

From the Eleventh Symphonic Poem.

"BATTLE OF THE HUNS"

The idea of writing this Symphonic Poem was suggested to Liszt through a painting by Wilhelm von Kaulbach, the picture being one of a set of six frescos on a wall of the Raczynski Gallery in the New Museum at Berlin. The subject of this picture "The Battle of the Clans" (Hunnenschlacht) is the legend which tells of the terrific aerial battle between the ghosts of the slain Huns and Romans after the struggle outside the walls of Rome in 451, which engaged the forces of Attila and of Theodoric the Visigoth. Liszt's score, completed early in 1857, has been found by commentators to typify the conflict between Heathendom and Christianity, eventuating in the triumph of the Cross.

Tempestuoso, Allegro non troppo.

The musical score is written for 1st Violin, 2nd Violin, and Timpani. It begins with a 2-measure rest for the 1st Violin, followed by a 6-measure rest for the 2nd Violin. The 1st Violin part features a melodic line with various ornaments (trills, mordents) and dynamic markings including *con sordino* and *p*. The 2nd Violin part provides harmonic support with dense textures, including octaves and sixteenth-note patterns, with dynamic markings such as *cresc.*, *accel.*, and *p*. The Timpani part consists of rhythmic patterns, including a prominent triplet. The score includes performance instructions like *2nd Viol. 8va lower.* and *cresc.* throughout.

Più mosso. (Allegro energico assai.)

violente
f

The triplets to be played with swing and brilliancy and the accented eighths very sharp and distinct.

2nd Viol.
f marc. ed agitato
fp
ten.

ten.

ten.
cresc.

ten.

sf
sf
sf
sf

Alla breve.

furioso

ten.

ten.

ten.

*wilder and wilder till sign **

p

cresc.

ff

p

cresc.

ff sempre