

Sibelius's *Lemminkäinen* appeared as a new edition, as an entity

Official date: 29.01.2014.

The final version of *Lemminkäinen* has now been published in the complete critical edition Jean Sibelius Works (JSW), of which the twenty-second volume was text-critically edited by **Tuija Wicklund**.

The composition and publication history of *Lemminkäinen* is long and winding. After its premiere in the spring of 1896, Sibelius revised it as early as the next year, which after only movements *Tuonelan joutsen* and *Lemminkäinen palaa kotitienoille* were published in 1901. Sibelius withdrew the other two movements, *Lemminkäinen ja saaren neidot* and *Lemminkäinen Tuonelassa*, for nearly 40 years, indeed the next time they were performed was in the Kalevala 100th anniversary concert in 1935.

Sibelius revised these two movements for the New York World Fair broadcast concert in 1939. After that began the long publication process with its many twists and delays, culminating in their final publication in 1954. Although the movements were published separately, it was important for Sibelius that the public understand that these movements comprise an entity with those movements that were printed over 50 years earlier. Still, in the spring of 1957, Sibelius noted: "Actually, I have nine symphonies, because *Kullervo* and *Lemminkäinen* contain movements that represent the pure sonata form." The four *Lemminkäinen* movements have now been published as an entity in the new edition and in the order Sibelius wanted them.

JSW is published by the National Library of Finland, the Sibelius Society of Finland and publisher Breitkopf & Härtel (Wiesbaden).

Editor Tuija Wicklund, The National Library of Finland/ Jean Sibelius Works
Tel. +358 9 191 24087
email: tuija.wicklund@helsinki.fi