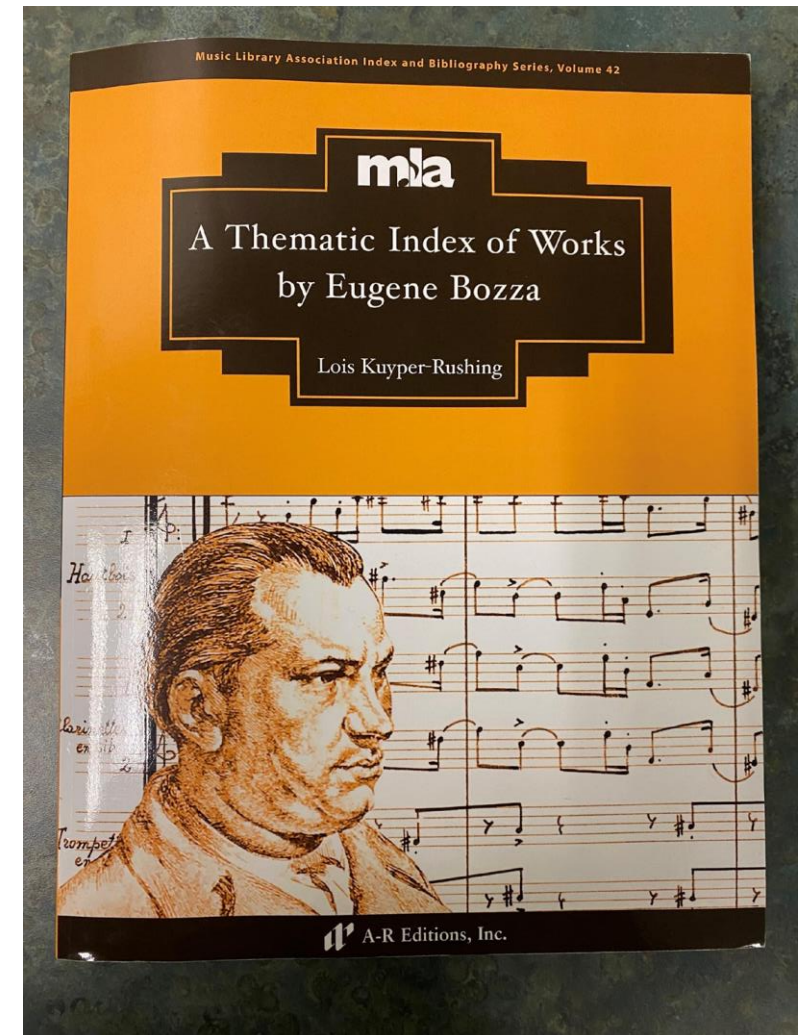
Autograph score unknown  
Place of composition unknown  
Composition date unknown  
Edition Paris: Alphonse Leduc, 1945  
Pl. no.: A.L.20.421

	Dedication	“à Gustave Dhérin, Professeur au Conservatoire National de Paris”	← 89
	Prizes	Concours du Conservatoire National de Musique de Paris	← 22
	Thematic similarities	Dix huit études en forme d'improvisation pour cor, #2, KR 146	← 193

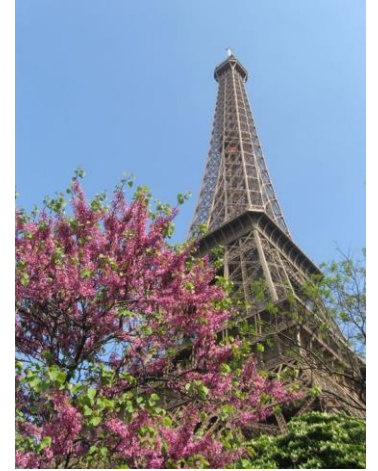
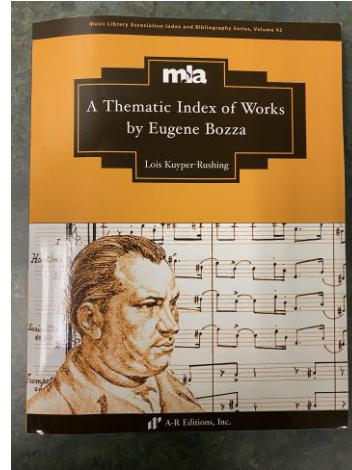


# What's next?

- For you:
  - If you want to learn more, see →
    - Historical details in Preface
- For me:
  - Lots of manuscripts
    - Some are sketches only, some full scores
- A few minutes of “Fantaisie sur le nom de Marcel Veauveau,” violin and piano



Questions?



THANK YOU!

