



George Frideric Handel
(1685-1759)

Water Music

*Selected movements from the
First Suite*

Overture, Menuet, Air, Andante
Louré, Coro, Menuet, & Hornpipe

Arrangements *for* Organ Solo



Fruhauf Music Publications

2024

Music of
George Frideric Handel

(1685-1759)

A Water Music Suite

Selected Movements from the First Suite

Arranged for Organ (with Pedal)

Overture in F-Major - <i>Grave</i> . . .	p. 1
Menuet in F-Major & Trio in D-Minor	p. 2
Air in F-Major (<i>Trois fois</i>) . . .	p. 5
Andante in D-Minor . . .	p. 8
[Louré] in D-Major . . .	p. 10
Coro in D-Major . . .	p. 12
Menuet in G-Major . . .	p. 12
Hornpipe in D-Major (and B-Minor) . . .	p. 14

The group of eight movements collected here from Handel's **Water Music Suites** were written *circa* 1717 for performance as open-air serenades for royal boating parties on the Thames River. King George I and his entourage are chronicled as having traveled up-river from Whitehall to Chelsea to the accompaniment of "50 instruments of all sorts, who play'd ... the finest Symphonies, compos'd express for this Occasion, by Mr. Hendel"

These selections, representing just a few of the more familiar movements, offer a miniature suite of contrasting moods that will provide opportunities to display a wide palette of tonal colors native to the pipe organ. For the purpose of these transcriptions, some of the movements have been annotated with their originally intended instrumental colors, while others are labeled with basic terraced dynamics, indicating use of one manual or another. Pedal parts have been included for the larger *tutti* sections, as have the familiar strains of the Air and the second Menuet. The original instrumentation is for strings and continuo, oboes, trumpets and horns.

While flutes have been omitted from Handel's score because of their inherently delicate timbre, which might well have become lost in the open-air environment of a river barge, their use in an organ performance could be both appropriate and telling.

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A Water Music Suite

1. Overture

Selected Movements

Georg Frideric Handel

(1685-1759)

Grave [Poco adagio = ♩] *

[Man. 16, 8, 4, 2 + Flues & Reeds]

Transcription for Organ

Ennis Fruhauf

* [Strings and Oboes]

1. *mf*
*2. *f*
f assai

* See Notes *in re* optional editorial markings

[*con Ped. ad lib.*]

[*Ped. sim. ad lib.*]

1. 2.
[*Ped. sim. ad lib.*]

2 G. F. Handel ♦ A Water Music Suite

2. Menuet [and Trio] (3 fois)*

[Allegro = ♩]

Musical score for measures 1-8. The piece is in 3/8 time and B-flat major. It begins with a *mf* dynamic and a ** [Tutti]* marking. The first four measures feature a *trm* (trill) over the right hand. The dynamic shifts to *mp* in measure 5 and back to *mf* in measure 8.

poco f [with 16'] *non legato*

Musical score for measures 9-16. Measure 9 is marked with a *mp* dynamic. Measure 10 has a *mf* dynamic. Measure 11 includes a ** [Fr. Horns]* marking. The piece concludes with a *mp* dynamic in measure 16.

Musical score for measures 17-24. Measures 17-18 are marked with a *mf* dynamic and a ** [Tutti]* marking. Measures 19-24 feature a *trm* (trill) over the right hand. The dynamic remains *mf* throughout this section.

sempre poco f

Musical score for measures 25-32. Measures 25-28 feature a *mp* dynamic. Measures 29-32 feature a *trm* (trill) over the right hand. The dynamic remains *mp* throughout this section.

Musical score for measures 33-40. Measure 33 is marked with a *mf* dynamic. Measures 34-40 feature a *trm* (trill) over the right hand. The dynamic remains *mf* throughout this section.

* See Notes

G. F. Handel ♦ A Water Music Suite

40 *mf* * [Fr. Horns] *mp* 1. & 2.) Fine

[Segue Trio]

[Trio]

48 *mf* * [Strings]

56 *mp* *mf* *mp*

65 *mf*

74 *mf* D.C. al Fine

* [Tutti: strings, oboes & bassoons; family and ensemble instrumentations are drawn from Handel's full orchestral score]



George Frideric Handel was born in Halle in 1685, sharing the same birth year as Johann Sebastian Bach and Domenico Scarlatti; he passed away in London in 1759, outliving Bach by nine years. While Bach's livelihood was centered within a relatively tight geographical region, Handel's sphere of activity ranged south from Germany to Italy, and northwest to England, where he eventually settled in London. Handel won acclaim as a composer of church music, oratorios and operas, works for various instrumental ensembles, including a large body of keyboard solos. In 1714, the Elector of Hannover, Handel's former employer, was crowned King George I of England, and soon after was able to attract the composer back into his royal services in London, his new home. Handel dwelt for much of his life at an address on London's Brook Street.

3. Air (3 fois)* [Andante = ♩]

poco leggiero

Org. *mf*

mp

poco f [Ped. 16, 8' +]

4 *trm*

7 *trm* *mp*

[Fr. Horns]

mf

10 *trm*

* [See Notes]

Musical score for measures 13-15. The score is in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It features three staves: Treble, Middle, and Bass. Measure 13 starts with a treble staff containing eighth notes and a middle staff with a long note and a slur. Measure 14 has a treble staff with eighth notes and a middle staff with a slur and an asterisk. Measure 15 continues the eighth-note pattern in the treble and has a middle staff with a slur and an asterisk.

Musical score for measures 16-18. Measure 16 has a treble staff with a slur and a middle staff with a slur. Measure 17 has a treble staff with a slur and a middle staff with a slur. Measure 18 has a treble staff with a slur and a middle staff with a slur. Dynamics include *mf* and *mp*.

Musical score for measures 19-21. Measure 19 has a treble staff with a slur and a middle staff with a slur. Measure 20 has a treble staff with a slur and a middle staff with a slur. Measure 21 has a treble staff with a slur and a middle staff with a slur. Dynamics include *mf* and *mp*.

Musical score for measures 22-24. Measure 22 has a treble staff with a slur and a middle staff with a slur. Measure 23 has a treble staff with a slur and a middle staff with a slur. Measure 24 has a treble staff with a slur and a middle staff with a slur. Dynamics include *mf* and *mp*.

* [Repeated notes are editorial suggestions]

G. F. Handel ♦ A Water Music Suite

25 *trm*, *mp* *mf* [Horns] *

28 *

31 *mf*

34 *(poco ritardando)*, *mp (a tempo)* *(poco ritardando)* *trm*

* [Repeated notes are editorial suggestions]

4. Andante [Larghetto = ♩]

Org.

* [Oboes]

* [Bassoons]

4

* [Strings]

* [Tutti, with 16']

* [Strings]

* [Tutti, with 16']

* [Strings]

7

* [Strings]

10

* [Oboes]

* [Tutti]

* [Bassoons]

* [Tutti]

(poco ritardando) * [Oboes] (a tempo)

13

* [Bassoons]

* [Family and ensemble instrumentations are drawn from Handel's full orchestral score]

G. F. Handel ♦ A Water Music Suite

16

* [Strings] * [Tutti] * [Strings] * [Tutti]

* [Strings] * [Tutti]

Detailed description: This system contains measures 16, 17, and 18. The music is in a minor key with a common time signature. It features a complex texture with multiple voices. Brackets indicate that strings play in measures 16, 17, and 18, while tutti sections occur in measures 17 and 18.

(poco ritardando) (a tempo)

19

* [Oboes] * [Strings] * [Bassoons] * [Strings]

Detailed description: This system contains measures 19, 20, and 21. The tempo changes from 'poco ritardando' to 'a tempo' between measures 19 and 20. Brackets indicate that oboes play in measure 20, strings in measures 19, 20, and 21, and bassoons in measure 21.

22

* [Oboes] * [Tutti] * [Bassoons] * [Tutti]

Detailed description: This system contains measures 22, 23, and 24. Brackets indicate that oboes play in measure 22, tutti sections occur in measures 22 and 23, and bassoons play in measure 23.

25

[l.h.]

Detailed description: This system contains measures 25, 26, and 27. The left hand (l.h.) has a specific part in measure 26. The music continues with complex textures and dynamics.

(poco a poco ritardando)

28

[ad lib.] * [Strings] [l.h.] [l.h.] [l.h.]

Adagio
mp
mp

Detailed description: This system contains measures 28, 29, and 30. The tempo is marked 'Adagio' and the dynamics are mezzo-piano (mp). Brackets indicate that strings play in measure 28, and the left hand (l.h.) has specific parts in measures 28, 29, and 30. The piece concludes with a final chord in measure 30.

[Ped. with 16']

5. [Louré]

Lentement [Largo = ♩.]

Org. *mf* [Man. 16, (8), 4, 2 Flues] *mp* [Strings] *mf*

* [Ped. 8' pitch: Fr. Horns]

8

15

* [Tutti: strings, oboes & bassoons; family and ensemble instrumentations drawn from Handel's full orchestral score]

23

mp [mf] [mp]

This system contains measures 23 through 29. The music is in G major and 3/4 time. The right hand features a series of chords and dyads, with a circled chord in measure 25. The left hand provides a simple bass line. Dynamics are marked as *mp*, *[mf]*, and *[mp]*.

30

[p] mf mp

This system contains measures 30 through 37. The right hand continues with chordal textures, including a circled chord in measure 35. The left hand has a steady bass line. Dynamics are marked as *[p]*, *mf*, and *mp*.

38

mf

This system contains measures 38 through 44. The right hand features a circled chord in measure 44. The left hand has a bass line with a long note in measure 39. Dynamics are marked as *mf*.

45

This system contains measures 45 through 51, ending with a double bar line. The right hand has a circled chord in measure 45. The left hand has a bass line with a long note in measure 46. Dynamics are not explicitly marked in this system.

6. Coro

[Allegro = ♩]

[Tutt] *trm* *trm*

Org. 1. *mf*
2. *f*

non legato

9

f

18

mp *f*

7. Menuet

[Andantino = ♩]

1. *mf*
2. *poco f*

trm *trm* *trm* *trm*

mp *

mp (*leggiere*)

* [The consecutive 5ths are Handel's]

Musical score for measures 9-16. The system consists of three staves: Treble, Middle, and Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The music features a melody in the Treble staff with various ornaments and a steady accompaniment in the Middle and Bass staves. Measure 16 ends with a repeat sign.

Musical score for measures 17-26. The system consists of three staves: Treble, Middle, and Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The melody in the Treble staff continues with ornaments. Measure 26 ends with a repeat sign.

Musical score for measures 27-35. The system consists of three staves: Treble, Middle, and Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The melody in the Treble staff continues with ornaments. Measure 35 ends with a repeat sign.

[D.C. Menuet]

Musical score for measures 36-43. The system consists of three staves: Treble, Middle, and Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The melody in the Treble staff continues with ornaments. Measure 43 ends with a repeat sign.

8. Hornpipe

[Andante = ♩]

marcato

Org. *f* [16, 8, 4 Flues & Reeds] *mf* *mp* *f*

f [32, 16', 8, Cplrs.]

6

11 [Trumpets] [r.h.] *mf* [Trumpets] [l.h.] [sim.] [Fr. Horns] *mp*

17 [Tutti] *f* [Fr. Horns] *mp*

22

f

[con Ped. ad lib.]

This system contains measures 22 through 25. The music is in G major and 3/4 time. The right hand features a melodic line with grace notes and a trill in measure 25. The left hand provides a steady bass line. A dynamic marking of *f* is present. A performance instruction "[con Ped. ad lib.]" is located below the bass line.

26

mf *mp*

[Trumpets] [Fr. Horns]

This system contains measures 26 through 30. The right hand has a melodic line with grace notes. The left hand continues the bass line. Dynamic markings *mf* and *mp* are shown. Brackets indicate the entry of "[Trumpets]" and "[Fr. Horns]" in measures 27 and 28 respectively.

31

f

This system contains measures 31 through 35. The right hand features a melodic line with grace notes. The left hand continues the bass line. A dynamic marking of *f* is present.

[*p o c o a p o c o a l l a r g a n d o*]

36

1. Segue
2. Fine

This system contains measures 36 through 40. The right hand has a melodic line with grace notes. The left hand continues the bass line. The system concludes with a double bar line and a repeat sign. The first ending is marked "1. Segue" and the second ending is marked "2. Fine".

G. F. Handel ♦ A Water Music Suite

[♩=♩] [a tempo]

40 *mf* [8, 4, 2' + Flues]

leggiero

mf

[Man.] *f assai* (non legato)
[16, 8, 4, 2' + Flues]

44

47

f assai

50

53

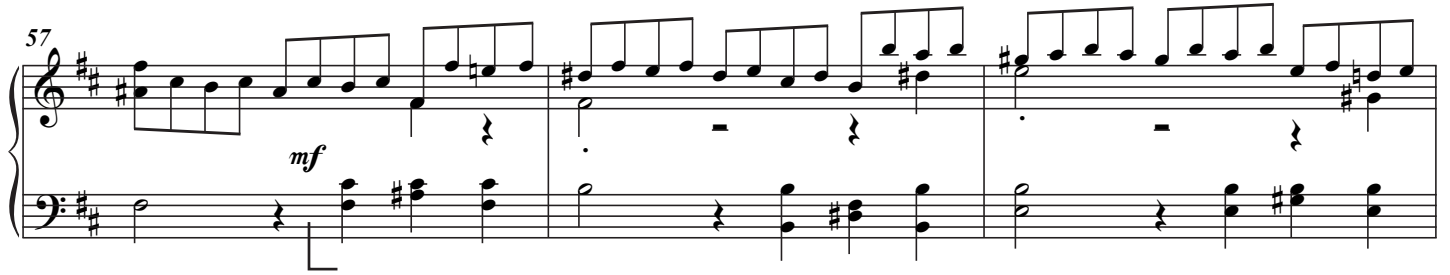
mf

f assai

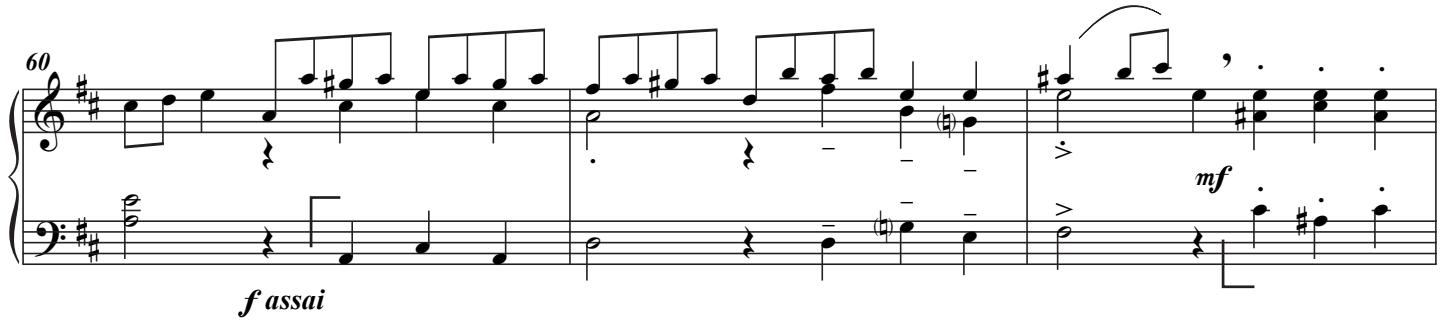
[l.h.]

[Ped. with 16' ad lib.]

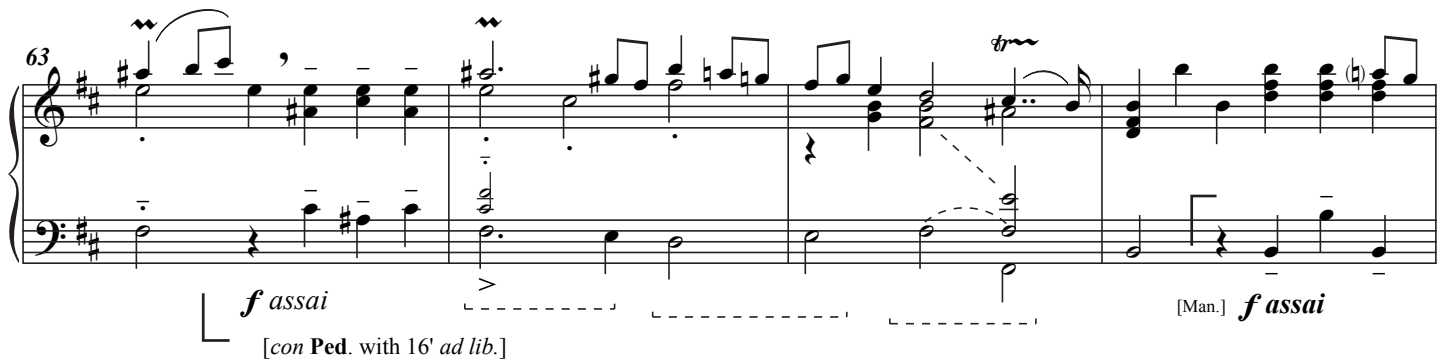
57 *mf*



60 *f assai*



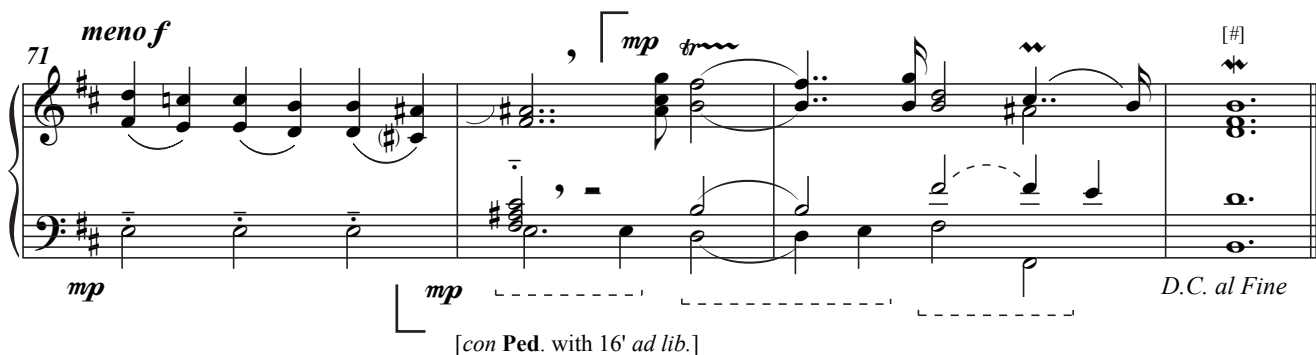
63 *f assai* [con Ped. with 16' ad lib.] [Man.] *f assai*



67 *mf* [con Ped. ad lib.]



71 *meno f* *mp* *mp* [con Ped. with 16' ad lib.] D.C. al Fine





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