



38 Intonation Duets for Horns

Selected from the Horn Methods of
Friedrich Gumpert and Henri Kling

Edited by
John Ericson
Horn Notes Edition

Foreword

Three things set apart the best horn players; a great tone, great musicality, and great intonation.

Toward working on that last goal, the final section of my 2011 publication *Ultimate Horn Technique* was a group of tuning duets, selected (“rescued”) from the horn method books of Gumpert and Kling.

Perhaps the most important German valved horn performer and teacher of the late nineteenth century was Friedrich Gumpert (1841-1906). He served as professor at the Leipzig Conservatory and as principal hornist of the Gewandhaus Orchestra from 1864 until 1898. His *Horn-Schule* was published ca. 1879. All of his publications spell his name as Gumbert, including the most commonly used edition of the Kopprasch etudes.

Henri Kling (1842-1918) was born in Paris but spent most of his career in Geneva, where he was professor of horn and *solfège* at the Geneva Conservatory from 1865 until his death. Kling was a man of wide interests, which included composition and conducting. His *Horn Schule* was, according to his obituary, first published in 1865, and went through at least three published editions in the nineteenth century.

Kling in his method clearly states that he wants the teacher to play the lower line of these duets and the student the upper, but, as is also noted before the first duet in my edition, I prefer as a teacher to play the top line and have the student play the bottom line of music. However, there would be value in either method, with Kling also noting that “Diligent daily practice of the subjoined scales will be absolutely necessary for the purpose of acquiring a good and pure tone.” Finally, do feel free to change the octave of either part to better explore and solve intonation issues.

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Exercises by
Gumpert and Kling

Note: I prefer as teacher to play the top line and have the student play the bottom line. Feel free to change the octave of either part!

C Major

Kling

1.

Gumpert

2.

