## Largo

George Frideric Handel




Vivace



AB 2341




Of the Handel sonatas traditionally played on the flute, only five are genuine flute sonatas, and three of these are arrangements for flute of sonatas originally written for other instruments. These arrangements, which perhaps date from the late 1720s, represent Handel's response - or that of his publisher John Walsh - to the widespread popularity of the transverse flute in England at the time.

The Largo and Vivace form the first two movements of the Sonata in B minor for flute and continuo, Op.1, No. 9 (HWV 367b), which was adapted from the D minor recorder Sonata, HWV 367a (c. 1724). The Largo (tempo: $d=c$. 40) might start $m p$ but step up to $m f$ at the major-key restatement in b.5. After the close in F sharp minor in b.10, tone can gradually be reduced to $p$ at the beginning of b.13. Thereafter a step-by-step crescendo can be made during the last seven bars.

The Vivace (tempo: $d=c .100$ ) is in the style of a hornpipe, being a minor-mode counterpart to the well-known Hornpipe from the Water Music. A stylish rendering demands some such articulation as this: $|\underset{d}{d}| d \underset{d}{d} \int \|_{d} d$ etc. If Quantz is followed, the answering half of this phrase will be tongued: $\underset{\text { di }}{\mathrm{d}} \underset{\mathrm{di}}{\mathrm{d}} \underset{\mathrm{di}-\mathrm{ri}}{\int} \mid \underset{\mathrm{di}}{ } \mathrm{di}_{\mathrm{ti}}$. The four-bar theme (perhaps $f$ ) is followed by two sentences of equal length, divided by a tonic cadence (bb.13-14), which might be played $p$ or $m p$ and $m f$ or $f$ respectively. The second half would then start $f$, but thereafter tone can be reduced by stages at the cadences: to $m f$ (b.36), to $m p$ (b.43) and to $p$ (b.51). The modulatory transition (bb.51-5) affords an opportunity for crescendo in preparation for a forte final sentence.

Sources: A Sonates pour un[e] Traversiere (Amsterdam, Roger, c. 1730); B Solos for a German Flute (London, Walsh, c. 1732). Vivace: no lst \& 2nd time bars; b.52, 1st figure: ${ }_{4}^{6}$, not ${ }^{6}$.

## Largo

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George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)




## Vivace



5


18


## Largo

George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)
 8
 12



Vivace


6






