

Adventurous pianist John Salmon (whose articles on ornamenting—and improvising on— classical music will continue in the next issue) sent us this “second piano part” to Bach’s Invention in B Flat. As it turns out, he was unfamiliar with another attempt along these lines, Louis Victor Saar’s *A Second Part to the Fifteen Two-Part Inventions of Johann Sebastian Bach*, published many decades ago by G. Schirmer (we included two of these in our pages over the years: in September/October, 1985 and September/October, 1996).

“My original idea,” he reports, “was to come up with a second treble line in the style of a trio sonata (which is the way I view this invention anyway), and in a pastoral style/mood (such as in the ‘Sheep May Safely Graze’ cantata), with a written-out continuo accompaniment. But the line as it came out of my head and hands spanned a bigger register than any traditional trio-sonata instrument, so it transcends slightly a trio-sonata concept.

“While my additional line may lack Bach’s genius, it is, I believe, exactly the kind of thing Bach was constantly doing—rearranging, adding on, transposing, recontextualizing his and others’ music. My idea lies somewhere between a true three-part invention and a trio sonata.

“I’m only really proud of two places in my modest effort: (1) the Thelonious Monkesque A-natural which is the last note of bar 14, clashing nicely with Bach’s A-flat in the treble; and (2) the continuation of Bach’s stretto in the added line, bars 17 and 18.”

If you have two keyboards available, give it a try!

## A Duo Version Of INVENTION No. 14

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH  
(1685-1750)

SECOND PART BY JOHN SALMON

The musical score is presented in two systems. The first system, labeled "New Part", shows a treble clef with a new melodic line and a bass clef with a simple accompaniment. The second system, labeled "Original", shows the original treble and bass parts. The original treble part features a complex, rhythmic pattern, while the original bass part is a simple accompaniment.

3

*staccato*  
*r.h.*

*r.h.*

*l.h.* *l.h.*

5

*r.h.*

7

9

Musical score for measures 9-10. The system consists of two grand staves. The upper grand staff has a treble clef and a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lower grand staff has a bass clef and the same key signature. Measure 9 shows a melodic line in the treble and a rhythmic accompaniment in the bass. Measure 10 continues the melodic line with a rising scale in the treble and a corresponding accompaniment in the bass.

*A Duo Version Of*

11

Musical score for measures 11-12. The system consists of two grand staves. The upper grand staff has a treble clef and a key signature of two flats. The lower grand staff has a bass clef and the same key signature. Measure 11 features a melodic line in the treble and a rhythmic accompaniment in the bass. Measure 12 shows a melodic line in the treble and a rhythmic accompaniment in the bass.

13

Musical score for measures 13-14. The system consists of two grand staves. The upper grand staff has a treble clef and a key signature of two flats. The lower grand staff has a bass clef and the same key signature. Measure 13 features a melodic line in the treble and a rhythmic accompaniment in the bass. Measure 14 shows a melodic line in the treble and a rhythmic accompaniment in the bass.

15

Musical score for measures 15-16. The system consists of two grand staves. The upper grand staff has a treble clef and a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lower grand staff has a bass clef and the same key signature. Measure 15 features a melodic line in the treble clef and a bass line in the bass clef. Measure 16 continues the melodic line in the treble clef and has a whole rest in the bass clef.

17

Musical score for measures 17-18. The system consists of two grand staves. The upper grand staff has a treble clef and a key signature of two flats. The lower grand staff has a bass clef and the same key signature. Measure 17 features a melodic line in the treble clef and a bass line in the bass clef. Measure 18 continues the melodic line in the treble clef and has a whole rest in the bass clef.

19

Musical score for measures 19-20. The system consists of two grand staves. The upper grand staff has a treble clef and a key signature of two flats. The lower grand staff has a bass clef and the same key signature. Measure 19 features a melodic line in the treble clef and a bass line in the bass clef. Measure 20 features a melodic line in the treble clef and a bass line in the bass clef.