

Preface

“bach (re)inventions” is an exciting and unique look into Johann Sebastian Bach’s keyboard repertoire. It is ensemble paladino’s first collaborative adaptation project of musical examples from Bach’s keyboard works, in this case his two part counterpoint arranged for flute and cello. The entry point of this exploration is, naturally, Bach’s fifteen Two Part Inventions BWV 772 to 786.

The inventions themselves were considered by Bach to be musical exercises “... to achieve a cantabile style in playing and at the same time acquire a strong foretaste of composition.” They were written and completed during Bach’s time as music director in Köthen (1717 to 1723), one of his most prolific times in terms of musical output. During this period, Bach completed his famous unaccompanied Cello Suites, Violin Partitas and Sonatas and the Brandenburg Concertos, not to mention countless cantatas and choral works. In the midst of this highly productive time, Bach wrote fifteen inventions that prove to be much more than mere finger studies. They are also impressive exercises on counterpoint and structure. Bach took great care in the musical education of his children, and like any great pedagogue writing a book of exercises, he arranged the inventions in an order that introduced pupils to keys. The Inventions, and also the three part Sinfonias (which were completed later while Bach was in Leipzig), start with C major and are arranged on an ascending scale until they reach b minor. This method of organization was obviously not employed with the idea of the pieces becoming progressively difficult but rather to make them easier to locate within the collection. It is because of this functional system of organization that we have decided to (re)organize the inventions from a less logical to a more emotional order of short musical works.

Going outward from the fifteen Two Part Inventions and deeper into Bach’s catalogue of keyboard works one finds many lovely examples of two voice counterpoint. Alongside the Inventions, we have recorded movements from various English and French Suites, a Partita and, naturally, from the Well-Tempered Clavier. Also included are excerpts from Bach’s 1725 “Notenbüchlein für Anna Magdalena Bach” given to his second wife. It is a compilation of not only works of Bach but also of composers of the time and famous folk tunes. These pieces all give a glimpse into the musical taste of the Bach household and of the music of the 18th century. Short in form and simple in structure, we have chosen a few of the most famous two voice gems: five Menuets, one Aria and one Musette.

Note on the Edition

The aim of **paladino music** is to produce practical modern editions.

Our arrangements of these 31 Bach pieces are printed in the same order as were performed on the recording (paladino music, pnr 0039).

While we have not added any dynamic markings, we have included our articulations and – in the cello part – suggestions for bowings and fingerings in the score. In those cases where the articulation between flute and cello seems not to match, it is our conscious decision reflecting the difference between playing a wind and a string instrument. Our main goal was to achieve the best musical result, which is not necessarily the most logical notation on the page.

Eric Lamb & Martin Rummel
Vienna, September 2014

Content

1	Menuet in G Major from "Notenbüchlein für Anna Magdalena Bach", BWV Anh. 114	42	Gigue from English Suite No 2 in a minor, BWV 807
2	Fugue in e minor from "The Well-Tempered Clavier" Vol 1, BWV 855	44	Menuet in G Major from "Notenbüchlein für Anna Magdalena Bach", BWV Anh. 116
4	Invention No 6 in E Major, BWV 777	46	Prelude in G Major from "The Well-Tempered Clavier" Vol 1, BWV 860
7	Bourrée No 1 from French Suite No 5 in G Major, BWV 816	48	Gavotte No 1 from English Suite No 3 in g minor, BWV 808
8	Invention No 11 in g minor, BWV 782	50	Fantasia from Partita No 3 in a minor, BWV 827
10	Invention No 10 in G Major, BWV 781	54	Invention No 12 in A Major, BWV 783
11	Musette from "Notenbüchlein für Anna Magdalena Bach", BWV Anh. II 126		
12	Menuet No 2 from English Suite No 4 in d minor, BWV 809		
14	Invention No 13 in a minor, BWV 784		
16	Invention No 1 in C Major, BWV 772a		
18	Invention No 7 in e minor, BWV 778		
20	Menuet in a minor from "Notenbüchlein für Anna Magdalena Bach", BWV Anh. 120		
20	Invention No 3 in D Major, BWV 774		
22	Allemande from French Suite No 6 in E Major, BWV 817		
24	Invention No 15 in b minor, BWV 786		
25	Menuet in c minor from "Notenbüchlein für Anna Magdalena Bach", BWV Anh. 121		
26	Invention No 2 in c minor, BWV 773		
29	Menuet in g minor from "Notenbüchlein für Anna Magdalena Bach", BWV Anh. 115		
30	Invention No 8 in F Major, BWV 779		
32	Air from French Suite No 2 in c minor, BWV 813		
34	Invention No 5 in E Flat Major, BWV 776		
36	Invention No 9 in f minor, BWV 780		
38	Aria ("So oft ich meine Tobackspfeife") in d minor from "Notenbüchlein für Anna Magdalena Bach"		
38	Invention No 14 in B Flat Major, BWV 785		
41	Invention No 4 in d minor BWV 775		