

## MOTIF AND STRUCTURE IN BACH'S FIFTH PRELUDE

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The Prelude in D Major from the first volume of *Das Wohltemperierte Clavier* exists in three distinct versions, which are reflected in the final structure.<sup>1</sup> The most concise is the incomplete version from the W. F. Bach *Clavierbüchlein*, which breaks off abruptly on a dominant chord at the beginning of bar 19. The “Forkel” version of the first volume of the *WTC* includes a very similar reading, which is completed by what would later become bars 27–29 of the final prelude. For the *WTC* version Bach added a subdominant recapitulation in bars 20–24, two further recapitulatory bars (25 and 26) and then, from bar 30, a coda revolving around the sharpened subdominant chord and the minor tonic chord. The Appendix shows the *WTC* version and the main variants aligned to facilitate comparison.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>For a summary of the main manuscript variants and an analysis of this prelude see David Schulenberg, *The Keyboard Music of J. S. Bach* (New York: Schirmer Books, 1992), 165–66 and 174–75. For a summary of relationships between the various manuscript versions (based largely on the Bach Gesellschaft findings) see Hans Brandts Buys, *Het Wohltemperirte Klavier van Johann Sebastian Bach* (Arnhem: Loghuhm Slaterus, 1942), 32–39. The two complete versions can be found in the *Neue Bach Ausgabe*, vol. 5/6.1 (Kassel: Bärenreiter, 1972), 24 and 146. For details of the holographic and other manuscript versions see *Neue Bach Ausgabe*, vol. 5/6.1 *Kritischer Bericht*. For a summary of these versions and a table of other eighteenth century manuscript copies see Kirsten Beisswenger “Rezeption und Verbreitung des Wohltemperierten Klaviers I” in *Bach Das Wohltemperierte Klavier I: Tradition, Entstehung, Funktion, Analyse*, ed. Siegbert Rampe (München: Musikverlag Katznbichler, 2002).

<sup>2</sup>The composite reading in Appendix 1 is derived from the following source material: *WTC* reading, *Johann Sebastian Bach Das Wohltemperirte Clavier*, ed. Karl-Heinz Köhler [Facsimile edition of Mus. ms. Bach P415]; VEB Deutscher Verlag für Musik (Leipzig 1971), 11–12; Forkel reading, *Bach Gesellschaft BW* vol 14, p. 213; WFB Büchlein reading, *Clavier-Büchlein vor Wilhelm Friedemann Bach* [Facsimile