

Collection Schubert
— No 5. —

FIRST LESSONS
IN

BACH

Compiled and Fingered

BY

WALTER CARROLL.

Book I

Book II

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Preface

The appreciation of Bach as a tremendous force in the progress of Music has been growing steadily during the last fifty years. The performance of his incomparable works, whose influence flows in an ever widening channel through the whole domain of musical education, has clearly demonstrated that the practical study of Bach is the gateway to the mastery of technique. It has accomplished still more; for out of the *knowledge* of Bach has grown the *love* of Bach, and the love of Bach has helped materially in creating that taste for good music which is so striking a feature of the present and so hopeful a sign for the future.

Bach wrote a large number of charming little pieces which provide elementary teaching material of priceless value. Short, melodious and rhythmical, they are played with keen delight by young pupils in the early years of their instruction and serve as a natural stepping-stone to the vast store of intermediate and advanced compositions of the same writer.

The present selection is compiled with the object of placing within reach of the teacher a series of very easy pieces in convenient form. All the movements contain features of real educational worth which will repay special attention and care. Each number should pass through three stages of preparation:— (a) Accuracy of notes, time and fingering. (b) Closer attention to phrasing, expression and speed. (c) Performance from memory. Whether they be used as Studies or as Pieces is immaterial as they combine the technical value of the one with the grace and charm of the other. Any pupil capable of playing a very easy Sonatina may commence the regular study of Bach and thus early learn to love, in simple form, those elements of truth, sincerity and refinement which are revealed in every bar of his music; elements at once the source of his greatness and the measure of his power.

With the exception of Nos 6. 7. 8. 11. 12 & 14, all the pieces are from the Clavier Book of Anna Magdalena Bach, the composer's second wife. Some of them were left unsigned, a circumstance which, for a time, caused their authenticity to be questioned. The absence of the signature from works which were undoubtedly genuine was, however, such a common occurrence that this fact alone was not long permitted to stand as evidence of doubt, and the pieces are now accepted as authentic specimens of the master's art.

WALTER CARROLL

Minuet

3

A study in accent and in the correct timing of half beats

Allegretto $\text{♩} = 66$

J. S. BACH

1.

Minuet

A study in accent and in obtaining a proper balance of tone

Allegretto $\text{♩} = 68$

J. S. BACH

2.

(At the close of this movement the previous Minuet may be repeated)

Minuet

A study in the arpeggio of the Common Chord. (close position)

J. S. BACH

Animato $\text{♩} = 69$

3.

The musical score is written for piano in G major, 3/4 time. It consists of five systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The piece is marked 'Animato' with a tempo of 69 beats per minute. The first system begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The second system continues the arpeggiated pattern. The third system starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The fourth system also begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic and includes a 'cresc.' (crescendo) marking. The fifth system returns to a forte (*f*) dynamic. The score is filled with arpeggiated chords, with fingerings (1-5) and articulation marks (accents, slurs) clearly indicated. The piece concludes with a final cadence in the fifth system.

Polonaise

5

A study in phrasing and in the correct timing of quarter beats

J. S. BACH

4. Moderato $\text{♩} = 100$

At the close of this movement Minuet No. 3 may be repeated

March

A study in syncopation and in keeping a steady beat throughout

J. S. BACH

5. Marcato $\text{♩} = 100$

E. S. & Co. 4200

Minuet

A study in legato playing with careful balance of tone

Andante ♩ = 120

J. S. BACH

6.

Andante ♩ = 120

p

mf

cresc.

Minuet

A study in contrasting the effect of the major mode (Nº 7) with that of the minor (Nº 6)

Allegretto ♩ = 66

J. S. BACH

7.

mf

p

cresc.

J. S. BACH

March

J. S. BACH

9. J. S. BACH

GiocosO $\text{♩} = 80$

mf *cresc.* *f* *mf* *cresc.*

Minuet

A study in phrasing, legato touch and balance of tone

Andante e semplice ♩ = 108

J. S. BACH

10.

10.

Andante e semplice ♩ = 108

J. S. BACH

10.

Andante e semplice ♩ = 108

J. S. BACH

Musette

A study in sustained notes and quality of tone

Andante pastorale ♩ = 108

J. S. BACH

11.

11.

Andante pastorale ♩ = 108

J. S. BACH

11.

Andante pastorale ♩ = 108

J. S. BACH

Bourrée

A study in contrasts of touch and independence of each hand

J. S. BACH

Vivace $\text{♩} = 108$

12.

The musical score for the Bourrée is written for piano and bass. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked 'Vivace' with a quarter note equal to 108 beats per minute. The piece is numbered '12.' on the left. The first system shows a piano introduction with a triplet in the right hand and a steady bass line. The second system features a repeat sign and a 'poco cresc.' marking. The third system includes a 'cresc. poco a poco' marking and a forte 'f' section. The fourth system concludes with a 'p' marking and a 'cresc.' leading to a final 'f' section. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1 through 5 throughout the piece.

Musette

A study in broken octaves and in neat phrasing

J. S. BACH

Allegro con brio $\text{♩} = 112$

13.

The musical score for the Musette is written for piano and bass. It is in G major, 2/4 time, and marked 'Allegro con brio' with a quarter note equal to 112 beats per minute. The piece is numbered '13.' on the left. The first system shows a piano introduction with a triplet in the right hand and a steady bass line. The second system features a 'p' marking and a 'mf' section. The third system includes a 'p' marking and a 'mf' section. The fourth system concludes with a 'p' marking and a 'mf' section. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1 through 5 throughout the piece.

10

mf *p cresc.* *poco a poco* *f*

Gavotte

A study in phrasing, gradation of tone and cantabile playing

Allegretto $\text{♩} = 72$

J. S. BACH

14.

14.

p *cresc.* *mf* *p*

B. S. & Co. 4200

mf *f* *mf* *p* *poco rit.*

Minuet

A study in expression, phrasing and beauty of tone

Larghetto e sostenuto ♩ = 96

J. S. BACH

15.

pp poco cresc. *poco dim.* *p* *pp* *cresc. poco a poco* *dim. e rit.* *pp*

March

A study in the accurate timing of triplets and in steadiness of rhythm

Allegro moderato $\text{♩} = 69$

J. S. BACH

16.

The musical score is written for piano and bass. It consists of six systems of two staves each. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The tempo is marked 'Allegro moderato' with a quarter note equal to 69 beats per minute. The score includes various musical notations such as triplets, trills, and dynamic markings like *mf*, *cresc.*, *f*, and *p*. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1 through 5. The piece concludes with a repeat sign at the end of the final system.

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