

A cartoon about a virtuoso pianist (F. Liszt)

Ein Cartoon über einen virtuosen Pianisten (F. Liszt)

Sources: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wilhelm_Busch , <https://en.wikipedia.org>

<https://www.wilhelm-busch.de/werke/geschichten/der-virtuos/>

Heinrich Christian Wilhelm Busch (15 April 1832 – 9 January 1908) was a German humorist, poet, illustrator, and painter. He published wildly innovative illustrated tales that remain influential to this day. He can confidently be called the "father of the comic strip" and the cartoon - long before a Walt Disney!

Busch drew on the tropes of folk humour as well as a profound knowledge of German literature and art to satirize contemporary life, any kind of piety, Catholicism, Philistinism, religious morality, bigotry, and moral uplift.

In this cartoon, Wilhelm Busch must have had a living model in mind: The famous composer and pianist Franz Liszt, (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Franz_Liszt) and his "Hungarian Rhapsody No 2, (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Franz_Liszt_-_Second_Hungarian_Rhapsody.ogg)

The English translation of the German introduction reads:

A New Year Concert, To the new year greets you here, A virtuoso on the piano. He will lead you with pleasure and favor, Through all the wonders of his art.

The remaining texts (image sublines) are Italian performance terms and are still in use in music today.

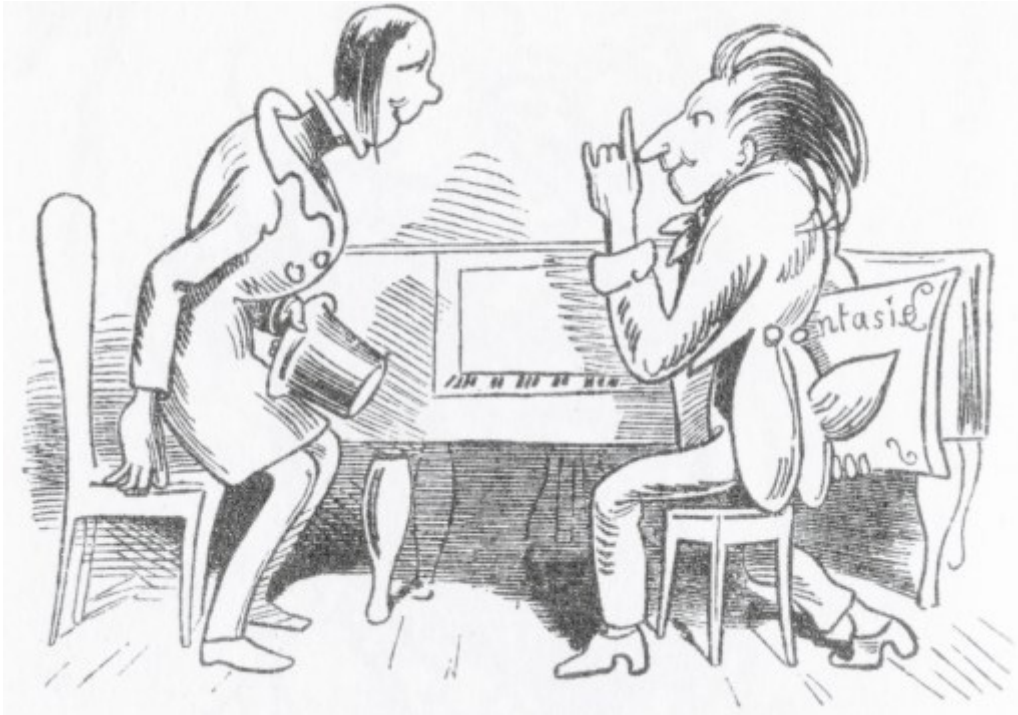


Franz Liszt.

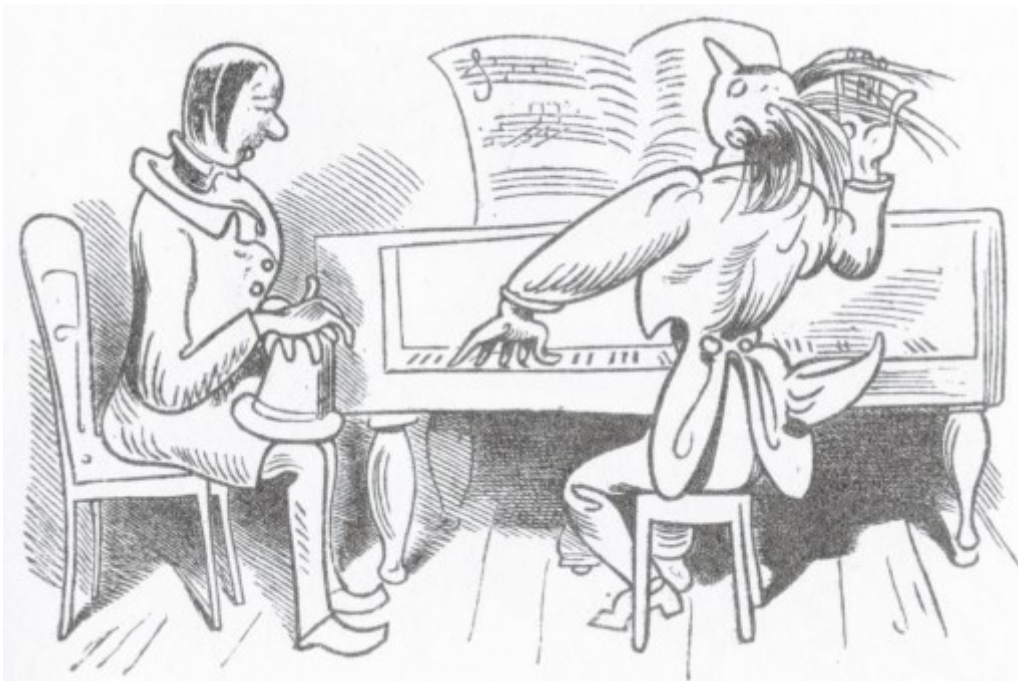
Photo: Wikimedia Commons

Ein Neujahrskonzert

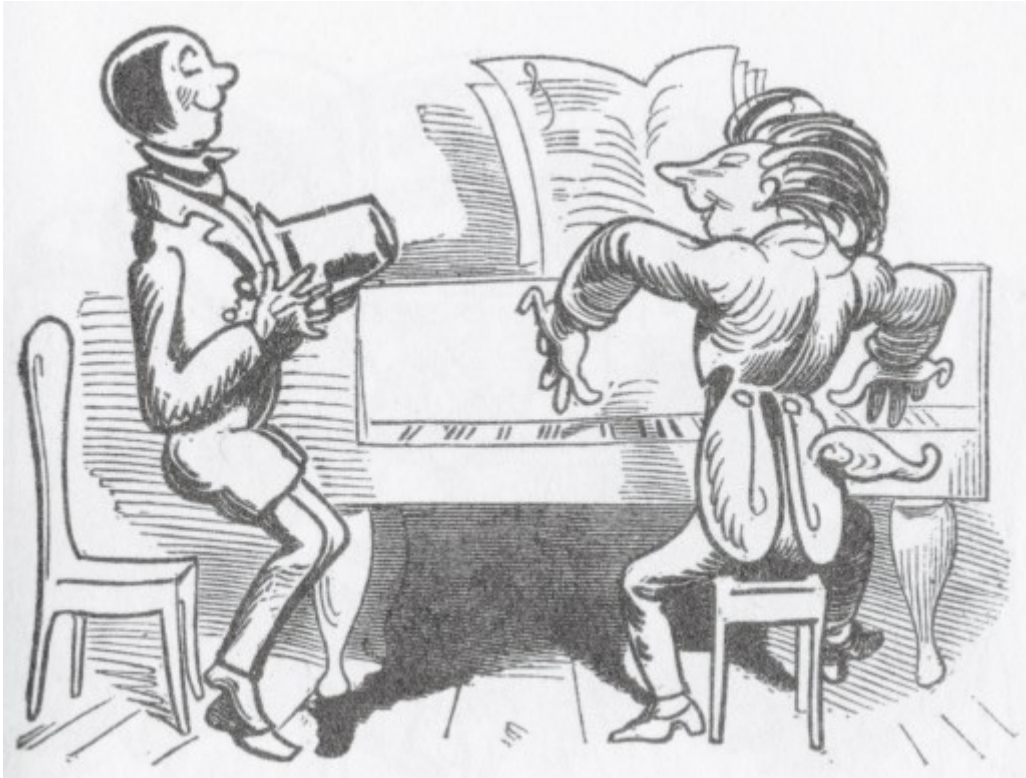
Zum neuen Jahr begrüßt euch hier
Ein Virtuos auf dem Klavier.
Er führt euch mit Genuß und Gunst
Durch alle Wunder seiner Kunst.



Silentium



Introduzione



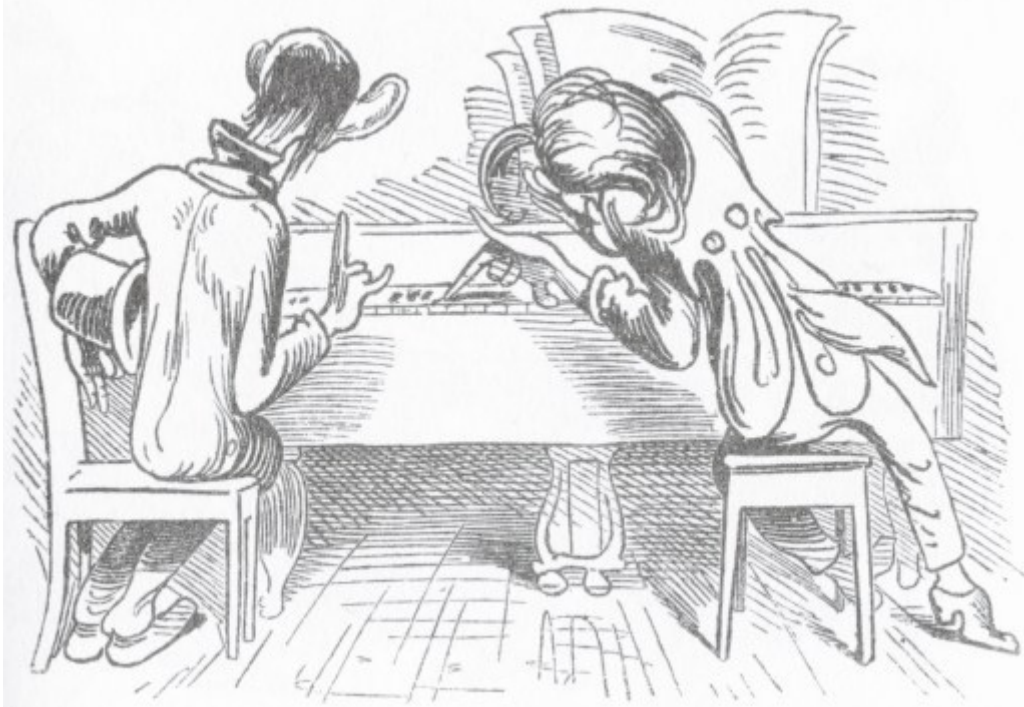
Scherzo



Adagio



Adagio con sentimento



Piano



Smorzando



Maestoso



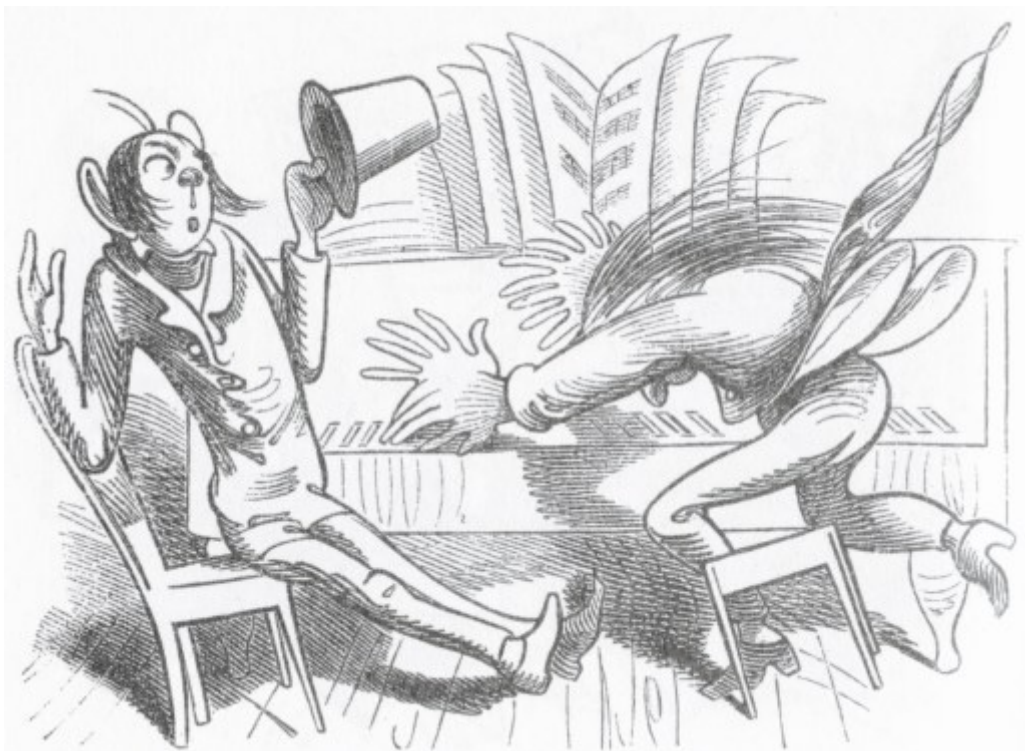
Capriccioso



Passaggio cromatico



Fuga del diavolo



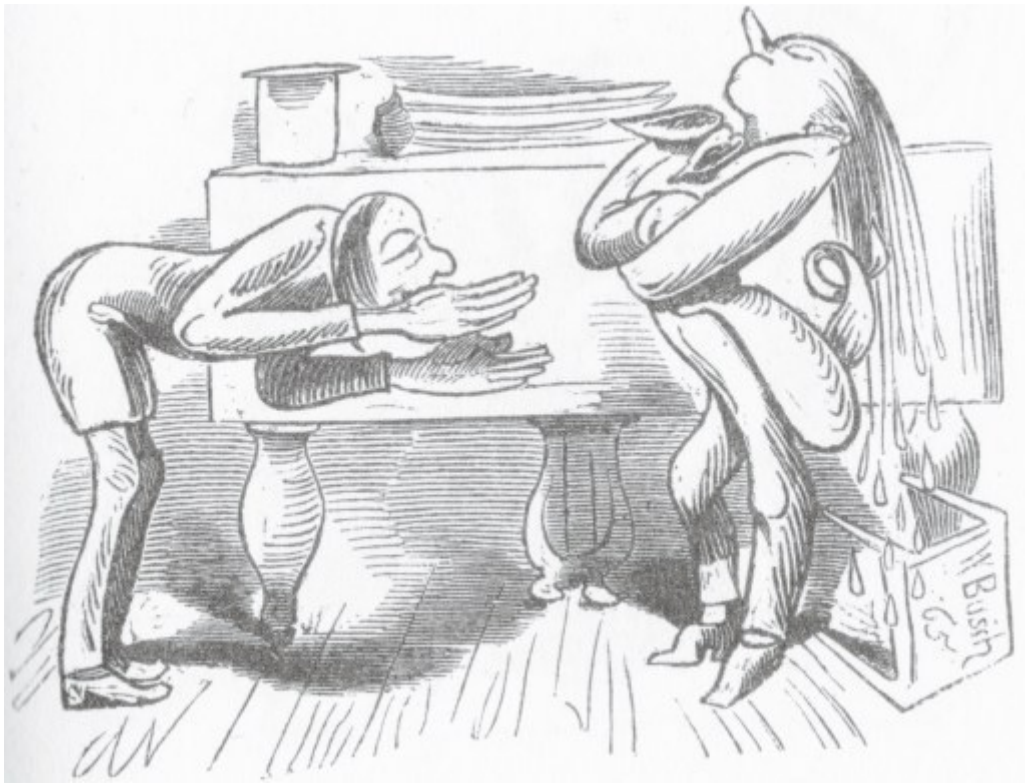
Forte vivace



Fortissimo vivacissimo



Finale furioso



Bravo-bravissimo!