

Vorwort

Als Schüler Carl Friedrich Zelters wurde Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy in der Tradition Johann Sebastian Bachs ausgebildet und erlernte so von Grund auf die zentralen polyphonen Kompositionstechniken. Für diese Fähigkeiten wurde er von zahlreichen Zeitgenossen hochgeschätzt, u.a. von Robert Schumann, der durch Mendelssohn selbst zur Fugenkomposition angeregt wurde.

Mendelssohns Meisterschaft auf diesem Gebiet zeigt sich u.a. in den Zyklen von Präludien und Fugen für Klavier, op. 35 und Orgel, op. 37. Beide Werkgruppen weisen eine komplizierte Entstehungsgeschichte auf, in deren Verlauf unterschiedliche Präludien und Fugen komponiert, verworfen, verändert und erweitert wurden. Dadurch sind uns zahlreiche Werke und Versionen überliefert, die Mendelssohn nicht in die finale Zusammenstellung im Rahmen der Zyklen aufnahm. Dennoch verfügen sie oft über einen besonderen musikalischen Reiz.

Die Orgelbearbeitungen des vorliegenden Bandes gehen allesamt auf Arbeiten im Rahmen der *Sechs Präludien und Fugen für Klavier*, op. 35 zurück.

Die Entstehungsgeschichte dieses Zyklus erstreckt sich von 1827 bis 1837. Von den beiden im Jahr 1827 komponierten Fugen in e-Moll übernahm Mendelssohn nur eine in die spätere Sammlung. Aber auch die zweite Fuge steht mit ihren charakteristischen dissonanten Anfangsintervallen (Septime, verminderte Quinte) und der markanten Rhythmik, die in mancher Hinsicht an Johann Sebastian Bachs *Kunst der Fuge* erinnern, qualitativ in nichts nach. Wahrscheinlich griff Mendelssohn sie deshalb im Jahr 1841 noch einmal auf, als er um einen Beitrag für das Klavieralbum *Notre Temps*, das 1842 im Schott-Verlag erschien, gebeten wurde. Er ergänzte die Fuge um ein auf den 13. Juli 1841 datiertes Präludium. Wie so häufig steht es durch seine virtuose, triolische Arpeggio-Motivik in direktem Kontrast zur polyphonen Strenge der Fuge.

Nachdem Mendelssohn den ursprünglichen Plan, eine Folge von Etüden und Fugen zu veröffentlichen, verworfen hatte, schrieb er ab Oktober 1836 einige Präludien, die den früher entstandenen Fugen vorangestellt werden sollten. Drei dieser Präludien verwarf er jedoch und komponierte neue Versionen. Die Präludien h-Moll (12. Oktober 1836), D-Dur (27. November 1836) und B-Dur (9. Dezember 1836) sollten ursprünglich die Fugen gleicher Tonart einleiten. Sie stehen auch in direktem motivischen Bezug zueinander. Nachdem Mendelssohn sie für op. 35 verworfen hatte, wurden sie als op. 104a erst posthum veröffentlicht, ebenso wie die ursprünglichen Etüden, op. 104b.

Ähnlich wie die Klavier-Präludien und -Fugen op. 35 eignen sich auch diese Werke uneingeschränkt für eine Darstellung auf der Orgel.

Bei der Einrichtung wurden Dynamik und Artikulation des Originals weitestgehend beibehalten, um jedem Interpreten eine individuelle Anpassung an die jeweilige instrumentale Situation zu ermöglichen. Ähnlich den originalen Orgelwerken Mendelssohns wurde eine Aufteilung auf zwei Manuale und Pedal vorgenommen, die sich bei größeren Instrumenten jederzeit erweitern und weiter ausdifferenzieren lässt. Hinsichtlich der Tondauern und musikalischen Figuren finden sich geringfügige Anpassungen (z.B. zur Darstellung des Pedalisierungseffektes). In diesem Zusammenhang sei auf den Vergleich mit dem Urtext der

Klavierfassung verwiesen.

Die klangliche Darstellung kann von einer klassischen Deutung mit eher einheitlicher Registrierung bis hin zur dynamischen Ausdifferenzierung des Klaviersatzes reichen.

WoO 13 eignet sich hervorragend für eine kontrastierende Darstellung zwischen Präludium (triolesche Begleitung mit Flöten, Melodie streicher- bzw. prinzipalbetont) und Fuge (Plenum mit dominierendem Mixtur- oder Zungenklang).

Das in seiner Gestik z.B. an das Allegro B-Dur erinnernde Präludium B-Dur, op. 104a,1 wird sicher auch in einem strahlenden Mixturplenum gut zur Geltung kommen. Der Beginn des Präludiums h-Moll, op. 104a,2 verlangt nach Grundstimmenfarben im 8'- und 4'-Bereich und kann dann im Laufe des Stückes immer mehr gesteigert werden.

Das dritte Präludium in D-Dur, op. 104 lässt sich auf verschiedene Arten darstellen: Sowohl Flötenfarben 8', 4', (2') für die Begleitung und Prinzipale für die punktierten Motive als auch ein kleines Plenum gegenüber Zungenstimmen eignen sich hervorragend als Klangfarben.

Darüber hinaus sollte jeder Interpret entscheiden, inwiefern der Schweller als Mittel der Übergangsdynamik zum Einsatz kommt. Entscheidend werden hierbei sicher auch stilistische Erwägungen sein und inwiefern man die eigene Interpretation im Rahmen der zeitüblichen Vortragsmittel halten will bzw. der Klavirdynamik folgen möchte.

Leipzig, im Oktober 2019

Martin Schmeding

Foreword

As a pupil of Carl Friedrich Zelter, Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy was taught in the tradition of Johann Sebastian Bach and given a thorough grounding in the key polyphonic compositional techniques. He was highly esteemed for these skills by numerous contemporaries, including Robert Schumann, who himself was encouraged to compose fugues by Mendelssohn.

Mendelssohn's mastery of this craft can be seen in, for example, the cycles of Preludes and Fugues for piano, op. 35, and organ, op. 37. Both groups of works are the outcome of a complex genesis in the course of which various preludes and fugues were composed, rejected, altered and expanded. As a result, we have been left with a large number of works and versions which Mendelssohn did not ultimately include in the final version of the cycles. Despite this, many of them are musically very attractive.

The arrangements for organ in this volume are all taken from work done in preparation for the *Six Preludes and Fugues for Piano*, op. 35.

This cycle was produced between 1827 and 1837. Of the two fugues in E minor composed in 1827, Mendelssohn included only one in the eventual collection. But with its characteristic dissonant opening intervals (seventh, diminished fifth) and the marked rhythm, which in some ways recalls Johann Sebastian Bach's *Art of Fugue*, the second fugue is of no lesser quality. That is probably why Mendelssohn returned to it again in 1841 when he was asked to contribute to the piano album *Notre Temps*, which was published by Schott in 1842. He coupled the fugue with a prelude dated 13 July 1841. As so often, its virtuosic, triplet arpeggio motif contrasts directly with the stringent polyphony of the fugue.

After Mendelssohn had abandoned his original plan of publishing a suite of etudes and fugues, he began in October 1836 to write several preludes to be placed before the fugues he had already composed. However, he rejected three of these preludes and composed new versions. The Preludes in B minor (12 October 1836), D major (27 November 1836) and B flat major (9 December 1836) were originally intended to introduce the fugues in the same keys. Their motifs are directly related. After Mendelssohn rejected them for op. 35, they were published posthumously as op. 104a, as were the original etudes, op. 104b.

Like the op. 35 preludes and fugues for piano, these works are absolutely suited for performance on the organ.

In this arrangement, the dynamics and articulation of the original were largely retained in order to permit each performer to adapt it to the needs of the specific instrument. As with Mendelssohn's original works for organ, the music was divided between two manuals and pedals, but this can always be extended and differentiated further on larger instruments. A few minor adaptations have been made to the length of notes and musical figures (e.g. in order to reproduce the effect of the sustaining pedal). The differences are revealed by a comparison with the original score for piano.

The choice of stops can range from a classical interpretation with uniform registration to a dynamic differentiation of the piano music.

WoO 13 is ideally suited to a contrasting performance of the prelude (triple accompaniment with flutes, the melody carried by strings or a principal) and the fugue (principal chorus dominated by mixtures or reeds).

The Prelude in B flat major, op. 104a,1, the expressiveness of which recalls the B flat major Allegro, can also benefit from a combination of brilliant mixtures and principal chorus. The beginning of the Prelude in B minor, op. 104a,2, calls for colours of 8' and 4' fundamental stops which can then be steadily built up in the course of the piece.

The third Prelude in D major, op. 104, can be played in a variety of ways: both 8', 4', (2') flute colours for the accompaniment and principals for the dotted motifs or a small principal chorus against reeds will be highly suitable colours.

Beyond this, performers should decide for themselves to what extent the swell box is used as a way to provide transitional dynamics. This decision will mainly be driven by stylistic considerations and the extent to which one wishes to restrict the interpretation to the usual contemporary performance or to follow the dynamics of the piano.

Leipzig, October 2019
Translation: Andrew Sims

Martin Schmeding

Präludium I

Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy (1809–1847)

op. 104a, 1

Bearbeitung: Martin Schmeding (*1975)

Allegro molto e vivace

Man. **HW* *ff***

Ped.

The first system of the musical score for 'Präludium I' consists of three staves. The top staff is the right-hand part (Man.), the middle staff is the left-hand part (Ped.), and the bottom staff is the pedal part. The music is in G minor, 3/4 time, and begins with a forte (ff) dynamic. The right hand features a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, while the left hand provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines. The pedal part has a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.

5 *sim.*

The second system of the musical score starts at measure 5. The dynamics are marked *sim.* (sforzando). The musical texture continues with similar patterns to the first system, showing the interaction between the right hand, left hand, and pedal.

9

The third system of the musical score starts at measure 9. The right-hand part features a more complex rhythmic pattern with slurs and accents. The left hand and pedal continue their respective parts, maintaining the overall texture.

13

The fourth system of the musical score starts at measure 13. The right-hand part has a melodic phrase with a slur. The left hand and pedal parts provide a steady accompaniment.

* SW/HW ad lib.

Präludium II

Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy (1809–1847)
 op. 104a, 2
 Bearbeitung: Martin Schmeding (*1975)

Allegro agitato

Man. *f* SW

2 HW +16' *

3

4 *cresc.*

5

* SW/HW ad lib.



Präludium III

Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy (1809–1847)

op. 104a, 3

Bearbeitung: Martin Schmeding (*1975)

Allegro vivace

Man. **HW**
f **SW**

Ped.

3

5

7



Präludium und Fuge

Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy (1809–1847)

WoO 13

Bearbeitung: Martin Schmeding (*1975)

Präludium

Allegro molto

rit.

a tempo

Man. *SW p* *sf* *p*

Ped. *f marc.*

6 *sf* *p*

9 *f* *HW* marc.*

12 *sim.* *sf sf sf sf sf sf* *p*

* SW/HW ad lib.

82

dim. *pp* SW *legg.*

Musical score for measures 82-85. The piece is in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. Measure 82 features a treble clef with a triplet of eighth notes (G4, A4, B4) followed by a quarter rest. Measure 83 is a whole rest. Measure 84 features a treble clef with a triplet of eighth notes (B4, C5, D5) followed by a quarter rest. Measure 85 features a treble clef with a half note G4 and a quarter rest. The bass clef part consists of a single line with a whole note G2 in measure 85.

86

Musical score for measures 86-89. The piece is in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. Measure 86 features a treble clef with a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. Measure 87 features a treble clef with a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, and a quarter note A4. Measure 88 features a treble clef with a quarter note G4, a quarter note F#4, and a quarter note E4. Measure 89 features a treble clef with a quarter note D4, a quarter note C4, and a quarter note B3. The bass clef part consists of a single line with a whole note G2 in measure 89.

Fuge

Allegro energico

Man. *HW f*

Ped.

Musical score for the Fuge section. The piece is in G major (one sharp) and common time (C). The 'Man.' part (Mantel) features a treble clef with a half note G4, a half note A4, and a half note B4. The 'Ped.' part (Pedal) features a bass clef with a whole note G2. The score is divided into four measures.

6

Musical score for measures 6-8. The piece is in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. Measure 6 features a treble clef with a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. Measure 7 features a treble clef with a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, and a quarter note A4. Measure 8 features a treble clef with a quarter note G4, a quarter note F#4, and a quarter note E4. The bass clef part consists of a single line with a whole note G2 in measure 8.

9

Musical score for measures 9-11. The system consists of three staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and contains a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, some beamed together, and rests. The middle staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and contains a bass line with eighth and sixteenth notes. The bottom staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and contains a bass line with whole notes and rests.

12

Musical score for measures 12-14. The system consists of three staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and contains a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, some beamed together, and rests. The middle staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and contains a bass line with eighth and sixteenth notes. The bottom staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and contains a bass line with whole notes and rests.

15

Musical score for measures 15-17. The system consists of three staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and contains a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, some beamed together, and rests. The middle staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and contains a bass line with eighth and sixteenth notes. The bottom staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and contains a bass line with eighth and sixteenth notes.

18

Musical score for measures 18-20. The system consists of three staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and contains a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, some beamed together, and rests. The middle staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and contains a bass line with eighth and sixteenth notes. The bottom staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and contains a bass line with eighth and sixteenth notes.