

Critical Report

Source

Main source for Wq 129 and 131: Brussels, Conservatoire Royal de Musique, 5517 MSM. The manuscript is a bound volume that contains scores for all but one of Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach's sonatas for flute and basso continuo. 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. 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 instrumental works between 1786 and ca. 1800 from the composer himself and after Bach's death in 1788 from his widow and his daughter. Considering the text 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.

Sonata in D major (early version) Wq 129

Brussels, 5517 MSM, pp. 49–56 (p. 49 title, p. 56 blank). Title: *D. # | Sonata, | à | Flauto Traverso Solo | e | Basso | del Sigl' [= Signore] C. Ph. E. Bach.* Heading (p. 50): *Sonata. Flauto Trav. Solo.* Variable number of staves per page in order to avoid page turns within movements.

Critical Remarks

Adagio

- | | | |
|-------|------|-------------------------------|
| 8 | fig. | Figure is 7 #. |
| 9, 17 | fl. | Appoggiaturas are 16th notes. |

Sonata in D major (later version) Wq 131

Main source: Brussels, 5517 MSM, pp. 65–72 (p. 65 title, p. 72 blank). Title: *D. # | Sonata, | à | Flauto Traverso Solo | e | Basso | del Sigl' [= Signore] C. Ph. E. Bach.* Heading (p. 66): *Sonata. Flauto Trav. Solo.* Variable number of staves per page in order to avoid page turns within movements. Additional source: Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin – Preußischer Kulturbesitz, Musikabteilung mit Mendelssohn-Archiv, *Mus. ms. Bach P 893*. Score copy by an unidentified Berlin copyist. Two sheets of paper (the watermark is hard to decipher, the initials COFS are, however, commonly found in Berlin sources from the late 1760s), p. 1 title, p. 8 blank. Title: *Sonata |*

per il | Flauto | del Sigl' [= Signore] Bach. | Andante [follows incipit, first movement, mm. 1–6, flute part only]. No: 19 was entered in an 18th-century hand in the upper left corner. The manuscript was acquired in 1914 from a certain Mr. Bruckstein, then living in Königsberg/Prussia.

General remark: The musical text of the two copies is almost identical. Copy *P 893* is richer than 5517 MSM with regard to the bass figures. *P 893* uses shorthand notations similar to the ones found in Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach's autographs for many repeated notes in the first movement, differences in beaming in *P 893* are not listed singly. If not otherwise stated, the following remarks refer to *P 893*.

Critical Remarks

Andante

- | | | |
|----|------|--|
| 2 | fl. | Appoggiatura has no flag; flag is extant in the incipit given on the title page. |
| 11 | fig. | No figure above last note. |
| 23 | fl. | No slur over 1st and 2nd notes. |
| 25 | fl. | Appoggiatura slurred to main note. |
| 35 | fig. | No figure above 5th note. |
| 40 | fig. | No figure above 1st note. |
| 45 | fl. | No slurs. |
| 46 | fl. | f under 1st note. |

Allegretto

- | | | |
|------|------|---|
| 7, 9 | fl. | No slurs over 1st and 2nd notes. |
| 20 | fl. | <i>tr</i> above 1st note in pencil only. |
| 42 | fl. | f under 4th note (no f for the bc.). |
| 49 | fl. | Slur from 4th to 6th note. |
| 53 | fl. | 5517 MSM: p already at the beginning of m. 52. |
| 58 | fig. | 1st figure is 7 only. |
| 64 | fig. | Figures misplaced above G and G#. |
| 78 | all | Measure is omitted. |

Allegro

- | | | |
|---------|------|---|
| 24, 26, | | |
| 68, 70 | fl. | Appoggiatura is 16th note. |
| 27, 69 | fl. | No slur over last two notes. |
| 43, 56 | bc. | 5517 MSM: 2nd note is eighth note. |
| 55 | fl. | 2nd note corrected from f # ² . |
| 56 | fl. | 1st figure is =; figure 6 is lacking. |
| 57 | fig. | 1st figure is lacking. |
| 69 | bc. | No p . |
| 80 | bc. | 2nd ending is not written out (↪ above 1st note). |