BAROQUE SUITES: DANCE FORM CHART

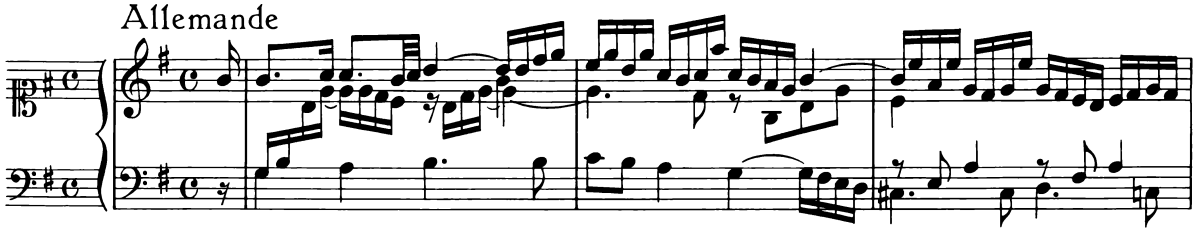
Dance	Meter	Character	Rhythmic Elements	Theological Associations
Allemande	4/4	Stately, moderate tempo	Continuous flowing rhythm, often starts on upbeat	*Contemplation, Order, Devotion*
Courante	3/2 or 6/4	Lively, flowing, sometimes complex	Dotted rhythms, running figures, quick triplets	*Grace, Divine Movement, Joy of Salvation*
Sarabande	3/4	Slow, solemn, dignified	Accented second beat, steady, expressive	*Suffering, Crucifixion, Devotion*
Gigue	6/8 or 12/8	Fast, energetic, joyful	Lively dotted rhythms, often fugal in nature	*Resurrection, Eternal Joy, Triumph*
Minuet	3/4	Graceful, elegant	Simple, flowing rhythm with balanced phrasing	*Harmony, Balance, Divine Order of Creation*
Passepied	3/8 or 6/8	Quick, playful	Light, fast, with occasional syncopation	*Spiritual Playfulness, Innocence, Lightheartedness*
Bourrée	2/2	Lively, fast, light-hearted	Begins on upbeat, quick and rhythmically regular	*Active Faith, Hope, Spiritual Energy*
Gavotte	4/4	Moderate, buoyant, cheerful	Starts on upbeat (half-bar), symmetrical phrases	*Rejoicing, Fellowship, Festivity in Heaven*
Chaconne	3/4 or 3/2	Majestic, often noble or expressive	Variation on repeated harmonic progression	*Eternity, Divine Constancy, Redemption*
Passacaglia	3/4 or 3/2	Grand, serious, stately	Repeated bass line, variations over it	*Sacrifice, Redemption, Cycle of Life and Death*
Siciliano	12/8	Pastoral, lilting	Dotted pattern	*Christmas/Nativity, simplicity of peasants*

BAROQUE SUITES: MUSICAL EXAMPLES

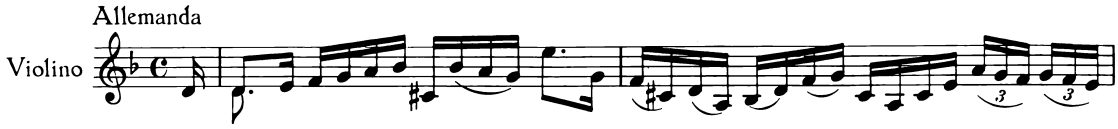
ALLEMANDE

Allemande	4/4	Stately, moderate tempo	Continuous flowing rhythm, often starts on upbeat	*Contemplation, Order, Devotion*

French Suite V

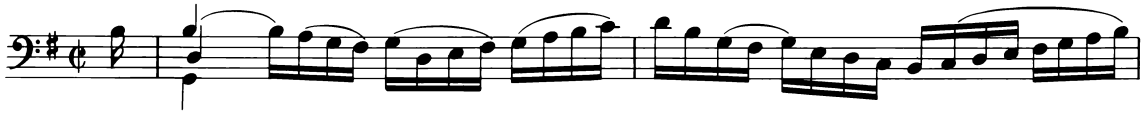


Violin Partita II



Cello Suite I

2. Allemande

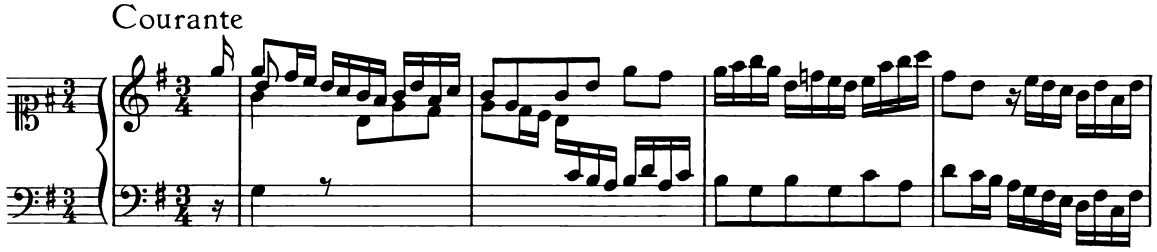


(no choral piece)

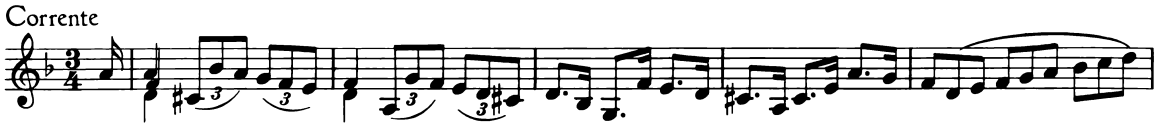
COURANTE

Courante	3/2 or 6/4	Lively, flowing, sometimes complex	Dotted rhythms, running figures, quick triplets	*Grace, Divine Movement, Joy of Salvation*

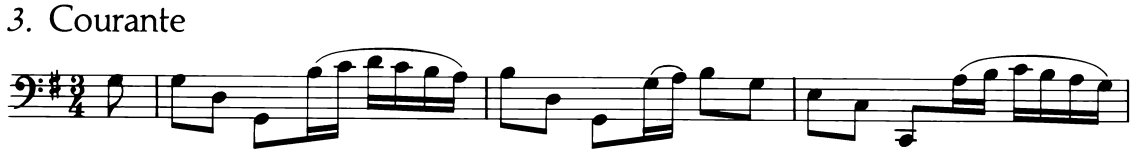
French Suite V



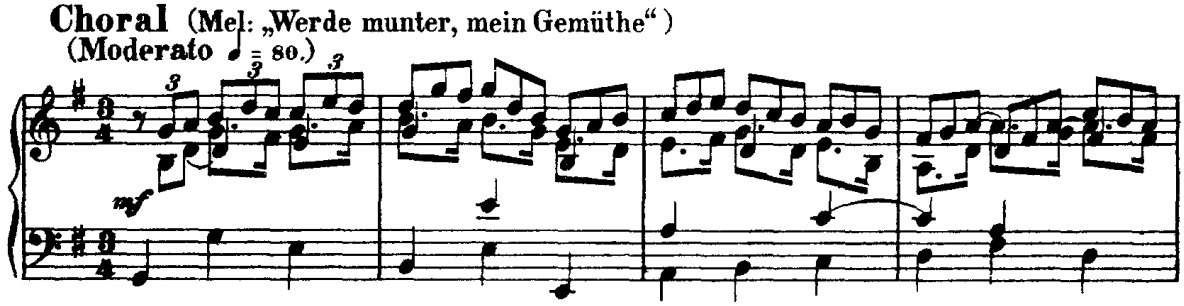
Violin Partita II



Cello Suite I



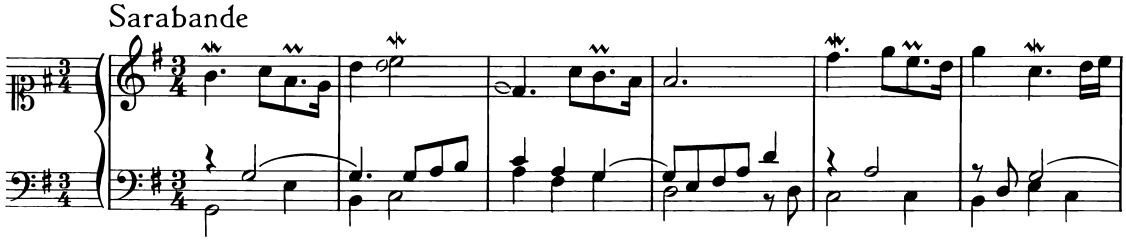
(BWV147



SARABANDE

Sarabande	3/4	Slow, solemn, dignified	Accented second beat, steady, expressive	*Suffering, Crucifixion, Devotion*

French Suite V



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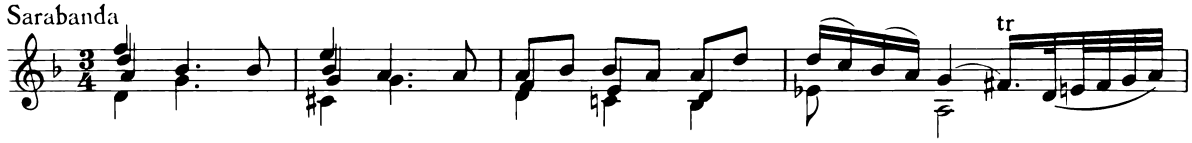
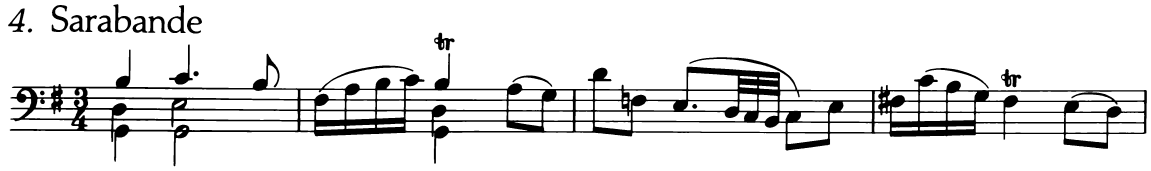


Cello Suite I

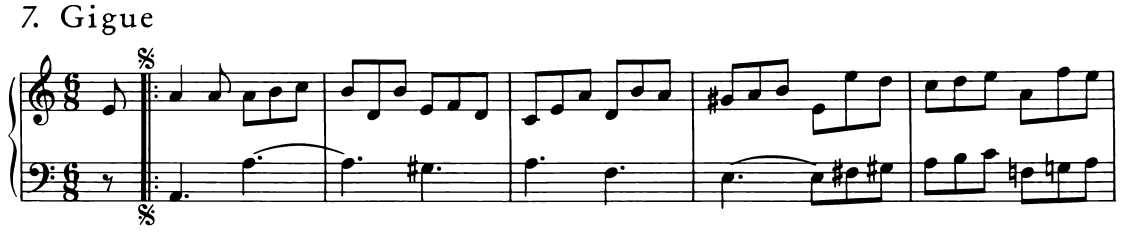


St John Passion: *Ruht wohl*

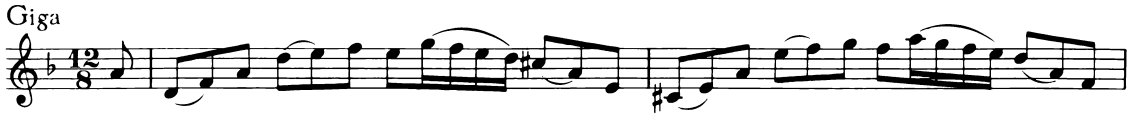
GIGUE

Gigue	6/8 or 12/8	Fast, energetic, joyful	Lively dotted rhythms, often fugal in nature	*Resurrection, Eternal Joy, Triumph*

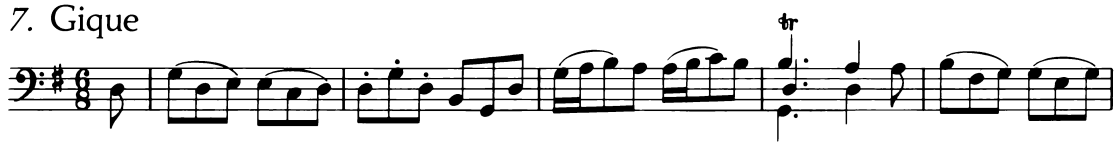
English Suite III



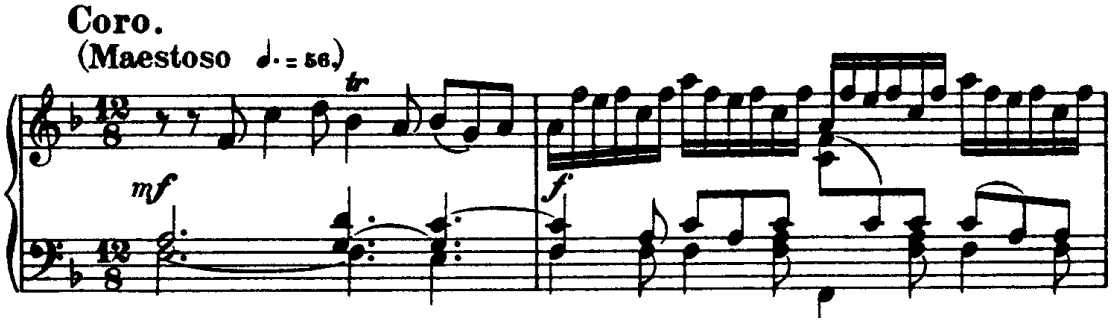
Violin Partita II



Cello Suite I



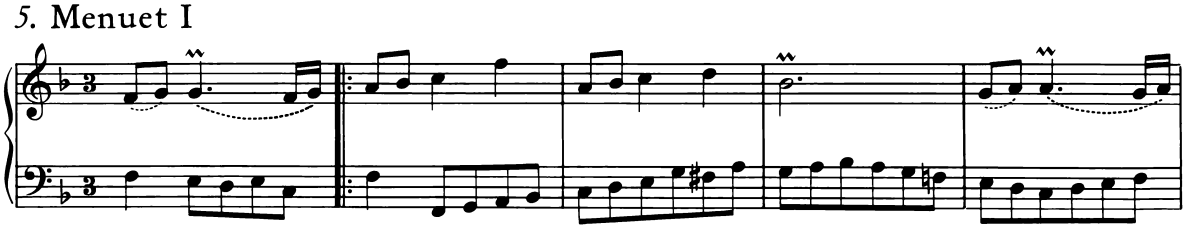
BWV1-1



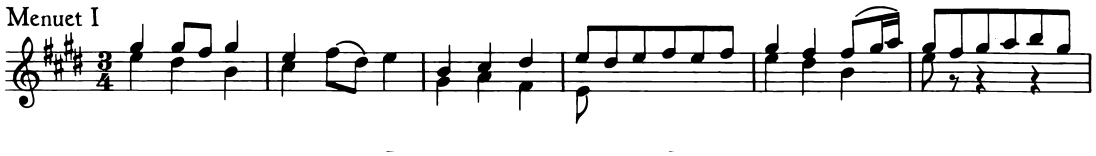
MINUET

Minuet	3/4	Graceful, elegant	Simple, flowing rhythm with balanced phrasing	*Harmony, Balance, Divine Order of Creation*

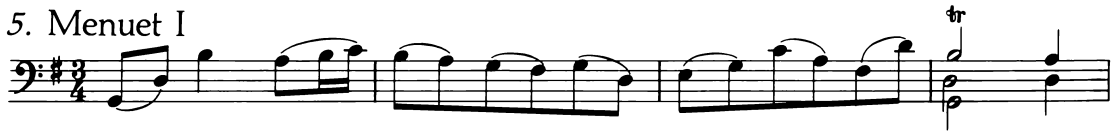
English Suite IV



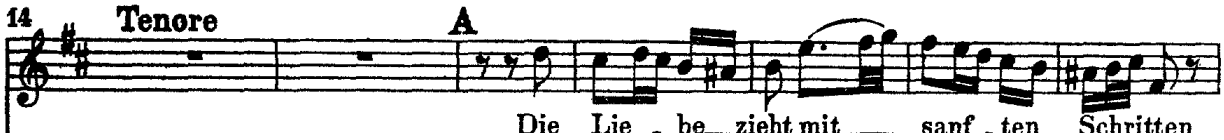
Violin Partita III



Cello Suite I



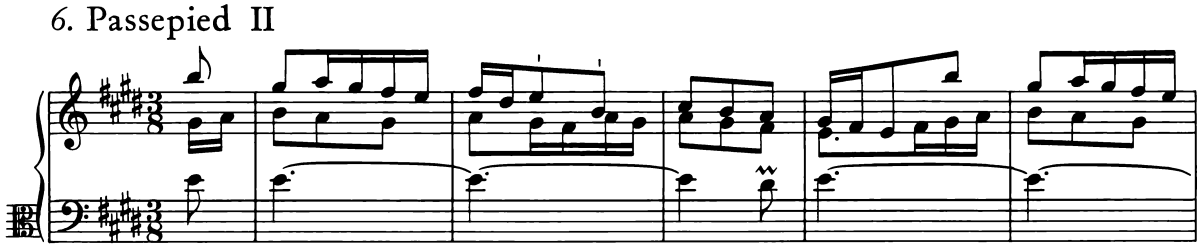
BWV36-3



PASSEPIED

Passepied	3/8 or 6/8	Quick, playful	Light, fast, with occasional syncopation	*Spiritual Playfulness, Innocence, Lightheartedness*

English Suite V



(No violin or cello passepied)

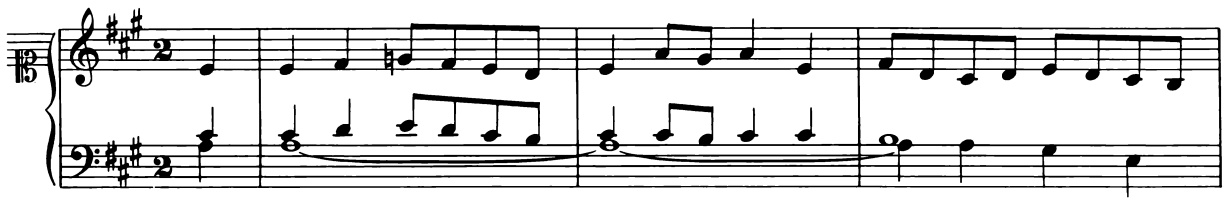
BWV62-2

BOURRÉE

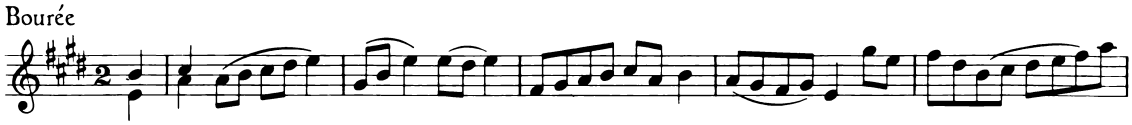
Bourrée	2/2	Lively, fast, light-hearted	Begins on upbeat, quick and rhythmically regular	*Active Faith, Hope, Spiritual Energy*

English Suite III

6. Bourrée II

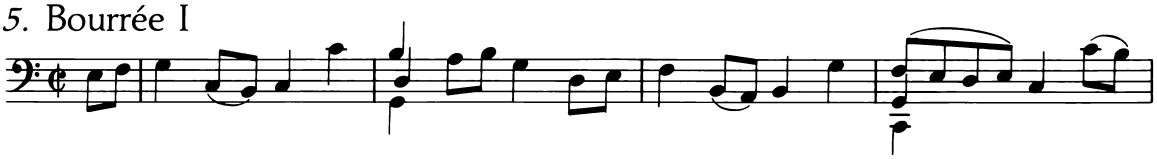


Violin Partita III



Cello Suite IV

5. Bourrée I



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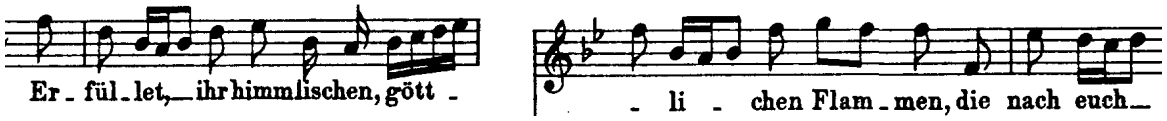
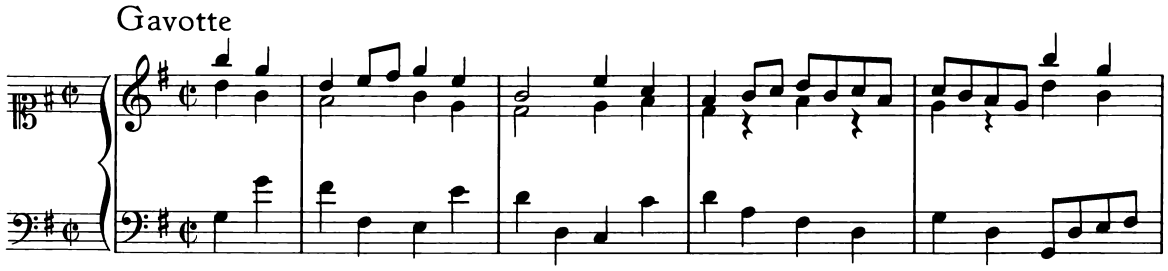


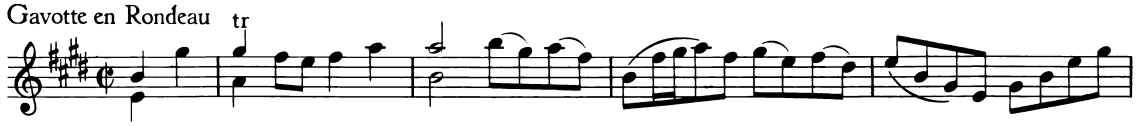
GAVOTTE

Gavotte	4/4	Moderate, buoyant, cheerful	Starts on upbeat (half-bar), symmetrical phrases	*Rejoicing, Fellowship, Festivity in Heaven*

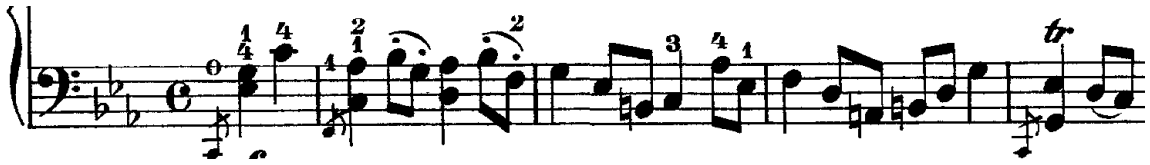
French Suite V



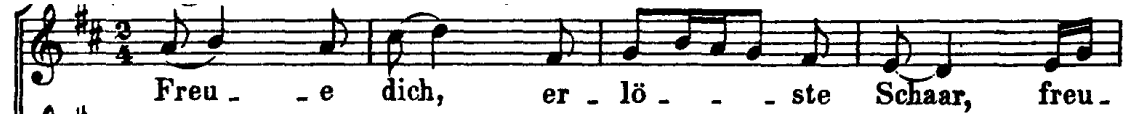
Violin Partita III

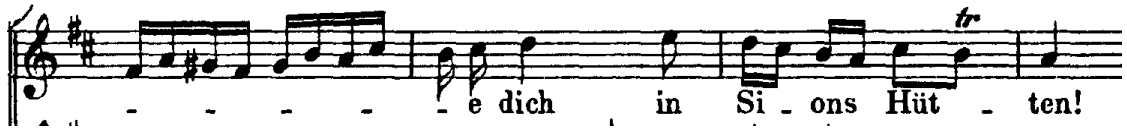


Cello Suite V



BWV30-1

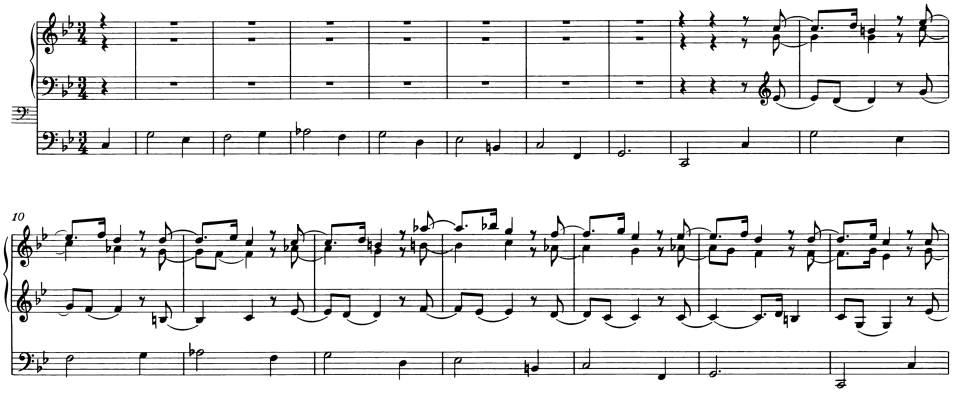




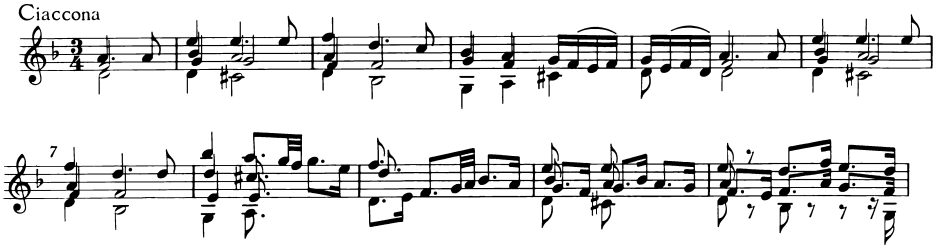
CHACONNE/PASSACAGLIA

Chaconne **Passacaglia**	3/4 or 3/2	Majestic, often noble or expressive	Variation on repeated harmonic progression	*Eternity, Divine Constancy, Redemption, Cycle of Life and Death*

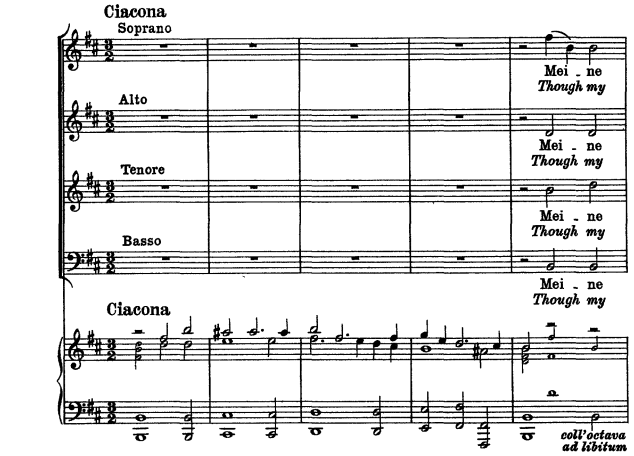
Organ Passacaglia in C Minor

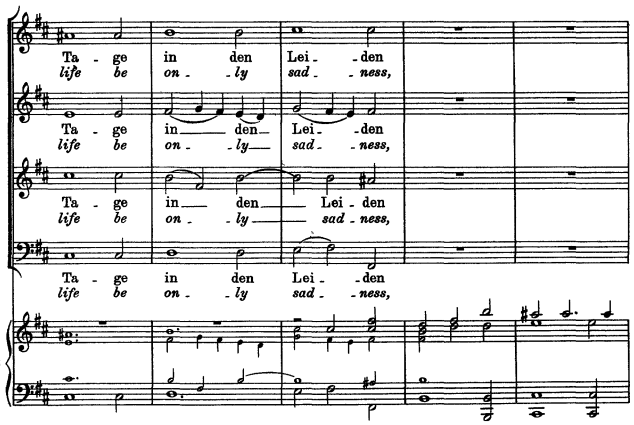


Violin Partita II



BWV150-7

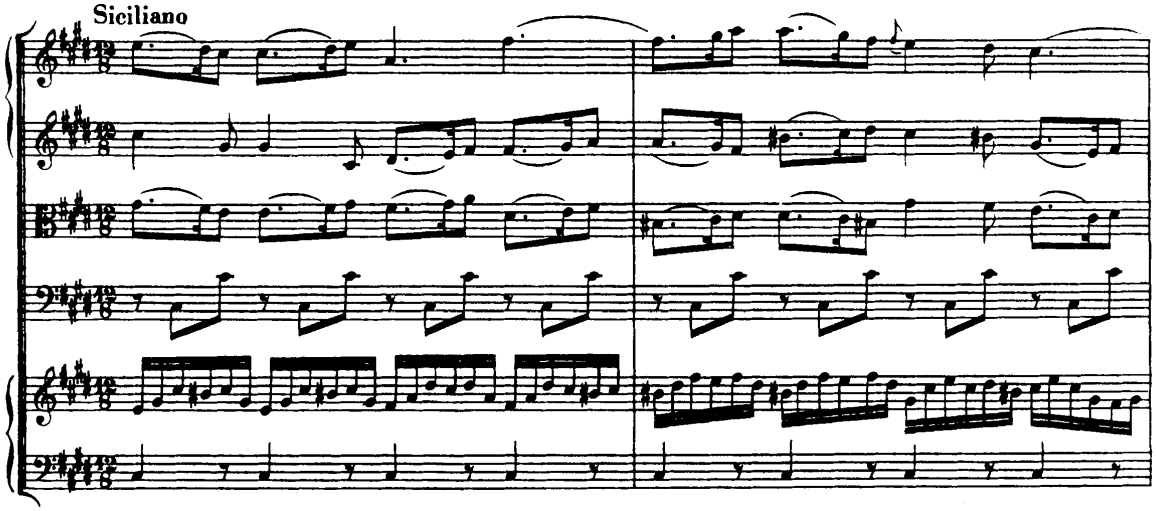




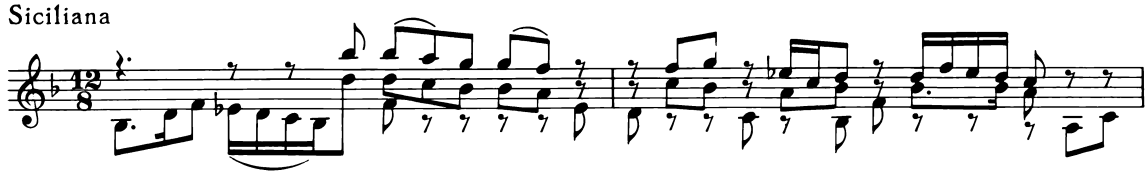
SICILIANO

Siciliano	12/8	Pastoral, lilting	Dotted pattern	*Christmas/Nativity, simplicity of peasants*

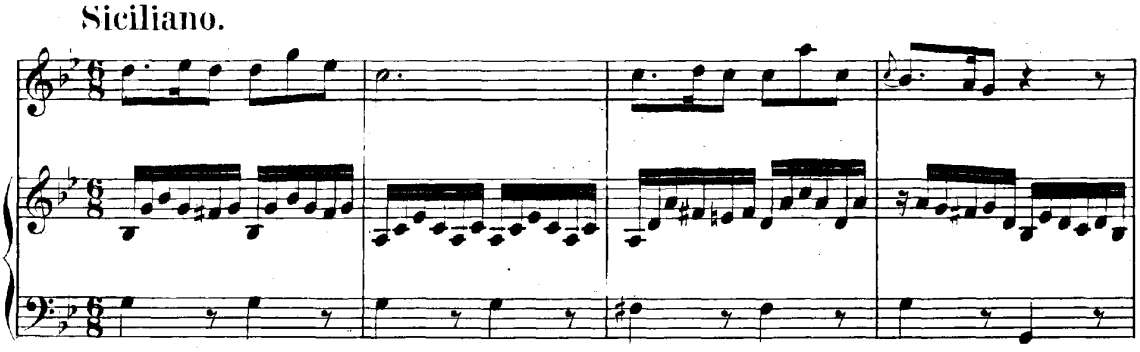
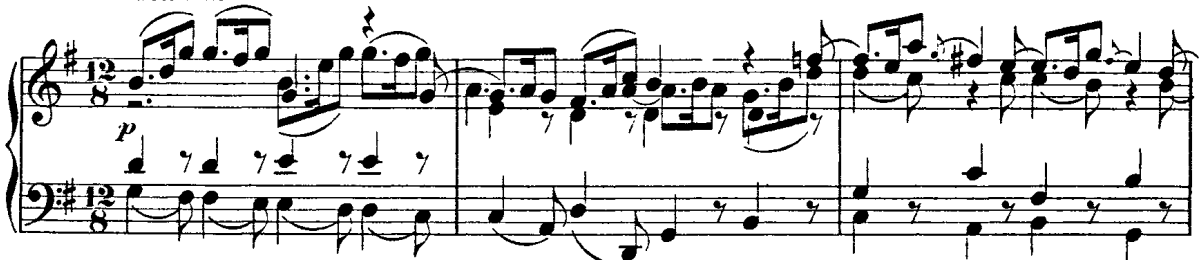
Harpsichord Concerto in E Major



Violin Sonata I



Flute Sonata II



Christmas Oratorio, Sinfonia