



# ARIOSO

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Cantata "Ich steh mit einem Fuß im Grabe"  
*Sinfonia*, BWV 156 (1729)

Concerto for harpsichord, strings and continuo No 5 in f minor  
*Largo*, BWV 1056 (1738)

## Viola and organ

f minor

Urtext edition by Erlend Vestby, 2020

## CRITICAL COMMENTARY

This edition of the *Sinfonia* BWV 156 is made after the surviving anonymous copies of the instrumental parts (A) created between 1750 and 1761, just after Bach's death. Bach's own manuscript and the original parts were lost to history early on. I have compared these copies with the first printed edition (E1) of the Cantata, made in 1886 by Ernst Naumann for Breitkopf und Härtel Bach-Gesellschaft Ausgabe.

The edition of the *Concerto* BWV 1056 however is made primarily after J.S. Bach's own autograph manuscript (MS). I have also used the first printed edition (E2) of this work made in 1869 by Wilhelm Rust for Breitkopf und Härtel Bach-Gesellschaft Ausgabe. Johann Nikolaus Forkel (1749-1818), musicologist, organist and the first biographer of J.S. Bach, made a copy of the MS which I have also consulted (F).

The MS has been the primary source and has also been used to compare A and E1 when making the *Sinfonia* due to the lack of survived autograph manuscripts of the Cantata. The E2 has been used to better understand the writings of MS and as a quality control. F is the source that has the largest discrepancies to all the other sources. Some changes have been necessary in order to make the transposition (g minor), but the copy also includes more embellishments than in the other sources (marked in blue in the score). F has its own chapter below where the major differences are shown.

### Abbreviations:

S: = solo part

1: = 1<sup>st</sup> voice (1vln)

2: = 2<sup>nd</sup> voice (2vln)

3: = 3<sup>rd</sup> voice (vla)

C: = continuo (bass)

b = bar number

n = note in the bar. Slurs, ties, grace notes and rests are not included when counting.

MS = manuscript (1738) (J.S. Bach of BWV 1056)

A = Autograph (1750-1761) (anonymous copy of BWV 156 parts)

F = Copy of BWV 1056 by J. N. Forkel (1760-1789) (transposed to g minor)

E1 = first edition BWV 156 (1886) (Ed. Ernst Naumann)

E2 = first edition BWV 1056 (1869) (Ed. Wilhelm Rust)


# Sinfonia

Ich steh mit einem Fuß im Grabe

J.S. Bach, BWV 156

Adagio

Viola



Organ

4



8



# Concerto No 5

for harpsichord, strings and continuo

J.S. Bach, BWV 1056

Largo

Viola

Organ

The image displays a musical score for the first system of J.S. Bach's Concerto No. 5, BWV 1056. The score is written for Viola and Organ. The key signature is G minor (three flats) and the time signature is 3/4. The tempo marking is 'Largo'. The score is divided into three systems. The first system shows measures 1-3. The second system starts at measure 4. The third system starts at measure 6. The Viola part is in the alto clef. The Organ part is in the grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, trills (tr), and accents (+). A large watermark 'EVL' is overlaid on the score.