

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 "Rigaudon" is presented in two staves, A and B, in 3/8 time and G major. The tempo is "Allegro with detached quarter notes".

- Measures 1-4:** Both staves begin with a *mf* dynamic. Measure 4 contains a first ending bracket.
- Measures 5-9:** The music continues with a *cresc.* dynamic. Measure 9 contains a second ending bracket.
- Measures 10-13:** The first ending is repeated. The dynamic is *f*. Measure 13 contains a first ending bracket.
- Measures 14-16:** The second ending is repeated. The dynamic is *mf*. Measure 16 contains a first ending bracket.
- Measures 17-18:** The first ending is repeated. The dynamic is *f*. Measure 18 contains a first ending bracket.
- Measures 19-23:** The music continues with a *sub. p* dynamic. Measure 23 contains a first ending bracket.
- Measures 24-27:** The first ending is repeated. The dynamic is *f*. Measure 27 contains a first ending bracket.