

Thefe Pieces altho Compofed for the Organ are equally improving and entertaining on the Harpfichord ,

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## PREFAE

HE following Pieces for the Organ were composed for the improvement of young professors placed under my care; and from their success, I am flattered into an opinion, that they may be useful to others, in treating the most noble instrument in a manner suitable to its powers, by supporting its genius and character proper for the sacred services, to which it is dedicated, and from whence nothing that is trite or common should flow, that may call off the attention, or divert the mind from the solemnity of the service.

The Obligato stile of writing, which consists of Fuges, Inversions, Canons, Double Descant, and the like, is interwoven in many parts of these compositions; and Figures are placed over each of these parts, as they occur, more readily to compare one with the others.

This stile of writing, so proper for the Church, has of late been too much neglected by the young professors, from an opinion of its dryness, want of air, and destroying the true and original spirit of genius. How far I have succeeded in removing this objection, by the freedom of Modulation, is now submitted to the public; whose approbation will be a sufficient motive to publish others of the same sort.

The subject proper for a Fugue may be considered as a kind of Canto Fermo, on which a great variety of Descant is discovered: It should be such as may engage the attention, and, like a Theme,

Theme, or Simple Proposition, be capable of divisions and sub-divisions; by which means we have not only a greater variety of Modulation, but very often other subjects of a secondary nature are discovered, which in their turn relieve the attention from a too frequent repetition of the first, or principal one, and at the same time prevent that sameness, so often objected to in this species of writing, which rather satigues than pleases.

For this reason, the most artful parts of Composition should be employed, especially when it is considered that we have no Articulation, as in Choral Music, to mark and give strength to the subjects; nor the assistance of different species of Voices, to distinguish them in their places of Acute and Grave; and, above all, that we are destitute of Poetical Sentiment, which stamps a character so truly animating on the subjects of the Chorus.

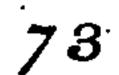
The Fugue, on the Organ, being destitute of these advantages, must seek to supply the desect, as much as possible, by art; and thus Imitations, Points, Inversions, Double Descant, Canons, and the like, or some of them, may be called in to our aid; which, as they contribute so much to relieve and enliven the principal subject, lead us with greater pleasure towards a Conclusion; where every power of Harmony must be exerted, and, if possible, the several scattered parts should be collected, like the rays of light, into one point of view, that the whole may receive an additional strength, from the union of the several parts.



Engraved by T. Straight NP 138 at Martina Lane near Charing Crofs.





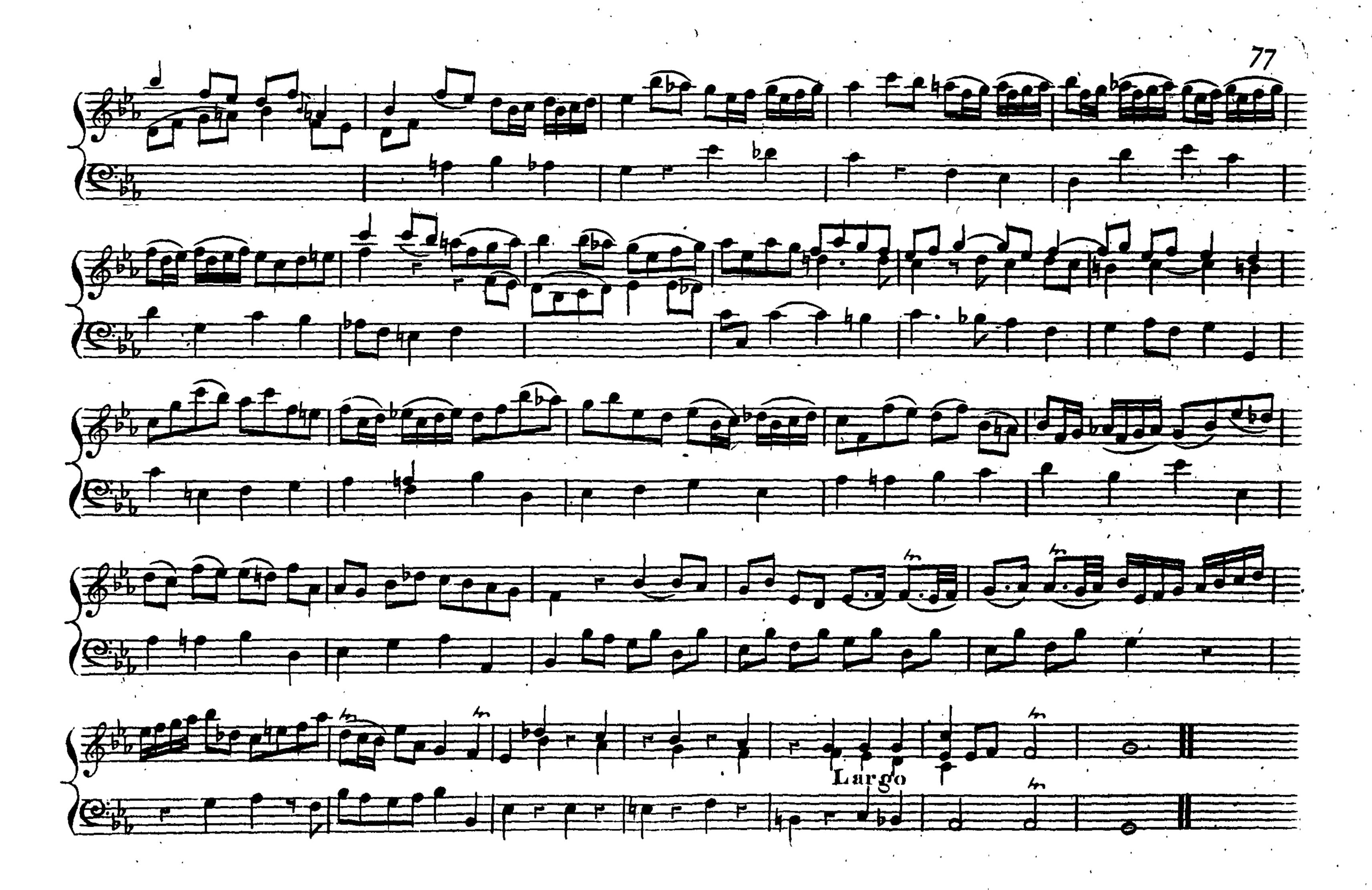




















































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Lord Viscount Fitzwilliam, by His Lordship's Most Obedient Servant John Keeble. These Pleecs alsho' Composed for the Organ are equally improving and entertaining on the Harphehord." [London], [1778]. Eighteenth Century Collections Online. Gale. Newcastle University. 10 Jan. 2010

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