

Baroque music V

Exercise 1: Music for the King

Read the text about the premiere of the Water Music suites, one of G. F. Haendel's most famous works. Then answer the questions.

"One Wednesday at about eight o'clock in the afternoon, the King embarked at Whitehall in an open barge, which also carried the Duchess of Bolton, the Duchess of Newcastle, the Countess of Godolphin, Mrs Kilmanseck and the Earl d'Orkney, and the retinue went up the river in the direction of Chelsea. They were accompanied by many other barges occupied by important personalities, and so great was the number of boats that they covered the entire width of the river. For the musicians the boat of a city company was arranged, and in it fifty instrumentalists of all kinds traveled, who did not stop playing (while the boats drifted without oars), from Lambeth to Chelsea the most beautiful symphonies, composed especially for the occasion by Mr. Händel: His Majesty was so pleased that he had the performance repeated three times on the way out and back. At eleven o'clock in the evening, His Majesty disembarked in Chelsea, where a great dinner had been prepared, after which another fine-tuned concert was heard that lasted until two o'clock; then His Majesty undertook the return journey, also enlivened with music until the end."



London Daily Courant Chronicle, July 19, 1717

Mark the correct answer in each section:

- Is **Aquatic Music** an artistic or functional work?

☐ ARTISTIC

☐ FUNCTIONAL

- Why?

☐ It is composed to be listened to, for the simple pleasure of enjoying music.

☐ It is composed as an ornament for a specific act, and also shows the economic power of the king.

- Where did the musicians play from?

☐ From a boat

☐ From the riverside

- How many musicians was the orchestra that Handel led during the walk along the river made up of? That was a lot for the time, but you have to remember that it was the King of England's orchestra!

☐ 10

☐ 25

☐ 50

- How many hours did the musicians have to play?

☐ 3

☐ 6

☐ 9

- Listen to one of the minuets of this work (**Aquatic Music**, G.F. Haendel), following the score and respond in the corresponding option:

- Aquatic music** is a work:

☐ VOCAL

☐ INSTRUMENTAL

- The meter is:

☐ 2/4

☐ 3/4

☐ 4/4

- Complete the musicogram. To do this, you must assign each topic a letter of the alphabet. Thus, the first topic will be A. If it is repeated again, you must mark A in the next box, but if the topic changes you must put B. If you realize it, there are only 4 boxes in the table. Three of them will be for A (the first is already indicated) and only one for B. Which will be which?

Structure: A ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

- Look at the minuet score. Based on the structure that you marked in the previous exercise, where would you put the repetition signs? Mark a cross (X) on the dividing lines that you think are convenient (there are only two of the five possible).



- Each **Aquatic Music** suite has a different instrumentation. Which one does Handel use in this minuet?

☐ Piccolo flutes, strings, basso continuo.

☐ 2 oboe, 1 bassoon, 2 horns, 2 trumpets, string and basso continuo.