

A Kalmus Classic Edition

Johann Sebastian
BACH

FOUR VARIOUS WORKS

FOR PIANO SOLO

Fifteen Two-Part Inventions
Fifteen Three-Part Inventions
Italian Concerto
Six French Suites

MINIATURE SCORE

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PREFACE

The fifteen two and three-part INVENTIONS (or really IDEAS on playing) date from 1720-24. They were contained in the Clavierbuechlein for Anna Magdalena Bach, his wife. Bach explained that these simple 2 and 3 part exercises were to serve as an "Instruction Book for accurate playing and for developing a singing style of performance."

The 6 FRENCH SUITES: It is not known why Bach called these "French" nor the other 6 suites "English" suites. They date from 1722-25. Five of the French suites are again to be found in the Clavierbuechlein for Anna Magdalena Bach. They are really pieces in dance form, bearing such titles as: Passepied, Rondeau, Courante, Sarabande, Gigue.

The ITALIAN CONCERTO: dating from around 1731-1735, is the only work by Bach written in Concerto form for solo harpsichord (without Orchestra accompaniment).

Inventio 1.

The image displays a musical score for a piece titled "Inventio 1." The score is written for a grand piano, featuring a treble clef on the upper staff and a bass clef on the lower staff. The music is in a common time signature (C) and consists of six systems of two staves each. The first system begins with a treble staff containing a series of eighth-note runs and a bass staff with a similar rhythmic pattern. The second system continues with more complex melodic lines in the treble and a supporting bass line. The third system shows a change in the treble staff's melody, with more sustained notes and a bass line that remains active. The fourth system features a treble staff with a more melodic, flowing line and a bass line with a steady eighth-note accompaniment. The fifth system is characterized by a treble staff with a dense, rapid sixteenth-note texture and a bass line with a similar but slightly slower texture. The sixth and final system concludes the piece with a treble staff that has a more relaxed, melodic feel and a bass line that provides a solid harmonic foundation, ending with a final chord in the bass clef.