

Johann Sebastian Bach

CONTRAPUNCTUS I

from The Art of Fugue

transcribed for wind band by
Kenneth Amis

Instrumentation:

- 6 – Flutes 1 & 2
- 2 – Oboe
- 2 – Bassoons 1 & 2
- 12 – B^b Clarinets 1, 2 & 3
- 2 – B^b Bass Clarinet
- 4 – E^b Alto Saxophones 1 & 2
- 1 – B^b Tenor Saxophone
- 1 – E^b Baritone Saxophone
- 1 – B^b Flugelhorn
- 4 – B^b Trumpets 1 & 2
- 8 – French Horns in F 1, 2, 3 & 4
- 6 – Trombones 1, 2 & 3
- 2 – Euphonium
- 2 – Tuba
- 1 – Timpani
- 1 – Percussion 1 : Chimes
- 2 – Percussion 2 : Large Suspended Cymbal & Tam-Tam

Approximate timing: 4 minutes

Performance Note

Other than a few slur markings and the text "in Stylo Francese" at the beginning of Contrapunctus VI, Bach gave very little indication on how selections from The Art of Fugue were to be performed. He did not indicate tempi, dynamics or even the instrumentation. This score has been prepared with dynamics, articulation markings, tempo indications and text instructions. However, this music can work at many different tempi. Subsequently, a wide range has been indicated at the start of the score. This gives conductors a certain degree of flexibility when formulating their own interpretation and working with the resources they have at their disposal. However, tempi outside of the indicated range may prove incompatible with the instrumentation and other various markings of this particular transcription.

The instruments used in this transcription have been assigned to one of the three or four voices that form Bach's counterpoint. The unorthodox layout of the score and what it suggests can have four major benefits. First, it immediately shows the conductor which instruments share the same voice (There are some key moments where the instruments of a single choir split into counterpoint). Second, if the players are physically grouped into these choirs, cueing players who are playing the same voice becomes much easier (and the look of the score will reflect the geographic grouping of the players). Also, with the musicians seated next to players of the same part, they will be better able to hear each other and therefore in a better position to blend and match their sounds, articulations and intonation. Finally, even though The Art of Fugue is not antiphonal music, arranging some physical separation between the choirs will allow the audience to more easily hear and enjoy the contrapuntal genius of Johann Sebastian Bach and to fully appreciate his art of fugue.

Contrapunctus I
from The Art of Fugue

This musical score is for Contrapunctus I from J.S. Bach's The Art of Fugue. It is arranged for a large symphony orchestra. The score is divided into four systems of staves. The instruments included are:

- Flutes 1 and 2
- Oboes
- Clarinets in Bb (1 and 2)
- Bass Clarinet
- Bassoon 1
- Bassoon 2
- Alto Saxophones in Eb (1 and 2)
- Tenor Saxophone in Bb
- Horns 1, 2, 3, and 4
- Trumpets in Bb (1 and 2)
- Trombones in Bb (1 and 2)
- Baritone Saxophone in Eb
- Euphonium
- Tuba
- Timpani
- 1 and 2 Percussion

The score begins at measure 51 and ends at measure 59. Dynamic markings include *p* (piano) and *mf* (mezzo-forte). The key signature is Bb major, and the time signature is 4/4. A large 'Rehearsal' watermark is visible across the middle of the page.

Contrapunctus I
from The Art of Fugue

60

Fl. 1 *sub. f* *mf* *cresc.*

Ob. *sub. f* *mf* *cresc.*

B♭ Cl. 1 *sub. f* *mf* *cresc.*

B♭ Flghrn. *f* *mf* *cresc.*

B♭ Tpt. 1 *f* *mf* *cresc.*

Hn. 3 *f*

60

Fl. 2 *f* *mf* *cresc.*

B♭ Cl. 2 *f* *mf* *cresc.*

E♭ Alto Sax. 1 *f* *mf* *cresc.*

B♭ Tpt. 2 *f* *mf* *cresc.*

Hn. 1 *f* *mf* *cresc.*

Tbn. 1 *f* *mf* *cresc.*

60

B♭ Cl. 3 *f*

Bsn. 1 *f* *mf* *cresc.*

E♭ Alto Sax. 2 *f* *mf* *cresc.*

B♭ Tenor Sax. *f* *mf* *cresc.*

Hn. 2 *f* *mf* *cresc.*

Tbn. 2 *f* *mf* *cresc.*

60

B♭ Bs. Cl. *mp* *f* *mf* *cresc.*

Bsn. 2 *mp* *f* *mf* *cresc.*

E♭ Bar. Sax. *mp* *f* *mf* *cresc.*

Hn. 4 *mp* *f* *mf* *cresc.*

Bs. Tbn. *mp* *f* *mf* *cresc.*

Euph. *mp* *f* *mf* *cresc.*

Tuba *mp* *f* *mf* *cresc.*

60

Timp. *mp* *mf* *mp*

Perc. 1 *mf*

Perc. 2

60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68

pp *mf*

Contrapunctus I
from The Art of Fugue

This page contains the musical score for Contrapunctus I from The Art of Fugue, measures 69 through 78. The score is arranged for a full orchestra and percussion. The instruments listed on the left are: Fl. 1, Ob., B♭ Cl. 1, B♭ Flghrn., B♭ Tpt. 1, Hn. 3, Fl. 2, B♭ Cl. 2, E♭ Alto Sax. 1, B♭ Tpt. 2, Hn. 1, Tbn. 1, B♭ Cl. 3, Bsn. 1, E♭ Alto Sax. 2, B♭ Tenor Sax., Hn. 2, Tbn. 2, B♭ Bs. Cl., Bsn. 2, E♭ Bar. Sax., Hn. 4, Bs. Tbn., Euph., Tuba, Timp., and Perc. 1 & 2. The score includes various performance instructions such as *molto ritard.*, *ten.*, *a tempo*, *ritard.*, *f cresc.*, *ff*, *mf*, *mp*, and *f*. A large watermark 'Petrusai' is visible across the center of the page. The page number '8' is in the top left, and the title 'Contrapunctus I from The Art of Fugue' is at the top center. Measure numbers 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, and 78 are indicated at the bottom of the score.