

George Frideric Handel (1685–1759), a German composer who lived and worked in England, was a contemporary of J.S. Bach. He wrote a suite of orchestral movements for a royal boat party in 1717 called *Water Music*, a work that consists of many popular dance styles of the day, including the French folk dance called the *rigaudon*. Handel is most famous today for his *Messiah* and its “Hallelujah Chorus.”

# Rigaudon

from *Water Music*

Handel/Monday

Allegro with detached quarter notes

The musical score for the Rigaudon from Water Music by Handel, arranged for Monday, is presented in five systems. Each system consists of two staves, A and B, in bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked 'Allegro with detached quarter notes'. The score includes various dynamic markings: *mf* (mezzo-forte), *f* (forte), *sub. p* (subito piano), and *cresc.* (crescendo). Performance instructions include first and second endings, indicated by '1.' and '2.' above the staff. Measure numbers 4, 10, 17, and 24 are boxed. Fingerings and breath marks are also present throughout the piece.