

Johann Sebastian Bach



**Alla Breve in D major BWV 589 for Organ
Transcribed for String Orchestra full score**

edited by Alan Bonds

ABOUT THIS WORK

Fairly little is known about this work's origins. Its authenticity has been hotly disputed by Bach experts.

The existing manuscript was originally titled "Allabreve con Pedale pro Organo pleno". Peter Williams, one of the foremost experts on Bach's organ music, says it is "not a close copy of a Bach manuscript" and the author or copyist is not known.

Some have also labelled it a 'Prelude' - a fairly meaningless title. Most Bach 'preludes' have an improvisable quality, and this piece is not - it is a carefully crafted exercise in counterpoint.

ABOUT THIS TRANSCRIPTION

This particular transcription is in the original key of D major. This key suits a string quartet or string orchestra (with the bass part doubled on Contrabass transposing the bottom D's 8va).

However I have also transposed it to E major for String Orchestra (and both versions are on IMSLP) to enjoy those low pedal notes.

It has not been bowed or fingered.

VIOLIN I

Allabreve

BWV589

J.S.Bach

The image shows a single page of sheet music for a solo instrument, likely a flute, in G major (two sharps). The music is in common time. The page contains measures 8 through 88, with measure 1 labeled '1'. The music is written on five staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps. The notes are represented by various symbols: circles, dots, squares, and vertical strokes. Measures 8-14 show a steady eighth-note pattern. Measures 15-21 continue this pattern with some variations. Measures 22-28 show a more complex eighth-note and sixteenth-note pattern. Measures 29-35 continue the melodic line. Measures 36-42 show a return to the eighth-note pattern. Measures 43-49 continue the melodic line. Measures 50-56 show a return to the eighth-note pattern. Measures 57-63 continue the melodic line. Measures 64-70 show a return to the eighth-note pattern. Measures 71-77 continue the melodic line. Measures 78-84 show a return to the eighth-note pattern. Measures 85-88 conclude the piece.

VIOLIN I

94

101

108

115

122

129

135

142

149

155 8

168

175 2

184

191

This block contains the musical score for Violin I, page 2, starting from measure 94 and ending at measure 191. The score is written in 2/4 time with a key signature of two sharps. The notes are primarily eighth and sixteenth notes, with some quarter notes and rests. Measure 155 includes a dynamic marking '8' and measure 175 includes a dynamic marking '2'.

Allabreve

BWV589

J.S.Bach

Violin 2 part of J.S. Bach's Allabreve (BWV589). The music is in common time, key of G major (two sharps). The score consists of 16 staves of music. Measure numbers are indicated above the staff in some cases. The music is divided into measures by vertical bar lines.

Measure numbers shown above the staff:

- 8
- 15
- 23
- 33
- 40
- 47
- 61
- 68
- 75
- 82
- 89
- 96

Tempo markings:

- 1 (Measure 15)
- 3 (Measure 23)

VIOLIN 2

103



110



117



124



131



138



145



152



162



170



177



184



191



VIOLA

Allabreve

BWV589

J.S.Bach

3 1

12

19

26

32

39 1

46

52

58

65

71

78

84

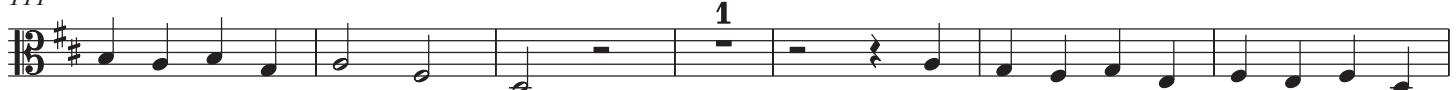
91 6

VIOLA

103



111



118



124



130



137



144



151



158



164



170



177



184



191



3 1 4 1

15 1

23

29

35 5

46

52

59 8

73

79

85

91 8

105

111 20

137

VIOLONCELLO

144

A musical staff in bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The staff consists of ten measures of music, starting with a dotted half note and ending with a half note. The notes are primarily eighth notes, with some sixteenth notes and quarter notes.

149

155

15

Musical score for bassoon, page 15, measures 1-10. The score consists of ten measures on a bass clef staff. Measure 1: Open circle. Measure 2: Closed circle. Measure 3: Closed circle. Measure 4: Closed circle. Measure 5: Open circle. Measure 6: Open circle. Measure 7: Open circle. Measure 8: Dash. Measure 9: Thick black bar. Measure 10: Open circle.

176

A musical staff in 2/4 time with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The staff consists of ten measures. Measures 1-4: D, E, F, G. Measures 5-8: D, D, D, D, E, F, G. Measures 9-10: D, E, F, G.

183

190