

# Critical Report

## Source

Brussels, Conservatoire Royal de Musique, 5517 MSM. The manuscript is a bound volume that consists of all but one of Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach's eleven sonatas for flute and basso continuo in score. The copies may be regarded as authentic as they were formerly in the possession of Johann Jacob Heinrich Westphal (1756–1825) in Schwerin. Westphal ordered copies of almost all of Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach's works between 1786 and ca. 1800 from the composer himself and after Bach's death in 1788 from his widow and his daughter. Judging from the notational problems found in some of the flute sonatas, it is, however, rather unlikely that these copies originated during the lifetime and under the supervision of the composer.

Each sonata in 5517 MSM is written separately and consists of two folded sheets of paper (watermark: heraldic lily, countermark: IV; a common paper type of Dutch origin). The scribe is known as Anon. 305, a Hamburg copyist active around 1790.

## Critical Remarks

### Sonata in G major Wq 123

5517 MSM, pp. 1–8 (p. 1 title, p. 8 blank). Title page: *G. # | Sonata, | à | Flauto Traverso Solo | e | Basso | del | Sigl!* [= *Signore*] *C. Ph. E. Bach*. Heading (p. 2): *Sonata. Flauto Trav. Solo*. Variable number of staves per page in order to avoid page turns within movements.

NB.: Bass figures are given in the manuscript only for parts of the *Andante*.

### *Andante*

- |    |      |   |
|----|------|---|
| 9  | bc.  | 7th note without #.   |
| 14 | fig. | Figure above 7th note is $\frac{8}{5}$ .                                    |
| 19 | fl.  | A later hand added an accidental $\flat$ in parentheses to the note $e^3$ . |
| 20 | fig. | Last figure not until 1st 16th note.  |
| 22 | fig. | 2nd figure under 2nd eighth note of flute part.                             |

### *Tempo di Minuetto*

- |    |     |                             |
|----|-----|-----------------------------|
| 44 | fl. | Slur over 3rd to 6th notes. |
| 45 | fl. | Slur over 1st four notes.   |

### Sonata in E minor Wq 124

5517 MSM, pp. 17–24 (p. 17 title, p. 24 blank). Title page: *E. mol. | Sonata, | à | Flauto Traverso Solo | e | Basso | del | Sigl!* [= *Signore*] *C. Ph. E. Bach*. Heading (p. 18): *Sonata. Flauto Trav. Solo*. Variable number of staves per page in order to avoid page turns within movements.

### *Adagio*

- |    |      |   |
|----|------|---|
| 2  | fig. | Last figure is $\frac{1}{\sharp}$ .           |
| 5  | fig. | Last figure is $\frac{3}{\sharp}$ .           |
| 17 | fig. | 2nd figure under 2nd 16th note of flute part. |

### *Allegro*

- |    |      |  |
|----|------|--|
| 38 | all  | Difficult to read due to tight binding.  |
| 42 | fl.  | # entered above 2nd note in another hand.  |
| 62 | fig. | Figure not until 2nd note.   |
| 90 | fig. | Last figure is <b>5</b> . This may indicate that the last note in the bass part was originally a $d\sharp$ and that the whole sonata was revised by Bach some time after its completion in 1737. |