



Preface

During his time at the Princely Court of Cöthen (1717-1723) Johann Sebastian Bach wrote a considerable number of groundbreaking compositions, among them the Brandenburg Concerts, the Well-Tempered Piano, Suites, Violin Sonatas and last but not least – as by-product of teaching – the Fifteen Inventions (BWV 772-786). At first glance, these two-part piano pieces in the medium difficulty level impress with a multitude of appealing melodic motifs. A closer analysis also reveals that a phenomenal wealth of musical information is accommodated here in a very confined space. This seemingly incompatible combination of catchiness and ambition is one of the most important reasons for their continuing popularity.

Sound and Inspiration

Bach defined two central goals for his syllabus: On the one hand, to attain a »cantable« (vocal) way of playing, and on the other hand to get a »preview of the composition« (insight into compositional techniques).

Of course, these skills are not only desirable for pianists. They are also on the wish list of ambitious guitarists of all styles. Whether classical or jazz: the Inventions offer a wealth of inspirations and exercise incentives - but also a lot of joy in playing.

The previously available guitar editions of the Inventions deal with themes such as sight reading – or technically extravagant solutions such as solo interpretation on just *one* guitar. Apart from the fact that this is reserved for a very limited number of guitar virtuosos, Bach's original intentions seem to be lost. To put it in modern terms, he was mainly concerned with *sound and inspiration* - without too many technical hurdles.

As the first volume of this book series showed, a »cantable playing style« or a »good sound« is essentially a question of fingering when it comes to position playing on the guitar.

In the second volume, however, the focus is on the *compositions*. As a special feature, for the first time it is possible to follow the rhythmic structures, scales and chord connections on the guitar. The insights gained provide a valuable basis for understanding Bach's music and give important ideas for own new works.

Score, Analysis, Optional Guitar 3

This book provides a detailed score for each duet. The used tonal material and the resulting chord structure are represented by modern chord symbols. As consequences of this analysis, new accompaniment arrangements for an additional third guitar were created for each piece. They mix very well in the trio, without taking the other voices free space. They are also suitable as solo pieces or as backing for new variations or improvisations.

42 Playalong Streams

On <http://inventionen.eu> you can stream the music to the book. Your individual access code was sent to you together with it.

Go to the book homepage and enter your access data under LOGIN. Now another menu item appears with the name PLAYALONG. There you will find the individual tracks. Attention: Only one device can be logged in at a time per access. You must always log out before switching to another device. Please do not give your passwords to third parties!

<http://inventionen.eu>

The book's website offers videos, playalongs, background information and links on the subject. Here you also have the possibility to contact the author.

