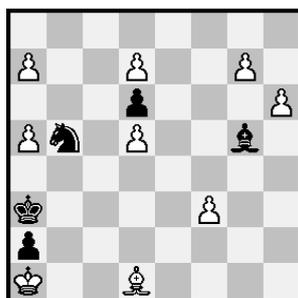


Rolf Richter (\* 26.v.1941 in Oederan, + 14.i.1988 in Oederan)<sup>1</sup> was a prolific East German composer. According to Dr. Rainer Staudte, Richter was a strong smoker. After Richter's death, Rainer waited for too long until he visited the house – many documents already have been lost. A few have been saved by Karl-Heinz Cunow and published years later, such as the third study in this article.

One of the favorite themes of Rolf Richter was the Allumwandlung,<sup>2</sup> or even promotion in general. It is demonstrated in the following studies.



Rolf Richter, Schach 1978, 1<sup>st</sup> prize

a) Diagram, White wins

b) Pf3->g3, Draw

a) **1.d8Q B:d8 2.g8S Bh4/i 3.h7 Sd4 4.a8R! Bf2 5.h8B Be1 6.Rc8 wins**

b) **1.d8Q B:d8 2.g8S Bh4 3.h7 Sd4, and:**

- **4.h8Q Be3 5.any Sc2+ 6.B:c2 Bd4+ 7.Q:d4 stalemate**

- **4.h8B Bd2 5.B:d4 Bc3+ 6.B:c3 stalemate**

- **4.a8Q Bd2 5.Qc6 Sb3+ 6.B:b3 Bc3+ 7.Q:c3 stalemate**

- **4.a8R Bc1 5.Rb8 Sc2+ 6.B:c2 Bb2+ 7.R:b2 stalemate**

i – 2.-Bg5 draws, see text below

The b part of the twin was controversial since apparently White is to play, and Black has to draw. John Roycroft wrote<sup>3</sup> in 1982: *This is ignored in the source, and is contrary to the Piran Codex. Of course, the position could be reset by changing the colours, and perhaps it should be. The question whether an “antiform” may be a valid “twin” is one that the FIDE Commission should give attention to.*

Usually I'd give an opinion to allow it, but it already seems to be a valid twinning form nowadays.

In Schach 08/1986 Richter modified part a of the twin study by setting bBg5->h4 and adding wPf4. Of course, this removes from a the cook 2.-Bg5 3.h7 Sd4 4.f4 B:f4 5.h8Q Be3 with 6.-Sc2+ and 7.-Bd4+ that probably Richter found later, at least he was obviously aware of it. The twin form now is -Pf4 with the former cook as the solution<sup>4</sup>

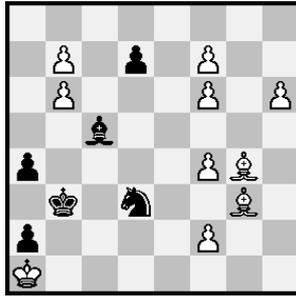
The following Richter study is less controversial.

<sup>1</sup> Information provided by Rainer Staudte

<sup>2</sup> Allumwandlung: Promotions into knight, bishop, rook and queen are shown in the same composition. This theme would deserve a separate article but since it mainly would repeat existing literature, it isn't feasible for me to write one.

<sup>3</sup> eg 69, July 1982, p.77-78. One erratum: AJR translated „schablonenfreie“ with „faultless“ there, although „Schablone“ is used for standard combinations. Possibly “template free” is the literal translation.

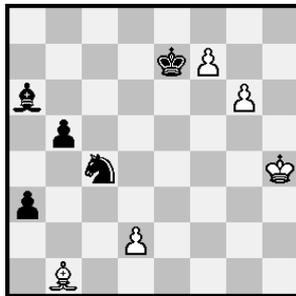
<sup>4</sup> Schach 08/1986, p.34



Rolf Richter, *Schach* 1978, special prize  
White wins

**1.Bd1+! Ka3 2.f8B! d6 3.B:d6 B:d6 4.f7 Bc5 5.f8B B:f8 6.b8B! Bc5 7.Bd6! B:d6 8.h7 Bc5 9.h8B! wins**

There are no more studies from that tourney to show here, but one more from Rolf Richter that I selected for the interesting point 9.Kg5 that will also be interesting for players.



Rolf Richter,<sup>5</sup> *Schach* 01/1994, 4<sup>th</sup> honorable mention  
White wins

**1.Kh5! Se5 2.d4! S:g6 3.K:g6 Kf8 4.d5 b4 5.d6 Bc8 6.Ba2 b3 7.B:b3 a2 8.B:a2 Be6 9.Kg5!!/i B:f7 10.B:f7 K:f7 11.Kf5 Ke8 12.Ke6 Kd8 13.d7 Kc7 13.Ke7 wins**

i – But not the obvious 9.Kf6? B:f7 10.d7 because of 10.-Be8 11.d8B Bh5! with a draw.

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<sup>5</sup> Sent to *Schach* by Karl-Heinz Cunow, Lübbenau, the study appeared several years after Richter's death