

Catalog # 20134

5 Octaves
Optional handbells

AGEHR Level V

Air

from Suite No. 3 in D Major
by J.S. Bach



transcribed by
Valerie W. Stephenson

From the Top Music
Albuquerque, NM
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5 Octaves Handbells

Optional 5 octave handchimes used : C#3 - E5



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Performance notes:

There are choices for performance of the walking bass line.

1) For choirs with a 5 octave set of handchimes and enough ringers to handle both bells and chimes, the "bass viol" sound is enhanced by duplicating the bass line on handchimes while plucking or gently malleting the lowest eighth notes on handbells. Some of the eighth note bass line are in the treble clef. Those are marked with melody lines. If handchimes are used, C#3-E5 are needed and are the same as indicated on the handbell chart.

2) Make wedges made from fairly dense polyurethane packing foam for C3 - D#4. Place the bell handle on the foam block so the front of the block is flush with the hand guard. The only part of the bell that rests on the table is the lip. The bells are malletted, again to emulate the "bass viol" sound.

Block sizes:

for C#3 through F# (6 required): 6" x 2" x 2 3/4" thick;

for G3 through D#4 (9 required): 6" x 2" x 2 1/4" thick.

Different brands may require slightly different sizes. The 6" width may be shorter, but 6" assures an adequate resting surface.

3) Ring the bell in normal fashion.

NOTE:

The trills in measures 2 and 19 should begin on C#6 as the principal tone with D6 being the auxiliary tone.

Air

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Johann Sebastian Bach
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Cantabile ♩ = 76

mf

2 *tr* 3

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This system of the musical score for 'Air' features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of two sharps (D major) and a 4/4 time signature. The tempo is marked 'Cantabile' with a quarter note equal to 76 beats. The dynamics are marked 'mf'. The first measure is a whole note chord. The second measure has a fermata over the treble staff and a '2' above it. The third measure has a trill 'tr' above the treble staff and a '3' above it. The rest of the system contains eighth and sixteenth notes in both staves.

4 5

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This system continues the musical score. It starts with a measure marked '4' and another marked '5'. The treble staff contains eighth and sixteenth notes, while the bass staff contains quarter notes. A large, semi-transparent watermark is overlaid on the score.

1. 2.

6 7

This system shows the first and second endings of the piece. The first ending is marked '1.' and the second ending is marked '2.'. Both start at measure 6. The first ending leads to measure 7, which then branches into the second ending. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Musical score for measures 8 and 9. The score is written for piano in treble and bass clefs. Measure 8 begins with a repeat sign. The melody in the treble clef features a series of eighth notes and a dotted quarter note. The bass clef provides a simple accompaniment of quarter notes.

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Musical score for measures 10 and 11. The treble clef continues with a melodic line of eighth and sixteenth notes. The bass clef accompaniment consists of quarter notes. A large, faint watermark of a musical instrument is visible in the background.

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Musical score for measures 12 and 13. The treble clef features a melodic line with eighth notes and a dotted quarter note. The bass clef accompaniment is composed of quarter notes.

*Sk
14
Sk
15
Sk
Sk

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Sk
16
17
Sk

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18
19
tr
molto rit.

* Shakes are for upper melody notes only.