

A Kalmus Classic Edition

Johann Sebastian

BACH

EIGHTEEN LITTLE PRELUDES

Edited by
DR. HANS BISCHOFF

FOR PIANO

K 02000



PREFACE

My sources for the "Six Little Preludes," BWV Nos. 933-938, consist of an old Hoffmeister printing as well as the editions issued by Peters; the latter are based on the Forkel traditions. A number of older manuscripts from the Royal Library in Berlin are in essential agreement with the text, as authenticated by the above mentioned printed editions. These manuscripts consist of the following: P.528, 540, 542. The latter bears the designation: Graf Karl Lichnowski, Gottingen 1781. It is probable that the owner of this manuscript was in actual musical communication with Forkel. The manuscripts are only partially accurate in the matter of ornamentation. A copy of the C Major Praeludium appearing in P.563 is not reliable.

The other twelve preludes are to be found in the "Little Piano Book" ("Clavierbüchlein") of Wilhelm Friedemann Bach (1720) as numbers 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10 and 11. Unfortunately, years have passed since my cursory perusal of this manuscript. The other preludes appear in a manuscript of Kellner with which I am not familiar. I am, therefore, basing this edition on the carefully corrected text contained in the Peters Edition. Moreover, I have compared this with a copy of the "Clavierbüchlein" belonging to the Joachimsthal High School; the latter is certainly inaccurate in its notation of ornaments. It is interesting to note that some of the pieces in the "Clavierbüchlein" are entitled Praeambulum instead of Praeludium.

Dr. Hans Bischoff

CONTENTS

Prelude No. 1 in C Major (BWV 933).....	4
Prelude No. 2 in C Minor (BWV 934)	6
Prelude No. 3 in D Minor (BWV 935)	8
Prelude No. 4 in D Major (BWV 936)	10
Prelude No. 5 in E Major (BWV 937)	12
Prelude No. 6 in E Minor (BWV 938)	14
Prelude No. 7 in C Major	16
Prelude No. 8 in C Major	17
Prelude No. 9 in C Minor	18
Prelude No. 10 in D Major	20
Prelude No. 11 in D Minor	21
Prelude No. 12 in D Minor	23
Prelude No. 13 in E Minor	24
Prelude No. 14 in F Major	24
Prelude No. 15 in F Major	26
Prelude No. 16 in G Minor	27
Prelude No. 17 in G Minor	28
Prelude No. 18 in A Minor	29

PRELUDE NO. 1

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH
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Moderato (♩ = 92)

1) The grace-note appears only in 528.

2) The grace-note on C is missing in 542 and 528. The older Peters edition has a mordent instead of the turn.

3) Variant in 563:  NB1  NB2 