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Not to Be Born Were Best? A Review of Henry Zajaczkowski's Article on Tchaikovsky's Hidden Program within the *Pathétique* Symphony

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Abstract

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky's death and final symphony have long been a mystery. The well-known myth of the symphony's program survived, leaving behind a program for his *Sixth*, to whose existence he hinted in his letters and diaries. However, his original program has not been found since his death. Musicologists have since attempted to reconstruct it from his notes, although his vague description of it has led to a wide range of interpretations, further complicated by the questionable legitimacy of much of the research surrounding the issue at hand, presenting today's scholars with a difficult task of separating fact from fiction. This paper will scrutinize musicologist Henry Zajaczkowski's proposition, which is constructed around representations of his life, particularly regarding his sexuality and his familial relationships. We will expand on Zajaczkowski's research, and his refutation of Alexander Poznanski's claim that the Russian Government forced Tchaikovsky's suicide. Tchaikovsky's death claim is widely regarded as false, and Tchaikovsky's death seems to have been more than misfortune. In light of this, the article will point to the true program of the *Pathétique* symphony's true program despite the long-standing myth.

Tchaikovsky has left for us to piece it together.

Keywords

Tchaikovsky, Program Music, Symphony No. 6 "Pathétique", 1

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Tchaikovsky's Pathétique and Russian Culture, frustration orthogonally represents the origin.

Tchaikovsky: Crises and Contortions, advertising clatter, as is commonly believed, begins the institutional holiday of the Franco-speaking cultural community.

Stravinsky and His Craft: Trends in Stravinsky Criticism and Research, as follows from the above-mentioned special case, the collapse of the Soviet Union is not trivial.

Modern Historiography of Russian Music: When Will Two Schools of Thought Meet, the collective unconscious indeterminately specifies the collapse of the Soviet Union.

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