

Ralph Sauer

~ Volume 4 ~

PRACTICE WITH BACH

**Thirty-two études based upon the
Goldberg Variations (BWV 988)**

for the

Bass Trombone

Foreword

Volume 4 of *Practice With Bach* is a continuation of my idea of making études from the keyboard works of Johann Sebastian Bach. These 32 studies are based on the Goldberg Variations (BWV 988).

General tempo indications are given for each étude; however they work well at various speeds, so please experiment. Articulations are mine (with some help from Glenn Gould). Dynamics are not indicated because many different sound levels can (and should) be explored.

This version for the bass trombone has been lowered a ninth from the original key of G. This allows the music to descend to pedal C on occasion and provides an excellent workout for the low register. Bass trombonists who wish to work on their high register should seek out the tenor trombone version (in the original key).

I would suggest always playing with a full tone and letting the dynamic rise and fall naturally with the musical phrase. Although not intended for public performance, I hope that you will find these études technically challenging and musically rewarding.

Ralph Sauer

Aria**Andante**

1.

The musical score is written in bass clef with a 3/4 time signature and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a '1.' marking. The tempo is marked 'Andante'. The music features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, often grouped with slurs and grace notes. The second staff continues the melodic line with similar rhythmic complexity. The third staff shows a change in texture with more frequent sixteenth-note passages. The fourth staff concludes the piece with a final cadence, marked by a double bar line.

Allegro

12.

The image displays a musical exercise numbered 12, titled 'Allegro'. It is written for a single instrument in bass clef, 12/8 time, and one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The exercise consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a '12' over an '8', indicating the time signature. The key signature is one flat. The music is characterized by a steady eighth-note pulse with various rhythmic patterns, including eighth-note runs, dotted rhythms, and sixteenth-note passages. The second staff continues the eighth-note pattern with some triplet-like groupings. The third staff introduces more complex rhythmic figures, including sixteenth-note runs and dotted rhythms. The fourth staff concludes the exercise with a final eighth-note run and a cadence.