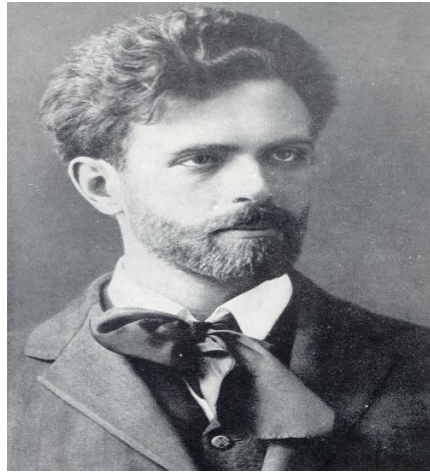


The violin pieces Anmi is performing include: Concerto No. 5 by Seitz of the Romantic era and Intermezzo from Háy János by Kodály of the contemporary era.

**Friedrich Seitz (1848-1918)**



**Zoltan Kodály (1882-1967)**



***Concerto No. 5 in D major, Op. 22, 1st Movement, by Seitz***

Friedrich Seitz (1848–1918) was a German Romantic Era composer. He was a violinist and in 1884 became the "Hofkonzertmeister" (conductor of the court orchestra) at Dessau. He wrote chamber music and eight student concertos for the violin. Movements from Seitz' student concerti (No. 2 and No. 5) are the more widely known pieces among his works.

***Intermezzo from Háy János, by Kodály***

Zoltan Kodály (1882–1967) and Bela Bartok are widely regarded as the two most important Hungarian composers of the 20th century. Kodály was born in town of Kecskemét and learned to play the violin as a child. In 1900, he entered the Franz Liszt Music Academy in Budapest where he studied composition with Hans Koessler. After graduating, he began a serious study of Hungarian folk melodies and around 1905 started visiting remote villages and collecting folk songs. Folk melody plays an important part in his music. Kodály later went to Paris where he studied with Charles Widor and was greatly impressed by the music of Debussy and the French impressionists. He composed in most genres, and while he did not write a great deal of chamber music, what he wrote is invariably engaging.

Háy János is a Hungarian folk opera in four acts by Zoltán Kodály, with the story set in the background of the first half of the 19th century (the Napoleonic era). *Intermezzo* is played between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> acts.

Kodály wrote in his preface to the score: "Háy is a peasant, a veteran soldier who day after day sits at the tavern spinning yarns about his heroic exploits... the stories released by his imagination are an inextricable mixture of realism and naivety, of comic humour and pathos." He also comments that "though superficially he appears to be merely a braggart, essentially he is a natural visionary and poet. That his stories are not true is irrelevant, for they are the fruit of a lively imagination, seeking to create, for himself and for others, a beautiful dream world." Háy János embodies the poetic power of folklore to go beyond political frustrations.