

Vorwort

Sämtliche Konzert-Transkriptionen Johann Sebastian Bachs nach verschiedenen Meistern stammen aus den Jahren 1713 und 1714, fallen also in seine Weimarer Jahre. Beim dortigen Herzog Wilhelm Ernst stand er seit 1708 als Hoforganist, ab 1714 als Hofkonzertmeister in Diensten. Wie Johann Gottfried Walther auch, bearbeitete Bach Instrumentalkonzerte insbesondere italienischer Komponisten für Orgel bzw. Cembalo. Der junge Prinz Johann Ernst von Sachsen-Weimar hatte 1713/14 aus Amsterdam zahlreiche Drucke und Abschriften von damals hochmodernen und sehr beliebten italienischen Instrumentalkonzerten mit nach Weimar gebracht. Wohl auf seine Veranlassung (wenn nicht gar nach seinem Auftrag) transkribierte Bach fünf Konzerte für Orgel (BWV 592-596) und 17 für Cembalo. Bis auf ein Oboenkonzert von Marcello (BWV 974) waren alle von Bach für Cembalo bearbeiteten Konzerte im Original für Solo-Violine, Streicher und Basso continuo besetzt.

Statt eine notengetreue Übertragung anzufertigen, ging Bach sehr schöpferisch mit den Vorlagen um: Seine teilweise starken Eingriffe betreffen z.B. Auszierungen, diverse Ergänzungen (wie hinzugefügte neue Linien, Einebnungen von Solo/Tutti-Wechseln, signifikante Änderungen der Stimmenzahl und Oktavierungen) sowie die tastengerechte Anpassung geigerischer Spielfiguren.

Neben dem Effekt, mit diesen Transkriptionen am Hofe moderne und virtuose Spielliteratur zur Verfügung zu haben, waren Bachs Weimarer Bearbeitungen auch von großer Bedeutung für seine eigene kompositorische Entwicklung, speziell für die Ausgestaltung seiner Ritornellform, die in vielen der von ihm bedienten Gattungen eine wichtige Rolle spielt (auf diesen Aspekt verwies Bernhard Billeter in seinem Aufsatz *Die Konzertbearbeitungen Johann Sebastian Bachs für Cembalo und Orgel*, in: Ars Organica 2011, Heft 4, S. 238-246, speziell S. 239).

Von Bachs Konzert-Transkriptionen sind keine Autographen aus seiner Hand überliefert. Als Hauptquelle für alle Editionen dient eine Sammelhandschrift des Eisenacher Stadtorganisten Johann Bernhard Bach (1676-1749), die zwischen 1715 und 1730 entstanden ist und elf Konzerte enthält (zehn für Cembalo, eins für Orgel). Eine weitere Quelle umfasst zehn Konzerte in Abschriften Johann Peter Kellners (1705-1772); alle Quellen liegen in der Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin, Preußischer Kulturbesitz.

Der vorliegende Band enthält sämtliche Cembalo-Transkriptionen Bachs von Konzerten Vivaldis (in Klammern die Nummern des Ryom-Werkverzeichnisses): BWV 972 D-Dur (RV 230), BWV 973 G-Dur (RV 299), BWV 975 g-Moll (RV 316), BWV 976 C-Dur (RV 265), BWV 978 F-Dur (RV 310) und BWV 980 G-Dur (RV 381).

Als Quelle für die Bearbeitungen dieser Edition dienten die Klavierausgaben der Verlage Bärenreiter (BA 5221, BA 5222) und Peters (EP 217). Ziel dieser Ausgabe ist, die im Vergleich zu den Orgeltranskriptionen wesentlich seltener gespielten, spieltechnisch ein-

facheren Bach'schen Klavierbearbeitungen von Vivaldi-Konzerten auch dem Instrument Orgel mit seinen ungleich größeren klanglichen Möglichkeiten zu erschließen.

Die Bearbeitungen halten sich in puncto Notensatz engstmöglich an die Bach'schen Vorgaben. Zu den „orgelmäßigen“ Eingriffen zählen instrumentenspezifische Umlegungen und Anpassungen, gelegentliche Erweiterungen der Stimmenzahl und die sinngemäße Erstellung einer Pedalstimme.

Alle Bearbeitungen wurden für zweimanualige Orgel konzipiert (Hauptwerk/Positiv). Die angegebenen Manualwechsel verstehen sich als Vorschläge; sie orientieren sich nicht in jedem Fall an der originalen Solo/Tutti-Anordnung Vivaldis, auch nicht konsequent an den vom Herausgeber hinzugefügten dynamischen Angaben in der Peters-Ausgabe, sondern wurden vielmehr nach spieltechnischen Erwägungen getroffen. Darüber hinaus wurden in vier Konzerten Vorschläge für die Gestaltung von Echostellen gemacht (indiziert durch die Zeichen: *E* ... *J*). Diese Echostellen können unabhängig von der Manualverteilung Hw/Pos. vorgenommen werden (im Idealfall auf einem dritten Manual) und betreffen zumeist beide Hände. Die Pedalregistrierung ist der jeweiligen Manualdynamik anzupassen.

Alle weiteren Ergänzungen bzw. Eingriffe der Herausgeberin, insbesondere Verzierungen und Akzidenzen betreffend, wurden in eckige Klammern gesetzt. Mittig stehende Manualangaben zeigen das Spiel beider Hände auf demselben Manual an. Von konkreten Registriervorschlägen wurde abgesehen. Der Spieler sei ausdrücklich ermutigt, die häufig gepflegte Praxis, die Ecksätze im Mixturenplenum und den Mittelsatz im piano zu interpretieren, zu hinterfragen und kreativ nach klanglichen Alternativen zu suchen. Als Anregung möge die CD-Einspielung aller Konzerte dieses Bandes durch die Herausgeberin dienen (Brillant Classics 92809).

Mögen die barocken Instrumentalkonzerte in den vorliegenden Orgelfassungen Eingang in das Repertoire vieler entdeckungsfreudiger OrganistenInnen finden und die gottesdienstliche wie konzertante Orgelmusik um ebenso spiel- wie klangfreudige Werke erweitern.

Ramlinsburg (Schweiz), im Juli 2012

Elena Barshai

Foreword

All of Johann Sebastian Bach's transcriptions of concertos by various composers date from 1713 and 1714, i.e. from his time in Weimar. He had been court organist to Duke Wilhelm Ernst from 1708, becoming court concertmaster in 1714. Like Johann Gottfried Walther, Bach mainly made arrangements for organ or harpsichord of instrumental concertos by Italian composers.

Returning from his visit to Amsterdam in 1713/14, the young Prince Johann Ernst of Saxony-Weimar brought back to Weimar a large number of publications and copies of what were at the time the very latest, highly popular Italian instrumental concertos. It was probably at his suggestion (if not in response to his commission) that Bach transcribed five concertos for organ (BWV 592-596) and 17 for harpsichord. With the exception of an oboe concerto by Marcello (BWV 974), all of the concertos arranged by Bach for harpsichord were originally for solo violin, strings and basso continuo.

Rather than producing a note-for-note transcription, Bach was extremely creative in his treatment of the original pieces: his alterations – some of them very far-reaching – included embellishments, various additions like extra lines, a reduction in the number of shifts between solo and tutti, significant changes to the number of voices, octaving, and the adaptation of figures composed for the violin to suit the keyboard.

In addition to the effect of producing modern and virtuoso literature for performance at court, the arrangements that Bach made in Weimar were also of great significance for his own development as a composer, and especially for the structure of his ritornello form, which plays an important role in many of the genres he used (Bernhard Billeter has highlighted this aspect in his essay *Die Konzertbearbeitungen Johann Sebastian Bachs für Cembalo und Orgel*, in: Ars Organica 2011, vol. 4, pp. 238-246, especially p. 239).

There are no surviving autographs of Bach's concerto transcriptions. The main source for all the editions is a collection written out by Eisenach's town organist Johann Bernhard Bach (1676-1749), which was produced between 1715 and 1730 and contains eleven concertos (ten for harpsichord, one for organ). A second source comprises ten concertos copied out by Johann Peter Kellner (1705-1772); all of the sources can be found at the Staatsbibliothek in Berlin.

This volume contains all of Bach's transcriptions for harpsichord of concertos by Vivaldi (the Ryom Verzeichnis numbers are in brackets): BWV 972 in D major (RV 230), BWV 973 in G major (RV 299), BWV 975 in G minor (RV 316), BWV 976 in C major (RV 265), BWV 978 in F major (RV 310) and BWV 980 in G major (RV 381).

The piano editions published by Bärenreiter (BA 5221, BA 5222) and Peters (EP 217) served as a source for the arrangements in this volume. The intention is to open up Bach's harpsichord transcriptions of Vivaldi concertos, which are technically simpler but

much less frequently played than the organ transcriptions, to performance on the organ, with its far greater range of colours.

The text of the arrangements sticks as closely as possible to what Bach himself wrote. The interventions to make the pieces more appropriate for organ include the adaptation and moving of parts, occasional increases in the number of voices, and the creation of an appropriate pedal part.

All of the arrangements are designed for a two-manual organ (Great, Positiv). The indications of change of manual are merely suggestions; not all of them are oriented to Vivaldi's original solo/tutti writing, nor are they consistently in line with the dynamic markings added by the editor in the Peters edition: rather, they are based on performance considerations. Further to this, suggestions are made in four concertos for echoes (indicated by the signs: *E* ... *J*). These echo effects can be achieved separately from the Great/Positiv manual division (ideally on a third manual) and mainly involve both hands. The pedal registration must be adapted to the dynamic on the respective manual.

All other additions or alterations by the editor, and especially ornamentations and accidentals, have been placed in square brackets. Manual markings in the middle of the system indicate that both hands should use the same manual. Specific suggestions for registrations have not been provided. The performer is expressly encouraged to question the frequent approach of interpreting the outer movements as full organ to mixture and the central movement as piano, and to seek creatively for alternative sounds. The editor's CD recording of all the concertos in this volume may provide some ideas (Brillant Classics 92809).

May these organ arrangements of the Baroque instrumental concertos find their way into the repertoire of many inquisitive organists, and may the range of organ music used in both concerts and services be enriched by these works, which are enjoyable both to play and to listen to.

Ramlinsburg (Switzerland), July 2012

Elena Barshai

Translation: Andrew Sims

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Concerto D-Dur

BWV 972

Antonio Vivaldi
bearbeitet von J. S. Bach
Orgeltranskription:
Elena Barshai

Allegro

Manual

HW

Pedal

4

Pos.

E

]*

Pos.

10

* Siehe das Vorwort

Musical score page 11, measures 49-50. The score consists of three staves: Treble, Bass, and Double Bass. The Treble staff has sixteenth-note patterns. The Bass staff has eighth-note patterns. The Double Bass staff has quarter-note patterns.

Larghetto

Musical score page 11, Larghetto section. It shows two staves: Treble and Bass. The Treble staff has sustained chords. The Bass staff has eighth-note patterns. The label "HW" is placed between the staves.

Musical score page 11, Solo-Registrierung section. It shows two staves: Treble and Bass. The Treble staff has sixteenth-note patterns. The Bass staff has eighth-note patterns. The label "tr" is above the Treble staff, and "HW" is below the Bass staff.

Musical score page 11, Solo-Reg. section. It shows two staves: Treble and Bass. The Treble staff has sixteenth-note patterns. The Bass staff has eighth-note patterns. The label "Solo-Reg." is above the Treble staff.

Allegro

[~] [~] [~]

Solo-Registrierung
z. B. Cornett

[~] [~]

HW

II

Solo-Registrierung *tr.*
(Pos.)

16

tr.



Concerto G-Dur

BWV 973

Antonio Vivaldi
bearbeitet von J. S. Bach
Orgeltranskription:
Elena Barshai

Allegro assai

Manual { HW

Pedal

8

16

Pos.

24

Largo

Musical score for piano, page 25, Largo section. The score consists of three staves. The top staff is labeled "Solo" and has a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time (indicated by a '4'). It features a series of eighth-note patterns with grace notes and slurs. The middle staff has a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time. It contains eighth-note patterns with slurs. The bottom staff has a bass clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time. It shows quarter-note patterns.

The score continues from the previous page, starting at measure 5. The first measure of the solo part begins with a forte dynamic (indicated by a large 'f') followed by a grace note and an eighth note. The subsequent measures show a continuation of the eighth-note pattern with slurs. The middle staff maintains its eighth-note patterns with slurs. The bass staff continues its quarter-note patterns.

Allegro

Musical score for the first system, labeled "Allegro". The score consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef, common time, and has a key signature of one sharp. It features a continuous eighth-note pattern. The bottom staff is in bass clef, common time, and has a key signature of one sharp. It contains chords and rests. The vocal line includes the lyrics "HW", "Pos.", "HW", and "Pos." under specific notes. The vocal line starts with a sustained note followed by a series of eighth-note pairs.

Musical score for the second system, starting at measure 4. The score consists of two staves. The top staff continues the eighth-note pattern from the previous system. The bottom staff begins with a sustained note, followed by a series of eighth-note pairs. The vocal line includes the lyrics "HW", "Pos.", and "HW". The vocal line starts with a sustained note followed by a series of eighth-note pairs.



Concerto g-Moll

BWV 975

Antonio Vivaldi
bearbeitet von J. S. Bach
Orgeltranskription:
Elena Barshai

Allegro

Manual HW

Pedal

7

14

19

Largo

Solo-Registrierung

Musical score for the first three measures of the Largo section. The score consists of three staves. The top staff is treble clef, 3/4 time, and has a dynamic of $\hat{\text{w}}$. It features sixteenth-note patterns with grace notes. The middle staff is also treble clef, 3/4 time, and has a dynamic of tr . It shows eighth-note patterns. The bottom staff is bass clef, 3/4 time, and has a dynamic of tr . It contains rests. The measure numbers 1, 2, and 3 are positioned above the top staff.

(Pos.)

Musical score for the next three measures. The top staff continues with sixteenth-note patterns and grace notes. The middle staff shows eighth-note patterns. The bottom staff contains rests. Measure number 4 is indicated above the top staff.

Musical score for the final three measures. The top staff has sixteenth-note patterns with grace notes. The middle staff shows eighth-note patterns. The bottom staff contains rests. Measure number 7 is indicated above the top staff. The word "Pos." appears below the middle staff in measure 8.

37

40

Pos.

Giga

Presto

HW

4

simile



Concerto C-Dur

BWV 976

Antonio Vivaldi
bearbeitet von J. S. Bach
Orgeltranskription:
Elena Barshai

Allegro

Manual

HW E]

Pedal

4

7

Pos.

Pos.

10

* Siehe das Vorwort

85

88b

Largo

HW

4

Allegro

Musical score for piano, three staves. Staff 1 (Treble): 3/4 time, HW (Handwritten) above staff. Staff 2 (Bass): 3/4 time, bass clef, dynamic marks. Staff 3 (Bass): 3/4 time, bass clef, rests.

Musical score for piano, three staves. Staff 1 (Treble): 6. Staff 2 (Bass): 3/4 time, bass clef, dynamic marks. Staff 3 (Bass): 3/4 time, bass clef, rests.

Musical score for piano, three staves. Staff 1 (Treble): 12. Staff 2 (Bass): 3/4 time, bass clef, dynamic marks. Staff 3 (Bass): 3/4 time, bass clef, rests.

Musical score for piano, three staves. Staff 1 (Treble): 18. Staff 2 (Bass): 3/4 time, bass clef, dynamic marks. Staff 3 (Bass): 3/4 time, bass clef, rests. Text "Pos." is placed between the first two measures of the bass staff.



Concerto F-Dur

BWV 978

Antonio Vivaldi
bearbeitet von J. S. Bach
Orgeltranskription:
Elena Barshai

Allegro

Manual HW

Pedal

4

7

10

Pos.

61

61

Largo

HW

HW

5

5

9

9

29

Allegro

HW

6

12

Pos.



Concerto G-Dur

BWV 980

Antonio Vivaldi
bearbeitet von J. S. Bach
Orgeltranskription:
Elena Barshai

Allegro

Manual

HW

Pedal

4

7

10

85

Largo

HW

5

Solo-Reg.

Pos.

9

Allegro

HW (Wdhlg: Pos.)

4

7

10