

MINUET IN G (IN D)

Johann Sebastian Bach

The Minuet in G major is a keyboard piece included in the 1725 Notebook of Bach's 2nd wife, Anna Magdalena Bach. The notebook is a compilation of music by various composers of the late 17th and early 18th century, including François Couperin, Georg Böhm, Johann Sebastian Bach himself and possibly some of his sons (e.g., Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach). Most of the entries in the 1725 notebook were made by Anna Magdalena herself, and a few were contributed by Johann Sebastian and various friends of the Bach family.

Johann Sebastian Bach (31 March 1685 – 28 July 1750) was a German composer and musician of the Baroque period. Bach was born into a great musical family. His father Johann Ambrosius Bach was the director of the town musicians, and all of his uncles were professional musicians. Bach's mother died in 1694, and his father died eight months later. The 10-year-old Bach moved in with his eldest brother, Johann Christoph Bach (also a remarkable organist) where he received valuable training in music, theology, and studied French, Italian, Latin, and Greek.

He enriched established German styles through his skill in counterpoint, harmonic and motivic organization, and the adaptation of rhythms, forms, and textures. Bach's abilities as an organist were highly respected during his lifetime, although he was not widely recognized as a great composer until a revival of interest in and performances of his music in the first half of the 19th century. He is now generally regarded as one of the greatest composers of all time.

Willie Nelson recorded a version in 1975 during the "*Red Headed Stranger*" sessions, but this version was not released for a long time. The 1995 film "*Mr. Holland's Opus*" has a scene in which the title character, a high school music teacher, explains to his students the connection between "*A Lover's Concerto*" and the "*Minuet in G major*".

In music and friendship,

~ Jull