

# JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH

(1685-1750)

## EIGHTEEN LITTLE PRELUDES

Edited by Keith Snell

According to Bach's sons, Wilhelm Friedemann and Philipp Emanuel, it was very important to Bach that his students develop a "clear, clean touch of all the fingers of both hands." To accomplish this, Bach assigned many finger exercises for his students to practice. In addition, Bach would compose short pieces developed from the finger exercises he assigned. The *Eighteen Little Preludes* are pieces of this origin. Many times Bach wrote a prelude during a student's lesson, and later refined it into a beautiful and complete work of art.

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*For supplementary study, a recording is available on compact disc of the Eighteen Little Preludes, performed by pianist Diane Hidy (GP383CD). Ms. Hidy's interpretations follow this edition closely as a practical example for students.*

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