Duets for Tuba

Transcribed by Abe Torchinsky from Ten Duos for Ophicleides by Hartmann and The New Method for Bass Ophicleide by F. Vobaron.

The only information I have about the two gentlemen that wrote the original duets included in this volume is that Mr. Vobaron was a Chef de Musique de Cavalerie de Saumur and that Mr. Hartmann was a professor in a conservatory.

For those not familiar with ophicleides, they are pitched in either B^b or C in the same octave as trombone or euphonium. A few of these duets were very high and in places even difficult for a euphonium. I have taken the liberty of transposing them to more playable keys for the tuba.

Although I have added metronome markings to all of the duets, I see no reason why the players can't decide between themselves the tempi they might prefer. Use your own good musical judgement as to how you might want to play these duets.

I believe these duets were written near the middle of the 19th century. Being the owner of an ophicleide and having tried to play it—I am amazed at what dexterity the players must have had to play these duets at the original tempi.

I hope you enjoy these works as much as I have.

Abe Torchinsky

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