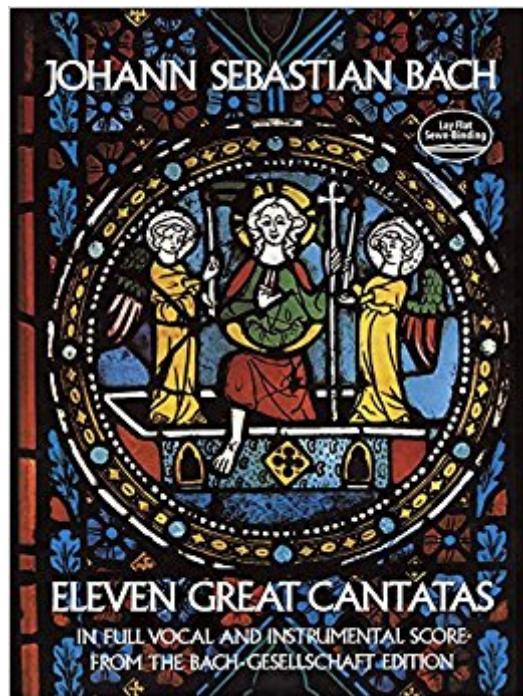


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Eleven Great Cantatas (Dover Music Scores)



Synopsis

Founded in 1850 to collect, edit, and publish all the known works of J. S. Bach, the renowned Bach-Gesellschaft devoted fifty years to its monumental task and produced the most accurate editions of Bach's music. At a much lower cost than the fantastically expensive original publication, this volume reproduces in full vocal and instrumental score eleven cantatas from the reliable Bach-Gesellschaft volumes. Chosen on the basis of frequency of performance, teaching value, and sheer greatness of music, these eleven cantatas are: "Christ lag in Todesbanden," No. 4; "Weinen, Klagen, Sorgen, Zagen," No. 12; "Ich hatte viel BekÄ mmerniss," No. 21; "Jauchzet Gott in allen Landen," No. 51; "Ich will den Kreuzstab gerne tragen," No. 56; "Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland," No. 61; "Jesu, der du meine Seele," No. 78; "Ein' feste Burg ist unser Gott," No. 80; "Ich habe genug," No. 82; "Gottes Zeit ist die allerbeste Zeit," No. 106; and "Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme," No. 140. A new supplement presents the eleven German texts in libretto form (Verse, without repeats) and a facing literal line-by-line translation by Stanley Appelbaum. The musical notation is large and clear, making it easy to follow in any study situation.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Bach mixed his devout Christianity with a mathematical bent in composing his works; his cantatas are a fine example of his abilities and beliefs. With over 200 of them to choose from, though, the beginner may be somewhat daunted. This volume from Dover Publications (a reprint of

Bach-Gesellschaft editions from the mid-to-late 19th century) offers not quite a dozen of the best and best-known. Note that this is a full orchestral score; it will take a better-than-average church organist to read and realize it.

This collection of full-score Cantatas contains eleven major works, though it is difficult to select eleven "most useful" cantatas from some 200 surviving cantatas by J. S. Bach. I have little to add to the reviews above, but I'm going to list the cantatas again in list form, and I hope it doesn't get paragraph-ized by the software:BWV 004: "Christ lag in Todesbanden" (for Easter 1724)BWV 012: "Weinen, Klagen, Sorgen, Zagen" (for Jubilate Sunday, 3rd after Easter, c. 1724)BWV 021: "Ich hatte viel Bekümmerniss" (for any occasion, 3rd Sunday after Trinity 1714)BWV 051: "Jauchzet Gott in allen Landen" (Soprano Solo cantata, for 15th Sunday after Trinity)BWV 056: "Ich will den Kreuzstab gerne tragen" (Bass solo cantata, for the 19th Sunday after Trinity)BWV 061: "Nun komm der Heiden Heiland" (First version, 1714, for the first Sunday in Advent)BWV 078: "Jesu, der du meine Seele" (for the 14th Sunday after Trinity, c. 1740)BWV 080: "Ein' feste Burg ist unser Gott" (for the feast of the Reformation; 1716-30)BWV 082: "Ich habe genug" (Bass solo cantata, for the feast of the Purification of Mary, c. 1731)BWV 106: "Gottes Zeit ist die allerbeste Zeit" (Actus Tragicus, a funeral service, 1707 or 1711)BWV 140: "Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme" (for the 27th Sunday after Trinity, c. 1731). Well, there seems little more to say; note that the earliest of these was written when Bach was a mere 22 years old. Some of the pieces have figured bass, for those interested in looking at examples of that. I certainly hope they obtain a couple of more copies of this perfectly good edition; they have only 3 left. At this price it is an absolute steal. Arch

As another reviewer said, the paper on this score is great. It's your regular fabulously priced Dover edition, taken straight from one of the complete editions of Beethoven's works. No measure numbers, and choral parts are in clefs, so that makes looking at the vocal parts a little difficult, but otherwise wonderful, and I'd recommend it.

The eleven cantatas printed here are some of the most-recorded of all Bach's vocal works, and this is a wonderful and inexpensive companion volume for the avid listener who likes to follow the score. A listing of the works included would probably be helpful: 4, Christ lag in Todesbanden; 12, Weinen, Klagen, Sorgen, Zagen; 21, Ich hatte viel Bekümmerniss; 51, Jauchzet Gott in allen Landen (for soprano solo with trumpet); 56, Ich will den Kreuzstab gerne tragen (bass solo with oboe); 61, Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland; 78, Jesu, der Du meine Seele; 80, Ein' feste Burg ist unser Gott

(including the trumpet parts added by a different hand); 82, Ich habe genug (another bass solo with oboe obbligato); 106, Gottes Zeit ist die allerbeste Zeit (a very early and beautiful cantata, with two solo recorders); and 140, Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme.

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