

## 11. Im frischen, grünen Wald

(ca. 1883)

Elsa Richter  
(fl. 1883)  
*arr. William Melton*

### **Richter, Elsa**

(fl. 1883-1896)

Confirmed details about the composer Elsa Richter are few. The name is common enough in the German-speaking world of the late 19th century. If one ignores an Austrian academic, a well-known cookbook writer, and the composer “E. Richter” (which refers to Ernst Friedrich Richter), a singer from Wiesbaden and a pianist are left. The latter is the most likely candidate, an Elsa Richter who made a brief appearance as a pianist in the Leipzig chamber music concerts associated with Salomon Jadassohn, performing that composer’s Quartet in G minor for piano and strings in 1896.

Two piano works by Elsa Richter have survived. *Waldblümchen* (Forest Flowers) was included in the collection *Frühlings-Grüsse* (Spring Greetings) released by the Leipzig publisher Carl Rühle in the mid-1890s. *Im frischen, grünen Wald* (In the Fresh, Green Forest) first appeared in the pages of the *Neue-Musik-Zeitung* in 1883, and was published separately that year by P. J. Tonger of Cologne (Plate No. 3030, 22). Originally written in the traditional German hunting key of E flat major, the piece was dedicated to the Chief Forester Alfred Lührs. The brief *Charakterstück* was a modest success, and was issued in a second printing by Tonger in 1892.

*Text by William Melton*