

Bach's '48' Theme Subjects, Bk2

Michael Maxwell Steer 2010

written for amusement when confined in San Diego by the Icelandic volcano, April 2010



If you think it's eas- y; you've an- oth- er think - com- ing that will wipe the smile clean



off your prett- y face for good & all.



It's not my fault it's rath- er short; & that you get caught in a som- er sault.



I'm fair- ly sure you did- n't an- ti- ci- pate the



paus- es I've put in- to this theme.



I'm in a hurr- y & don't care whoknows it, I've no time at all for your sill- y com- plaint.



This is a plod, but it still sounds love- ly.



Rush- ing & dash- ing from morn- ing till night - it seems I nev- er



get a mo- ment to call my own.



Don't think it's ov- er bet- ween us, not for now or for-

ev- er & a day.

This is a drear-y tale & long, which will drive you mad.

Of all the themes Bach could have chos-en why did he choose this?

Some would say that this fugue is quite prob-lem-at-ic-al en-ough - See

how we bounce down- stairs & then land top-sy-tur-vy & hig-le-dy-pig-le-dy

in a fine mess at the end.

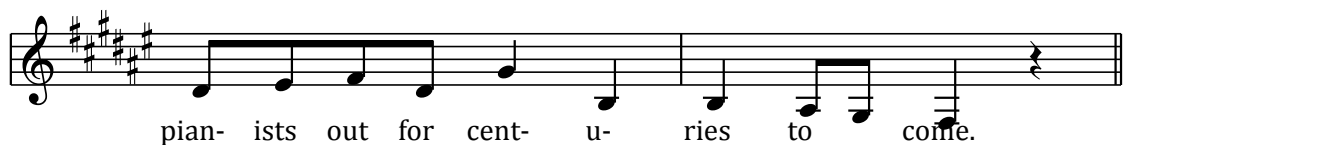
Feel like a dance? Tak-ing a chance? This is the time for a whirl-wind ro-

mance, when all you have to do is hold on tight & foll-ow your part-ner round.

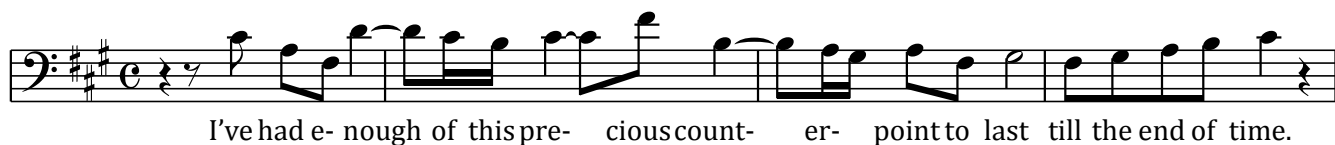
My sub-ject here is a mar-a-thon a-round the cit-y streets & op-en count-ry,

up & down the hills, til you're com-plete-ly out of breath ... I could go on ...

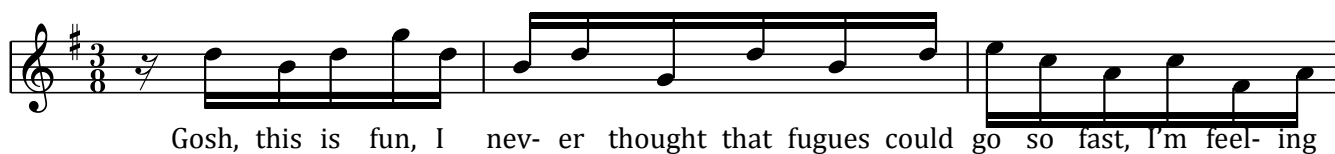
Oh yes! This will sort you rubb-er fing-ered



pian- ists out for cent- u- ries to come.



I've had e- nough of this pre- cious count- er- point to last till the end of time.



Gosh, this is fun, I nev- er thought that fugues could go so fast, I'm feel- ing



dizz- y but I love it. Hang on, here we go a- gain, be- fore you know it.



Whoa! I've had e- nough but still it is- n't going to stop.



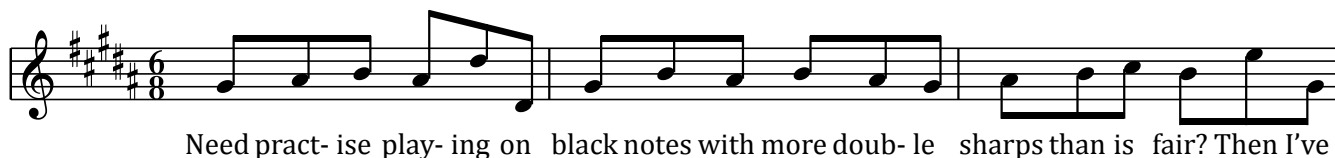
Now, just list- en, you peas- ants! I'll say it once more time in



case you're deaf or just a bunch of ee- jits.



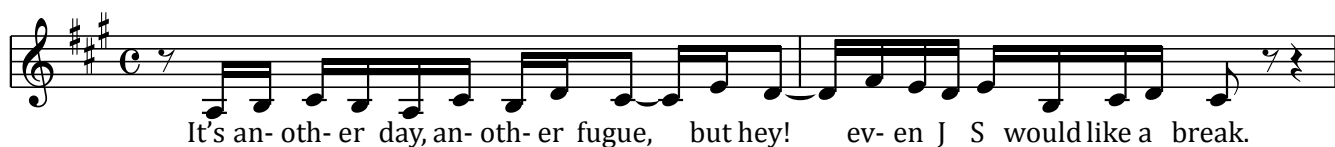
This is a ser- ious fugue as you can all tell, be- cause its sub- ject is a long one.



Need pract- ise play- ing on black notes with more doub- le sharps than is fair? Then I've



got just the move- ment for you.



It's an- oth- er day, an- oth- er fugue, but hey! ev- en J S would like a break.



I've had e- nough! These fugues have gone on far too long. I'm a- bout to pop: if it does-n't



stop for just a quart- er hour I'm gonn- a drop the whole darn



lot. Just wait & see: I do not joke: I'll pop the lot right down your throat.



I'm fair- y twin- kle toes, I dance the light fan- ta- stic & nev- er put a



sin- gle foot wrong all night long.



J S you are the boss! The feats you pull of us- ing doub- le in- vert- i- ble



count- er- point ex- ceed the fing- ers of both hands.



This fugue's not the long- est one, but it is



dev- il- ish all the same.



I won- der what's next? Could it be a diff- i- cult fugue that he's



saved up till last in the hopethatyou'll all have gone home long be- fore?