

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 consists of five systems of two staves each, labeled A and B. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The tempo is marked 'Allegro with detached quarter notes'. The score includes various dynamics such as *mf*, *f*, *sub. p*, and *cresc.*, as well as articulation marks like accents and slurs. Measure numbers 4, 10, 17, and 24 are indicated in boxes. A first and second ending are shown between measures 15 and 17. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-4 and letters L2 and H3. A repeat sign is present at the end of the piece.