

Musical Notations on Stamps Part 14 (Including CEPT Issues)

By J. Posell

ALBANIA

Scott 2165, 2166

Michel 2254, 2255

Two stamps were issued by Albania in 1985 to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the birth of J.S. Bach in 1685. The 80q stamp contains a portrait of Bach and a scroll of music. The 120 lek stamp pictures a portion of the Bach Museum in Eisenach. This building, known as the "Bach House", had long been considered to have been the birthplace of Bach. It has been furnished as a Bach Museum since 1907. The few notes of music at the bottom are identified by Chuchi Maeda as Fugue #23 from the "Well Tempered Clavichord", Book II.



ANTIGUA & BARBUDA

Scott 876-880

Michel 890-894

In 1985 six British related countries, Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, Grenada Grenadines, Maldives and Sierra Leone have each issued a set of four stamps and a souvenir sheet to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the birth of J. S. Bach. The six sets bear a similarity in that each stamp contains a picture of Bach, a musical instrument and fragmentary notations from his compositions. All notations have been identified and classified by the ever resourceful Ethel Bloesch (with thanks and gratitude).

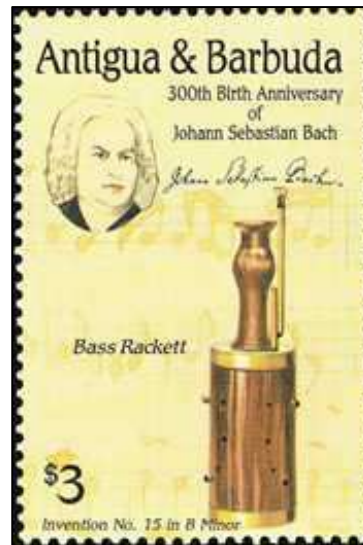
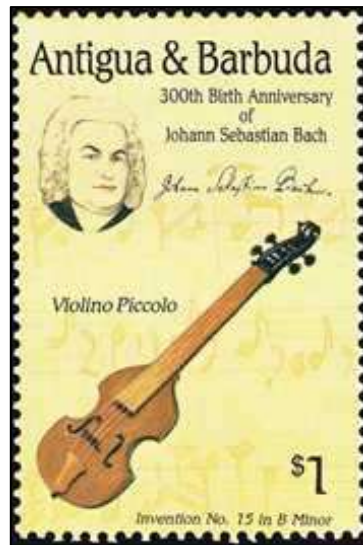
The four stamps of Antigua and Barbuda contain fragmentary notation from different sections of the two-part Invention No. 15 in B minor for clavier. The musical instruments pictured are a bass trombone, an English horn, a violino piccolo and a bass rackett.

The bass trombone pictured is probably a German instrument used in the first half of the 18th century. Music is written in the bass and tenor clefs and it is deeper range than the regular trombone. The extended rod near the mouthpiece was used to control and balance the instrument owing to its great length when fully extended.



The English horn or cor Anglaise of course is neither a horn nor English but an instrument of the oboe family larger than the oboe and pitched in F, a fifth lower than the oboe. It is straight bodied with a right angled or curved metal hook to hold the reed. Some early forms of the instrument were made with a curved body in two or three sections, the lower part containing the bulbous or flared bell.

The violino piccolo is a smaller version of the violin and is tuned to a.d.g.c, a fourth higher than the violin. It probably existed as far back as 1596 but is now extinct. The best known use of the instrument is in Bach's First Brandenburg Concerto. As illustrated, it had a short body and a long neck and fingerboard.



The rackett is an obsolete woodwind instrument of the 16th and 17th centuries made of a short cylinder of ivory or wood. There were four sizes including the bass rackett. It was constructed of several connected tubes twisted and compressed into the smallest possible space, squeezed into a thick cylinder and the cylinder bored in such a way that the total effective pipe length is more than nine times that of the block itself. Because of its many twists and turns it had very little volume. Racketts were played with a double reed like a bassoon attached to a metal tube. The finger holes opening into the cylinder were manipulated with both hands.



The souvenir sheet contains a portrait of Bach, notation from the Invention No. 15 and the right half of the painting. The Bach Family by Toby Edward Rosenthal, painted in 1870, 120 years after Bach's death.

ARGENTINA

Scott 1502-1504

Michel 1740-1742

Stamps for the 50th anniversary of the death of Carlos Gardel were issued by Argentina on 15 June 1985. Gardel, popular Latin American guitarist and tango singer, first appeared on a stamp of Uruguay in 1974 (Scott 884; Michel 1307). Very little biographical information is available. Although the three Argentine stamps give his dates as 1890-1935, some sources state that he was born in 1887, Dec. 11, in Toulouse, France. His original name was Charles Romuald Gardes. He was immensely popular in Latin America as a vocal interpreter of tangos, and he also appeared in several Spanish speaking movies made in Hollywood, Paris and Buenos Aires. He died in a plane crash in Columbia in 1935. The three stamps of Argentina are reproductions of paintings. Gardel with a guitar by Carlos Alonso, Gardel in a wide-brimmed hat by Hermegildo Sabat, and Gardel in an ornamental frame by Aldo Severi and Martiniano Arce.



AUSTRIA

Scott 1320

Michel 1820

This stamp was issued in 1985 to mark the 25th anniversary of the season of operetta weeks in Bad Ischl. The stamp pictures the operetta theatre and three bars of music. The text of the melody is "Schön ist die Welt" (Beautiful is the world) and is taken from Act I of Franz Lehar's operetta in three acts of the same name.

(Identified by Walter Taussig of the Metropolitan Opera staff)



BULGARIA

Scott 3046-3051

Michel 3344-3349

A set of six stamps was issued in 1985, all of the same denomination, picturing composers Bach, Mozart, Tchaikovsky, Verdi, Mussorgsky and Kutev. The first four are no newcomers to philately but Modest Mussorgsky is here making his philatelic debut, although he was included with four other Russian composers on a stamp of Russia in 1951 marking the 175th anniversary of the Moscow Opera House - the Bolshoi Theatre.

Modest Petrovich Mussorgsky was born in Karevo, district of Pskov, in 1839 and died of alcoholism and epilepsy in St. Petersburg in 1881. A true musical genius, though only half educated in music, his greatest works are the operas Boris Godunov and Khovanschina, the orchestral work Night on a Bald Mountain, Pictures at an Exhibition (orchestrated by Maurice Ravel) and Songs and Dances of Death for soprano and orchestra.

Filip Kutev, Bulgarian composer, was born in Atvos. June 13, 1903. He studied at the Sofia State Academy of Music, graduated in 1929 and for many years worked as a military bandmaster. In 1951 he established the State Folksong and Dance Ensemble consisting of singers, folk instrument players and dancers and with this group toured Europe, America, Japan and the Middle East. Kutev's fame rests mainly on his harmonizations and orchestrations of Bulgarian folk music. His own compositions consist of orchestral works including a symphony, a cantata "The 9th of September" for solo voices, chorus and orchestra (to honor the entry of the Red Army into Bulgaria in 1944), hundreds of folk song arrangements and some film music.



CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Scott 773

Michel 1181

Six stamps and six souvenir sheets were issued for Youth Year on Dec. 28, 1985. Three stamps picturing early portraits of Bach, Schubert and Mozart. Each stamp has a drawing of the composer and a musical excerpt in the composer's manuscript.

The 80 F Bach stamp contains an earlier version of the organ Prelude and Fugue in G minor BWV 535. The Prelude is complete but the Fugue is a fragment. Thanks to Ethel Bloesch for identifying this musical excerpt.



Addendum: The Bach sheet shows the house in Eisenach where Bach was born, Bach seated at the organ and in the upper right hand corner the original title page of Six Chorals for organ published by Schübler. (F.A.P. Journal 15, March 1988)



CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Scott 775

Michel 1183

Six stamps and six souvenir sheets were issued for Youth Year on Dec. 28, 1985. Three stamps picturing early portraits of Bach, Schubert and Mozart. Each stamp has a drawing of the composer and a musical excerpt in the composer's manuscript.

The 250 F stamp for Schubert is titled "Du Roi des Aulnes" and the drawing portrays "Der Erlkönig" but the music is used from the first page of Schubert's autograph manuscript of Die Winterreise showing the opening bars of the first song Gute Nacht.

Thanks to Ethel Bloesch for identifying this musical excerpt.

(I would say the drawing of Schubert resembles James Dean more than it does Schubert)



Addendum: On the Schubert sheet the music on the stamp is from "Die Winterreise" but the illustration and the title page are from "Der Erlkönig". Also shown at the bottom is the house in Vienna where Schubert was born and the famous painting by Moritz von Schwind: "A Schubert Evening at Joseph von Spaun's". (F.A.B. Journal 15, March 1988)



CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Scott 777

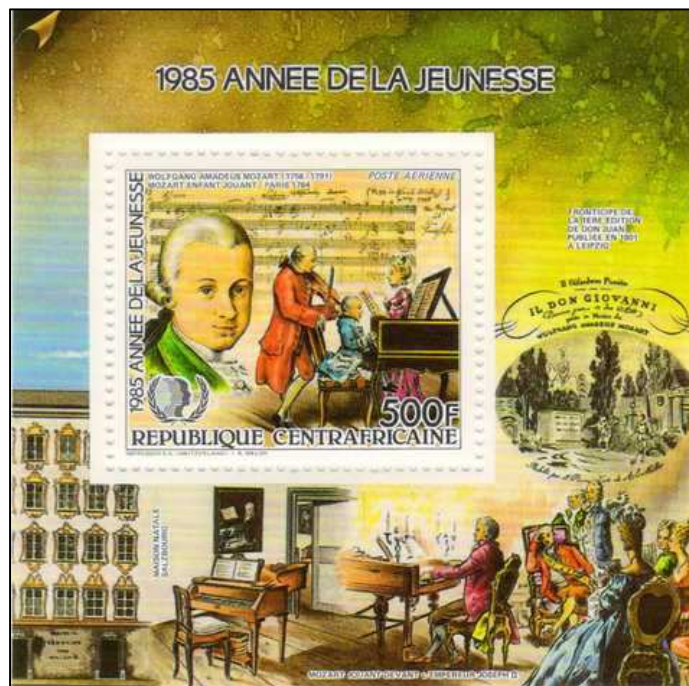
Michel 1185

Six stamps and six souvenir sheets were issued for Youth Year on Dec. 28, 1985. Three stamps picturing early portraits of Bach, Schubert and Mozart. Each stamp has a drawing of the composer and a musical excerpt in the composer's manuscript.

The 500 F Mozart stamp uses the first page of Mozart's autograph manuscript of the Jupiter Symphony No. 41. Thanks to Ethel Bloesch for identifying this musical excerpt.



Addendum: The Mozart sheet shows the title page of the first edition of Don Giovanni but the music on the stamp is the "Jupiter Symphonie". Also shown are the house in Salzburg where Mozart was born and the young Mozart playing for the Emperor Joseph II. (F.A.P. Journal 15, March 1988)



CHINA

Scott 1988

Michel 2014

Xian Xinghai (Hsien Hsing-hai) issued June 13, 1985. Hsien Hsing-hai was born in P'anyü, Kwantung, in 1905. His father died before Hsien was born and in 1911, when he was six years old, he emigrated with his mother to Malaya where he received his early education. He studied at Chinese schools and also attended a British school for a year where he learned some English. He returned to Canton in 1918 and supported himself while studying in the music department of Lingnan University. He graduated in 1924 and taught at Lingnan until 1926 when he went north to Peking University where he specialized in violin and music theory. A year later he enrolled in the new Shanghai Conservatory but was expelled on political grounds because of his leftist policies. In 1930, under the sponsorship of Sitson Ma (Ma Ssu-Ts'ung) a Cantonese violinist who had recently returned from study in France, Hsien went to Paris where he continued his musical studies with Vincent d'Indy and Paul Dukas. He returned to China in 1935, worked for film companies and began to compose songs *The Athletic Meet*, *Far Away Siberia*, *War Song*, *Midnight Music*, *Youth Advances*. After the outbreak of the Sino-Japanese War in 1937 Hsien Hsing-hai joined a patriotic group which toured China to boost morale and to mobilize support for the war effort. In 1938 he became director of the music department of the Lu Hsün Academy in Yenán and also composed an opera, *Army and People Advance*. A year later he produced *The Yellow River Cantata*, a combination of song, dance and drama which drew heavily on Chinese folk sources and which is his most famous work. In 1940 he left Yenán for Russia. There he completed his *National Symphony* which he had begun in 1936. The German invasion of the Soviet Union in June 1941 inspired Hsien's final work: a symphony which he called *War in a Noble Cause*. He died of tuberculosis in Moscow Sept. 30, 1945. In China his name was generally linked with that of Nieh Ehr, composer of the national anthem of the People's Republic of China, both belonging to the category of "pioneers of proletarian music".

(Biographical Dictionary of Republican China. vol. 2. 1968; courtesy Ethel Bloesch)



COLUMBIA

Scott 947

Michel 1651

A stamp for the 50th anniversary of the death of Carlos Gardel was issued by Columbia on 23 June 1985. Gardel, popular Latin American guitarist and tango singer, first appeared on a stamp of Uruguay in 1974 (Scott 884; Michel 1307). Very little biographical information is available. Some sources state that he was born in 1887, Dec. 11, in Toulouse, France. His original name was Charles Romuald Gardes. He was immensely popular in Latin America as a vocal interpreter of tangoes and he also appeared in several Spanish speaking movies made in Hollywood, Paris and Buenos Aires. He died in a plane crash in Columbia in 1935.



CONGO

Scott 737

Michel 1010

In honor of the European Music Year, the government of the Congo issued a stamp honoring the 300th anniversary of the birth of J. S. Bach. The stamp pictures a young Bach with a baroque organ in the background.



CYPRUS

Scott 660

Michel 646

To commemorate European Music Year 1985, Cyprus issued a stamp picturing Greek conductor and composer Solon Michaelides. Michaelides was born in Nicosia, Crete, on March 12, 1905. He studied at Trinity College, London (1927-30), and in Paris where he was a pupil of Boulanger (harmony, counterpoint, fugue), of Cortot (piano) and of Labey (conducting). Returning to Cyprus, he took the leading part in furthering musical life and music education in Cyprus and in Salonica. In Cyprus he was director of a conservatory and a professor of music in a high school. On moving to Salonica he became director of the State Conservatory and conductor of the state orchestra. He was also a guest conductor in Europe and the United States and lectured on Greek music for the BBC and at American Universities. As composer of the national school, he made use of folk or Byzantine elements and his compositions include works for orchestra, choirs, instrumental music, songs, a ballet and an opera. He died in Athens Sept. 9, 1979,



DOMINICA

Scott 906-909

Michel 924-928

In 1985 six British related countries, Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, Grenada Grenadines, Maldives and Sierra Leone have each issued a set of four stamps and a souvenir sheet to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the birth of J. S. Bach. The six sets bear a similarity in that each stamp contains a picture of Bach, a musical instrument and fragmentary notations from his compositions. All notations have been identified and classified by the ever resourceful Ethel Bloesch (with thanks and gratitude).

The four stamps of Dominica contain music from *Explication* which is Bach's "explanation of various signs showing how to play certain ornaments correctly" with which he prefaced his *Clavier Bûchlein* assembled for Wilhelm Friedemann Bach begun in Cöthen on January 27, 1720. Wilhelm Friedemann was Bach's eldest son and a little over nine years old at the time. The book contains 62 pieces including seven of Bach's Little Preludes, 11 of the Preludes of the Well Tempered Clavier, the two-part Inventions and the three-part Sinfonias as well as a few works by other composers. It was completed in 1723.

The instruments pictured are an ancient cornett, a valveless coiled trumpet, a key piccolo and a five-string violoncello piccolo. The cornett is an obsolete wind instrument derived from an animal horn, pierced with fingerholes and played with a cup mouthpiece. Later models were mainly made of wood. Two types were known: the straight and the curved cornett. The curved cornett was also covered with black leather and was known as the "black cornett." It was first mentioned in 1440 in the "Morte d'Arthur" and, its heyday was from about 1550 to 1650. Most of the straight cornetts were made of wood with the internal bore turned on a lathe. It was used in Germany through the 18th century and Bach scored for it in eleven of his cantatas since the instrument was used extensively in both church and secular music.



Up to the end of the 18th century in Europe trumpets were primarily a ceremonial instrument decorated with banners and engravings and used as a symbol of worldly power. Only ruling princes, high nobility, cavalry farces (mostly composed of noblemen) and the free cities of the German Empire were permitted to retain trumpeters. The circular trumpet or Jägertrompete, though of no use for carrying a ceremonial banner, is thought by some historians to have had a special importance in Germany as a solo instrument. A famous painting exists of Gottfried Reiche by E. G. Haussmann made in 1727, shows Bach's principal trumpeter holding a coiled trumpet, a shape preferred in his day for performing particularly demanding music.

Three-jointed, one-key piccolos were made in the late 18th century of wood. They are pitched one octave higher than the ordinary or concert flute. They were built with one key originally and were preceded by the flageolet. Today's instruments are made of metal and are constructed like the modern flute.



The violoncello piccolo was a small violoncello in use in the first half of the 18th century. It had five strings and was tuned like an ordinary cello, the fifth extra string being above the normal high A. It has probably intended for solo playing and Bach scored for it in several of his cantatas. It may be the cello a cinque acordes for which he wrote the Sixth Suite for Unaccompanied Cello but authorities are not agreed on this. Most of the instruments came from Germany and from Leipzig in particular.



The souvenir sheet contains a picture of Bach and a view of Eisenach where Bach was born on March 21, 1685, taken from the original colored engraving by M. Merian made in 1650. Bach lived here for his first ten years but after the death of his mother in 1694 and his father a year later, he moved to Ohrdruf to live with his oldest brother, Johann Christoph. Eisenach on the SS sheet is a mistake!

FINLAND

Scott 707-708

Michel 968-969

Music has always been part of the educational system in Finland and the teaching of music starts as early as at preschool age in some kindergartens and is continued thereafter throughout the school years. In addition, schools with special instruction in music have been founded for particularly talented pupils. There are also more than 100 professional schools of music in which instructions are given in all branches of music: instrumental, vocal and theoretical. For more than 100 years the most advanced musical instruction has been given in the Sibelius Academy.

The 1.50 FIM stamp represents three children playing the recorder. In the background are two recorders with marked finger holes which refer to the elementary instruction of music.

The 2.10 FIM stamp contains the notes and words of the song "Ramus virens olivarum" from the old "Piae Cantiones" collection of 1582. This is a collection of 74 songs for use in church services, Christmas and school use and is the basis of modern Finnish music.



HISTORICA
Cantio
LXXVII

Ramus vi-rens o-li-
Bi-num ge-nus a-ni-
us - - rum per co-lum - lum pan-di-tur;
ma - - rum ar-ca No-ē clau-di-tur.

Er-go, plebs Fin-no - ni-ca, gau-de de hoc

do - no, quōd fac - ta es Ca - tho-li-ca

199 Verbi

GABON

Scott 585

Michel 934

Georges Damas Aleka, composer of the national anthem of Gabon, La Concorde, was born in Libreville November 18, 1902; and died there May 4, 1982. He was president of the National Assembly from 1964 to 1975 and honorary president until his death. He was also Treasurer General of the Democratic Party of Gabon in 1978 and was chief counselor of the state until his death. In 1959 a competition was organized for a national anthem for Gabon. Damas Aleka wrote both the words and the music for La Concorde which was adopted as the national anthem when Gabon achieved its independence on August 17, 1960.

(Information provided by Chuichi Maeda)



GERMANY (BERLIN)

Scott 9N507

Michel 750

This stamp was issued to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the birth of the celebrated German conductor, composer and writer Wilhelm Furtwängler, born in Berlin Jan. 25, 1886. An earlier stamp on the occasion of his death on Nov. 30, 1954, was issued in 1955 (Germany, Berlin: Scott 9N115, Michel 128). Furtwängler was one of the outstanding German conductors of his day equally renowned in the opera pit as on the concert stage. He was born in Berlin but grew up in Munich where he studied music with Schillings, Rheinberger and Felix Mottl. His conducting career began in opera at Zurich and Strasbourg and engagements soon followed in other German cities. In 1919 he became musical director of the Berlin State Opera and in 1922 he inherited the Berlin Philharmonic from Arthur Nikisch. He also conducted the Gewandhaus Orchestra in Leipzig until 1928 and at the Bayreuth Festivals in 1931 and 1932. In 1925 he made a sensational American debut with the New York Philharmonic and returned again in 1926 and 1927. With the advent of Nazism in Germany, he had several serious clashes with the Nazi Government on questions of policy and in December 1934 he resigned his posts with the Berlin Philharmonic, the State Opera and as deputy president of the Reichsmusikkammer. However, a few months later he made an uneasy peace with the authorities and resumed his post with the Berlin Philharmonic. He was invited to assume the directorship of the New York Philharmonic in 1936 but declined when objections were raised in America against his collaboration with the Nazis. During World War II he continued to conduct in Germany but refused to conduct in any of the occupied lands. In 1945 he went to Switzerland but returned to Germany in 1946 and was eventually absolved of the charges of pro-Nazi activities by the American Military Government. In 1949 he was tentatively engaged to conduct the Chicago Symphony but the contract was cancelled when public opinion proved hostile to his appointment. In Western Europe, however, he proved to be very popular and was enthusiastically received when he led the Berlin Philharmonic in concerts in England and France. As a matter of fact, Furtwängler did everything he could to disassociate himself from official Nazi activities. He never gave the Nazi salute at public concerts even when Hitler was in attendance. He constantly used his influence to save the lives of Jewish musicians and he came to Hindemith's defense in spite of Hitler's prejudices. Furtwängler was also an active composer and wrote two symphonies, choral works, much chamber music including sonatas for cello and for violin, eight piano sonatas, songs, etc. The musical notation on the stamp is the opening of his Sonata #2 in D major for violin and grand piano composed in 1935.



GIBRALTAR

Scott 471-472

Michel 487-488

Two stamps were issued Feb. 26, 1985, for CEPT Europa. The notation on both is the choral theme Ode to Joy from the last movement of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony. The 20p stamp uses the notation in the bass clef and the 29p stamp in the treble clef. Missing on both stamps are the two sharps on the staff denoting the key of D major. Symbolic notation is employed in the design of both stamps.



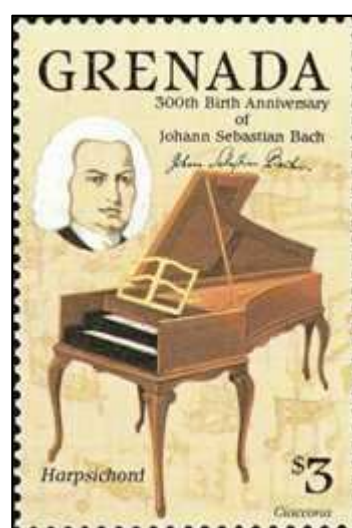
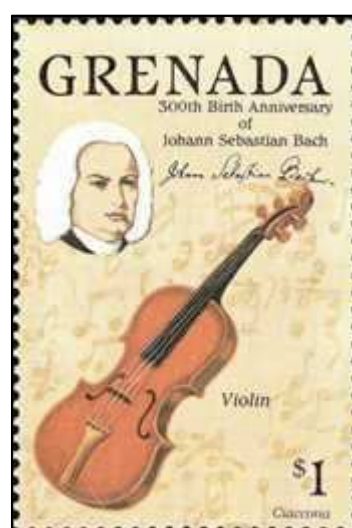
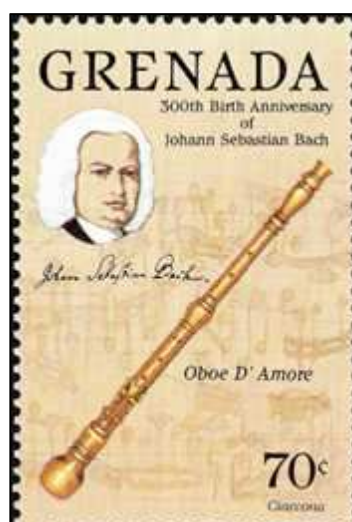
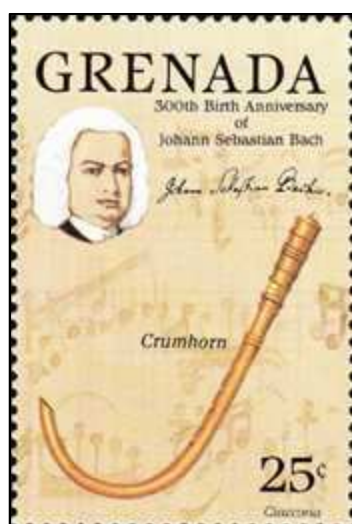
GRENADA

Scott 1312-1316

Michel 1403-1407

In 1985 six British related countries, Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, Grenada Grenadines, Maldives and Sierra Leone have each issued a set of four stamps and a souvenir sheet to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the birth of J. S. Bach. The six sets bear a similarity in that each stamp contains a picture of Bach, a musical instrument and fragmentary notations from his compositions. All notations have been identified and classified by the ever resourceful Ethel Bloesch (with thanks and gratitude).

The four stamps of Grenada contain fragmentary notation from the Chaconne from the Partita No. 2 in D minor for solo violin. The musical instruments pictured are the crumhorn, a double reed woodwind instrument of the 16th and 17th centuries usually made of boxwood and provided with six front fingerholes and a rear thumbhole in various sizes and pitches; the oboe d'amore, a German variety of the oboe pitched in A, a third lower than the normal oboe in C, a harpsichord and a violin.



The souvenir sheet contains a portrait of Bach, notation from the Chaconne and an unknown drawing of a violinist.



GRENADA GRENADINES

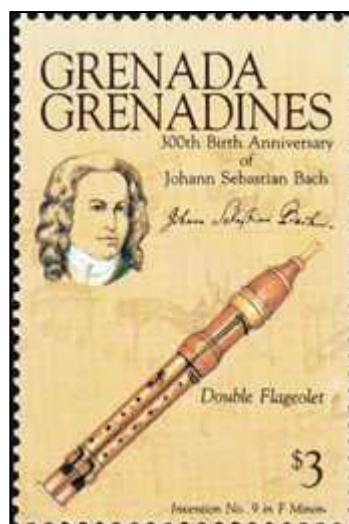
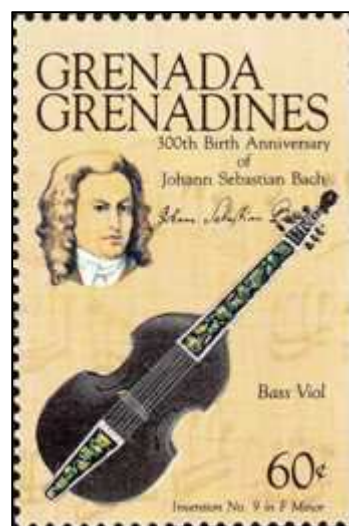
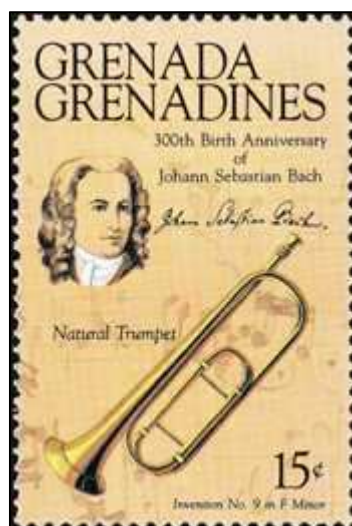
Scott ????

Michel 708-712

In 1985 six British related countries, Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, Grenada Grenadines, Maldives and Sierra Leone have each issued a set of four stamps and a souvenir sheet to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the birth of J. S. Bach. The six sets bear a similarity in that each stamp contains a picture of Bach, a musical instrument and fragmentary notations from his compositions. All notations have been identified and classified by the ever resourceful Ethel Bloesch (with thanks and gratitude).

The four stamps of Grenada Grenadines contain notations from the two-part Invention No. 9 in F minor for clavier. The musical Instruments pictured are a natural valveless trumpet, a seven-string bass gamba (bass viol) with decorated fingerboard and tailpiece, a double flageolet and a wooden, open-hole, one-key flute, also known as a transverse flute. This instrument was used by Bach and other composers of his day because of its greater dynamic and expressive possibilities.

The flageolet is an ancient instrument und the word was first used in the 13th century. It was commonly made of wood or cane with four front fingerholes and two rear thumbholes. It was a forerunner of the recorder and later of the flute. Two models were in use during the 18th century, the French flageolet and the English flageolet. During the 19th century the latter model had six front fingerholes and one thumbhole. The instrument was also made of ivory. The double flageolet was two flageolets using a common mouthpiece.



The souvenir sheet contains an early portrait of Bach, notation from Invention No. 9 and the Bach crest or seal, designed by J.S. Bach and first used in 1722 during his employment at Cöthen. It was first used on stamps, of Germany in 1950 (Scott 314-315, Michel 121-122).



GUINEA BISSAU

Scott 655-661

Michel 864-870

On May 8, 1985, the Republic of Guinea Bissau in Western Africa issued a set of seven stamps and a souvenir sheet in honor of international Music Year. Each stamp pictures a famous composer and includes an old musical instrument. The composers are Vincenzo Bellini, Robert Schumann, Frederic Chopin, Luigi Cherubini, Giovanni Battista Pergolesi, Georg Friedrich Händel and Heinrich Schütz. The musical instruments have been kindly identified by William Sherwood and are as follows:

- 4p (Bellini): Treble (descant) viola da gamba 16th century, by Henry Jay, England, and a concert harp
- 5p (Schumann): Pyramid piano, 1829, by Conrad Graf of Vienna, now in the Gemeentemuseum, The Hague
- 7p (Chopin): Beethoven's Broadwood piano
- 12p (Cherubini): Barytone, ca. 1720 by Jacques Sainprac, Germany
- 20p (Pergolesi): a two manual harpsichord
- 30p (Händel): a valved trumpet from c. 1825 and an 18th century kettledrum
- 50p (Schütz): Bass viola da gamba, 17th century by Joachim Tielka, Germany, and two keyed oboe ca. 1680



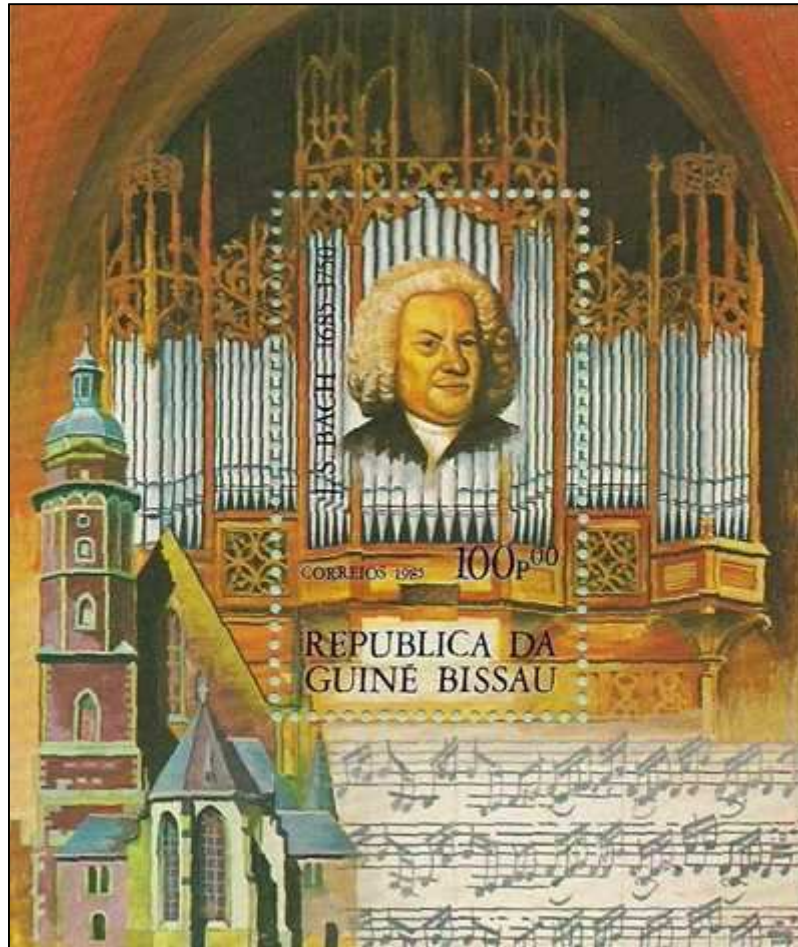
GUINEA BISSAU

Scott 662

Michel 871

On May 8, 1985 the Republic of Guinea Bissau in Western Africa issued a set of seven stamps and a souvenir sheet in honor of international Music Year. Each stamp pictures a famous composer and includes an old musical instrument.

The souvenir sheet contains a portrait of J.S. Bach and the organ in the Thomaskirche Leipzig. The notation is from the first movement of the Brandenburg Concerto No. 3 BWV 1048.



HUNGARY

Scott 2930-2943

Michel 3772-3777

A set of six stamps perforate and imperforate was issued in 1985 to commemorate the 300th anniversaries of the births of Händel and Bach (1685), the 225 anniversary of the birth of Luigi Cherubini (1760), the 175th anniversaries of the births of Frederick Chopin and of Ferenc Erkel (1810), and the 125th anniversary of the birth of Gustav Mahler (1860). Each stamp also pictures musical Instruments: Händel a tympani and one of the many types of multi-coiled valveless horns used in the 18th century; the Bach stamp pictures a North German 18th century organ, possibly a Silbermann; Cherubini a harp, seven-string viola da gamba and a viola bastardo or baryton or viola di bardone (It.); Chopin a piano used during the middle of the 19th century, possibly a Pleyel (note: a similar piano is pictured on a stamp of Chopin in a set of seven issued by Mongolia in 1981; Scott 1223, Michel 1435); the Erkel stamp pictures a tuba and a modern violin; and the Mahler stamp pictures a tympani, a French horn and a five-string viola da gamba. (There are five sizes of gambas: soprano, alto, tenor, bass and double bass and many have different numbered strings). Ferenc Erkel is known as the father of Hungarian opera and also the composer of the first Hungarian national anthem in 1842.



Addendum: The Chopin stamp shows Beethoven's Broadwood piano. It is the same "error on stamp" as shown on the issue from Guinea-Bissau. (Refer to "Der Musikus" Nr. 111 / Sept. 2012)

HUNGARY

Scott 2883.

Michel 3700

Mr. Peter Lang of Germany in the November 1985 issue of *The Baton* (#53) calls attention to two hidden bars of music in the lower left emblem (or design or seal) on the souvenir sheet issued in 1984 to mark the 100th anniversary of the Budapest Opera House. Three stamps and a souvenir sheet both perforate and imperforate were issued. With a strong glass one will find the following notation which is the opening notes of Octavian's aria in the first act of Mozart's *Don Giovanni*. This emblem is also found in smaller type on the 1Ft. and 2 Ft. stamps.



Arie des Don Ottavio

Aus „Don Juan“

W. A. Mozart
(1756 – 1791)

Andantino sostenuto



ITALY

Scott 1640-1641

Michel 1932-1933

Two stamps were issued for Europa CEPT featuring the anniversaries of composers J.S. Bach and Vincenzo Bellini (1641) and for the birth anniversaries of two Italian tenors.

Aureliano Pertile, born in Montagnana Nov. 9, 1885, made his debut in 1911 at Vincenza in Martha. In 1914 he began to attract attention when singing in Madame Butterfly and Carmen at the San Carlo in Naples and later at the La Scala (1916) and at the Colon in Buenos Aires (1918). He sang regularly at the La Scala from 1922 to 1937 and continued to sing until 1946. From 1945 he taught at the Milan Conservatory. He was not successful in America and sang at the Metropolitan only during the 1921-1922 season but was very popular in Buenos Aires and at Covent Garden. He died Jan. 11, 1952, in Milan.

Giovanni Martinelli was also born in Montagnana on Oct. 22, 1885. He began his musical activities as a clarinetist in an army band; then studied singing and made his concert debut in Milan in 1910 in Rossini's Stabat Mater. He then sang opera in Milan, Rome and other Italian cities. One of his greatest successes was his performance in Puccini's Girl of the Golden West at its European premier in Rome in 1911. He made his American debut with the Metropolitan Opera as Rodolfo in La Bohème in 1913 and remained at the Metropolitan as one of its leading tenors until 1946 and he then opened an opera studio in New York. He died in New York Feb. 2, 1969.



INDIA

Scott 1110

Michel 1044

A sheetlet honoring the births of Bach and Händel was issued in 1985 picturing both composers. The line of music at the top is from the first movement of the Magnificat by J.S. Bach. The line of music at the bottom is the soprano voice from the Hallelujah chorus of Handel's Messiah. (identified by Ethel Bloesch)



KOREA SOUTH

Scott 1430

Michel 1419

A series of postage stamps is being issued by the postal authorities of South Korea featuring their popular folk songs, children's songs and classical songs. The first two stamps (Music Series 1) were issued Sept. 10, 1985, and are "The Spring of My Home" and "A Leaf Boat".

The Spring of My Home was composed by Hong Nan-pa. Though written for children, this is popularly song like a folksong and is one of the most favorite songs of the Korean people.

(Official Korean bulletin, courtesy Chuichi Maeda)



KOREA SOUTH

Scott 1431

Michel 1420

A series of postage stamps is being issued by the postal authorities of South Korea featuring their popular folk songs, children's songs and classical songs. The first two stamps (Music Series 1) were issued Sept. 10, 1985, and are "The Spring of My Home" and "A Leaf Boat".

A Leaf Boat was composed by Yun Young-ha. It is a lyrical song for children and describes how a little boy would pick up a fallen leaf and set it afloat on a calm pond.

(Official Korean bulletin, courtesy Chichi Maeda)



LIECHTENSTEIN

Scott 804-805

Michel 866-867

Two stamps were issued March 11, 1985, for CEPT. The following notes are from a postal bulletin issued by the Liechtenstein authorities: "The two postage stamps showing the center and right fragment of an Italian harpsichord lid originating from the early 16th century, depict Apollo, the God of music and art, making music with the Muses on Mount Parnassus. The artist, unknown to us, was probably inspired by Raphael's Parnassus in the Vatican. Apollo sits beside the fountain of Castalia and plays a stringed instrument. His lyre rests against a small organ where one of the Muses accompanies her sisters playing and singing. Melpomene sings whilst sitting on a swan. Erato draws sweet tones from a stringed instrument and Euterpe blows softly on the dual flute. But Pan appears and challenges Apollo defiantly with his syrinx - but will be the loser in this contest".



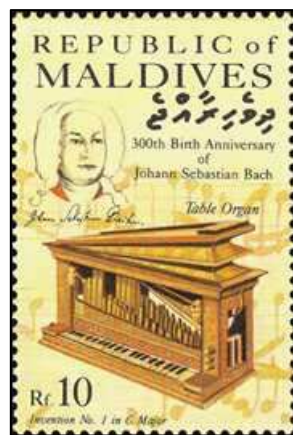
MALADIVES

Scott ????

Michel 1115-1119

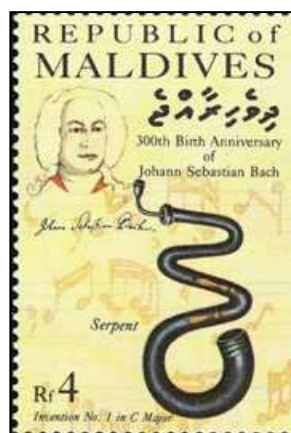
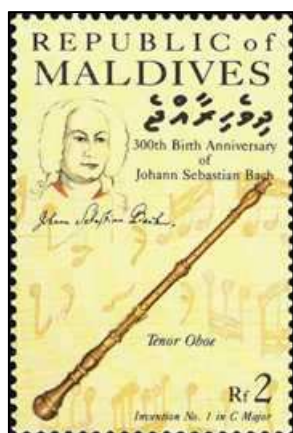
In 1985 six British related countries, Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, Grenada Grenadines, Maldives and Sierra Leone have each issued a set of four stamps and a souvenir sheet to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the birth of J. S. Bach. The six sets bear a similarity in that each stamp contains a picture of Bach, a musical instrument and fragmentary notations from his compositions. All notations have been identified and classified by the ever resourceful Ethel Bloesch (with thanks and gratitude).

The stamps from the Republic of Maldives contain fragmentary notation from the two-part Invention No. 1 in C major for clavier. The instruments featured are a table organ, the lira da braccio, a tenor oboe and a serpent. The table organ, or positive organ, was a purely pneumatic organ first known as a hydrauler. The wind chest and the pipe works formed a unit which could be set upon a large base containing a cistern (hydrauler) or upon a table and worked directly with bellows.



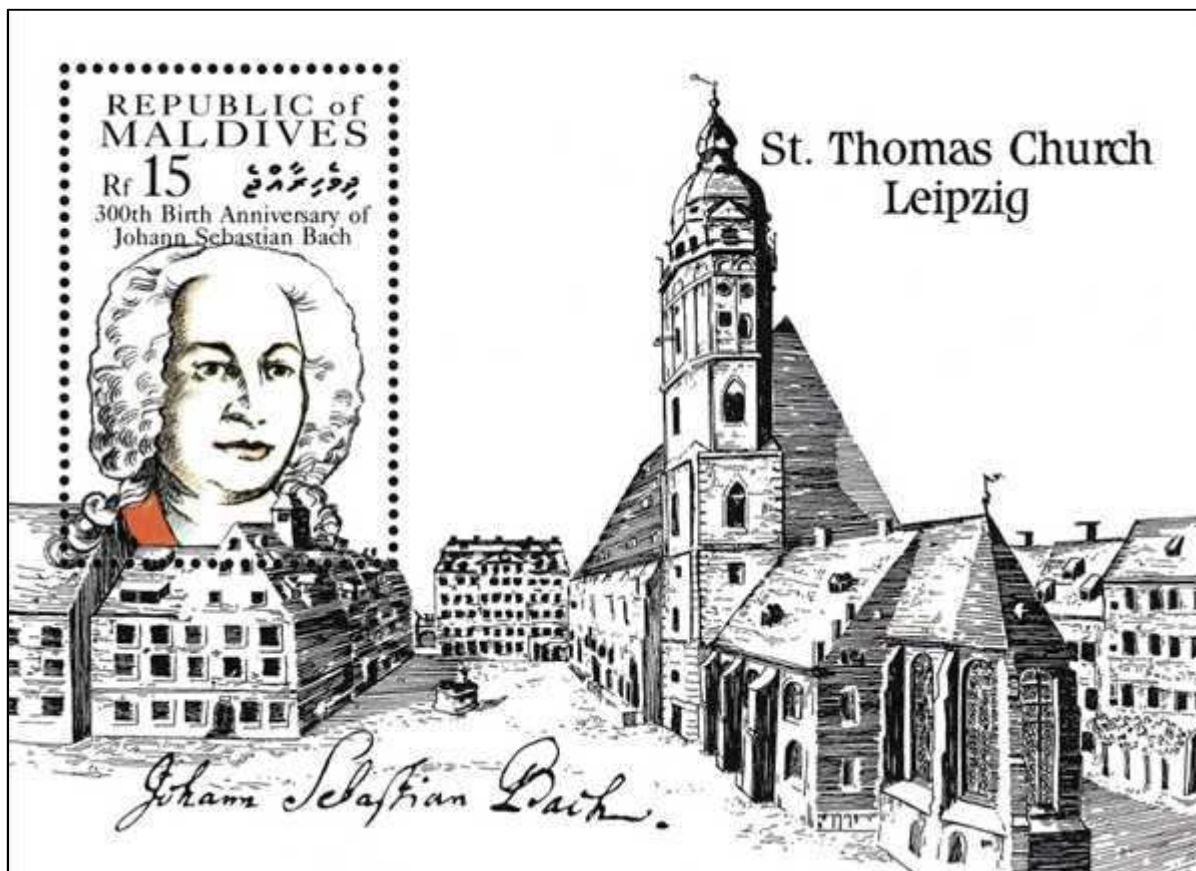
The lira da braccio was a bowed chordophone of the Italian Renaissance. It evolved in the 15th and 16th centuries and is assumed to be a development of the medieval fiddle. It was made in two sizes with a wide fingerboard and had five on-board strings and two off-board strings. The sound holes were originally C shaped and later F shaped. The instrument was held against the left shoulder and the larger one was held between the knees. The two drone strings off the fingerboard were usually tuned an octave apart and were probably stopped with the left thumb.

The tenor oboe (taille des hautbois) was an oboe of the late 17th century resembling the ordinary oboe except that it was larger and pitched in F, a fifth lower. It was used mainly in military bands of the late 17th century.



The serpent is a finger hole horn made of wood with a cupped mouthpiece similar to the trumpet and trombone, and was used as the bass of the cornett family. It measures about seven feet in length, has six fingerholes in two groups of three and two keys. It was used as late as the 19th century in churches and in military bands and is said to have been invented in 1590 in France. With the development and expanded use of the instrument, as many as 14 keys were eventually utilized. When the tuba was introduced in 1835 the serpent was gradually eliminated but it was known to still have been in use as late as 1844 in three Spanish military bands.

The souvenir sheet contains a portrait of Bach, and a view of the Thomas Church in Leipzig where Bach was appointed organist in 1723 and where he spent 27 years. It was here also that he composed most of his religious music.



MAURITANIA

Scott 582-583

Michel 859-860

To commemorate European Music Year, Mauritania issued two stamps honoring the 300th anniversaries of Johann Sebastian Bach and Georg Friedrich Händel. The Bach stamp pictures the composer and a group of angels with instruments as a background. The stamp for Händel contains his portrait and a view of several buildings which might be Halle where he was born.



MONACO

Scott I498-1499

Michel 1725-1726

Two anniversary stamps were issued in 1985. One stamp with portraits of J.S. Bach and G.F. Händel to mark the 300th anniversary of their births in 1685. The other stamp pictures Frederic Chopin and Robert Schumann to mark the 175th anniversaries of their births in 1810. The drawing of a woman behind Schumann can be presumed to be that of Clara Schumann whom he married in 1840.



NORWAY

Scott 861-862

Michel 926-927

Two stamps issued for CEPT were released June 19, 1985. Both stamps picture violinists but with no further inscriptions. The Norwegian postal authorities have therefore kindly submitted the following information: "The violinist on the NOK 3.50 stamp is Ole Bull. The fiddler on the NOK 2.50 stamp is Torgeir Augundsson, also known as "Myllarguten" (1801-1872). He played the "hardingfele", a Norwegian variant of the violin. He was regarded as a genius and was introduced on stage by Ole Bull who wanted to show the skeptical Oslo audience the real Norwegian hardingfele music.

Ole Bull, Norway's internationally famous violinist was born in Bergen Feb. 5, 1810, and died in Lyso, near Bergen Aug. 17, 1880. He was an eccentric character with a strong conviction of Norwegian national art. He gave many concerts in England and Ireland and made five tours of the United States, playing popular music and his own compositions on American themes including several of his own arrangements of Norwegian folk songs. In 1845 he started a theatrical enterprise in Bergen to promote national drama and music but the project failed after a few seasons. In 1852 he purchased a large tract of land in Pennsylvania for a Norwegian settlement but he became the victim of an easy swindle and many law suits drained his last resources. However, because of his passionate love of his native land, he became a great national figure greatly revered in Norway. He also published some compositions for the violin but they are of no great musical value.



SIERRA LEONE

Scott 708-712

Michel 836-840

In 1985 six British related countries, Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, Grenada Grenadines, Maldives and Sierra Leone have each issued a set of four stamps and a souvenir sheet to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the birth of J. S. Bach. The six sets bear a similarity in that each stamp contains a picture of Bach, a musical instrument and fragmentary notations from his compositions. All notations have been identified and classified by the ever resourceful Ethel Bloesch (with thanks and gratitude).

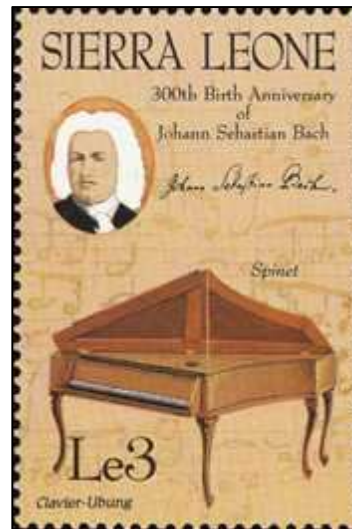
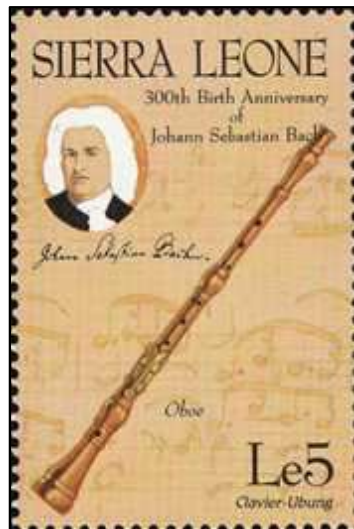
The music on the stamps of Sierra Leone is taken from the Prelude and Fugue in Eb "St. Anne" for organ from the Clavier-Übung part 3. Very little of Bach's music was published during his lifetime but among them are the four parts of the Clavier-Übung which includes six Partitas, the Italian Concerto, the Goldberg Variations, the Musical Offering and other works. The musical instruments pictured are a viola pomposa, a lute, an oboe and a spinet.

The viola pomposa was a viola with an additional high string tuned to F and was in use from about 1725 to 1770. Its invention has been credited to J.S. Bach by various writers and the myth persists even though Bach never scored for such an instrument. Telemann is the best known of the composers who used it.



The lute is a plucked stringed instrument of Arabic origin and was one of the most important instruments in European music in the 16th and 17th centuries. It has a deep body shaped like a half pear, a short neck with a fretted fingerboard and a peg box turned back at right angle to the neck. Over the years it has undergone many changes in shape and in the number of strings used. However, most lutes today use five pairs of strings, each pair tuned in octaves. In Arab countries the instrument is still unfretted and played with a plectrum but the European lute is fretted and played with the fingers. In the hands of a virtuoso the lute is capable of elaborate polyphonic music.

The oboe illustrated is an open-hole instrument with one key at the base. Such instruments were made in France, Germany, Holland and England and were in use mainly in the first half of the 18th century.



The spinet was a keyboard instrument with action similar to the harpsichord. With few exceptions spinets have only one manual and one set of strings. The compass was usually four octaves or 4½ octaves.

The souvenir sheet contains a portrait of Bach and the left half of the painting The Bach Family by Toby Edward Rosenthal.



SOUTH AFRICA

Scott 235-236

Michel 268 & 279

In 1960 two stamps from a series commemorating the 50th anniversary of South African statehood, with random notation, were issued. Chuichi Maeda has now belatedly provided biographical information on the composer of the South African anthem, "Die Stem van Suid Afrika". (The voice of South Africa).

Marthinus Lourens de Villiers was born July 31, 1885, in Paarl and showed musical gifts at an early age. Educated in Wellington, he settled as a music teacher in Wepener, O.F.S. Later he studied for the Dutch Reformed Ministry and was stationed at Beaufort West and Simonstown. His most memorable work was the music for Die Stem van Suid Africa which he wrote in 1921 and which became the Union National Anthem. The text is by Cornelius Jacob Langenhorn who served as a senator from 1921 to 1932. He wrote the poem in 1918 which was set to music in 1921 and was declared the national anthem in 1938.



SPAIN

Scott 2442-2444

Michel 2685-2687

Argenta, Spanish conductor, was born in Castro Urdiales, Santander. Nov. 19. 1913. He studied at the Madrid Conservatory and then in Belgium and Germany where he was a pupil of Carl Schuricht. He then obtained a teaching position in Kassel but with the outbreak of war in 1939 he returned to Spain where he played piano and celeste in the National Orchestra. He first conducted the Spanish Radio Orchestra and in 1945 became conductor of the National Orchestra. His first appearance in Britain was as conductor for Jose Iturbi with the London Symphony Orchestra. Argenta died in Madrid Jan. 21, 1958, at the age of 45 and his early death cut short what promised to be a highly successful career.

Tomas Luis de Victoria was probably the greatest Spanish church composer. Victoria was born in Avila c. 1549. He spent most of his life in Rome and, to prepare himself for the priesthood, entered the Collegium Germanicum, a seminary founded by St. Ignatius Loyola in 1552. In Rome his teacher may have been Palestrina who was music master at the Roman Seminary from 1566 to 1571. When Palestrina left in 1571 it was Victoria who succeeded him as maestro there. He was choir master and organist at various churches and in August 1575 he was ordained a priest. He returned to Spain in 1594. He composed motets, masses and a great amount of other church music most of which was printed in Italy in very elaborate editions. He died in Madrid Aug. 27. 1611.

Fernando Sor (real name Sors), a celebrated Spanish guitarist and composer, was born in Barcelona Feb. 13, 1778. At the age of eleven he entered the School of the Monastery of Montserrat where he studied music, wrote a mass and returned to Barcelona where he produced his only opera. "Telemaco nella isola di Calipro", in 1797. He went to Madrid a few years later and joined the French army earning the rank of captain but when Napoleon was defeated in Spain in 1813, he fled to Paris. Here he met prominent French musicians who urged him to give concerts as a guitarist and he soon acquired fame on this instrument. In Paris he produced two ballets in 1823 and in 1827. He then travelled to England and Russia and finally returned to Paris and settled there in 1828. He composed a number of fantasies, minuets and studies for the guitar and died July 8, 1839.



TURKISH REPUBLIC OF NORTHERN CYPRUS.

Scott ???

Michel 166

Four stamps were issued June 26, 1985, for CEPT to mark the anniversaries of Bach, Händel and Domenico Scarlatti plus a stamp for Turkish composer Buhurazide M. Itri. All stamps contain notation. There are five lines of music on each stamp and each is taken from a different section of a composition. With the help of Ethel Bloesch the various notations have been identified as follows:

Georg Friedrich Händel: From Organ Concerto No. 4. Op. 4 in F major.

Line 1: First 4 ½ measures, top voice of organ part, 1st movement (Adagio)

Line 2: First 3 measures, top voice of organ part, 2nd movement (Andante)

Line 3: First 2 measures, top voice of organ part, 3rd movement (Andante)

Line 4: First 4 measures, top voice of organ part, 4th movement (Allegro / 1st theme)

Line 5: Measures 15, 16, top voice of organ part, 4th movement (Allegro / 2nd theme)



Addendum: The notation in the background is an excerpt of page 215 from "A Dictionary of Musical Themes" by Harold Barlow and Sam Morgenstern, published by Ernest Benn Limited, London 1978
(Peter Lang)

TURKISH REPUBLIC OF NORTHERN CYPRUS

Scott ???

Michel 167

Four stamps were issued June 26, 1985, for CEPT to mark the anniversaries of Bach, Händel and Domenico Scarlatti plus a stamp for Turkish composer Buhurazide M. Itri. All stamps contain notation. There are five lines of music on each stamp and each is taken from a different section of a composition. With the help of Chuichi Maeda the various notations have been identified as follows:

Domenico Scarlatti. From beginning of Harpsichord Sonatas.

Line 1: First 8 measures from Sonata in D, Longo #463 (K-430)

Line 2: From Harpsichord Sonata in D, Longo #465 (K-96)

Line 3: From Harpsichord Sonata in F, Longo #474 (K-107)

Line 4: From Harpsichord Sonata in F minor, Longo #475 (K-519)

Line 5: From Harpsichord Sonata in F, Longo #479 (K-6)



Addendum: The notation in the background is an excerpt of page 402 from "A Dictionary of Musical Themes" by Harold Barlow and Sam Morgenstern, published by Ernest Benn Limited, London 1978

(Peter Lang)

TURKISH REPUBLIC OF NORTHERN CYPRUS

Scott ???

Michel 168

Four stamps were issued June 26, 1985, for CEPT to mark the anniversaries of Bach, Händel and Domenico Scarlatti plus a stamp for Turkish composer Buhurazide M. Itri. All stamps contain notation. There are five lines of music on each stamp and each is taken from a different section of a composition. With the help of Ethel Bloesch the various notations have been identified as follows:

Johann Sebastian Bach: From Concerto Grosso No. 1. The first Brandenburg Concerto.

Line 1: First 2 measures, violin 1 from first movement

Line 2: First 2 ½ measures, oboe 1 from 2nd movement (Adagio)

Line 3: First 3 measures, violin 1 from 3rd movement (Allegro)

Line 4: First 4 measures, violin 1 from 4th movement (Menuet / 1st theme)

Line 5: First 6 measures, oboe 1 from 4th movement (Trio of Menuet / 2nd theme)



Addendum: The notation in the background is an excerpt of page 23 from “A Dictionary of Musical Themes” by Harold Barlow and Sam Morgenstern, published by Ernest Benn Limited, London 1978

(Peter Lang)

TURKISH REPUBLIC OF NORTHERN CYPRUS

Scott ???

Michel 169

Four stamps were issued June 26, 1985, for CEPT to mark the anniversaries of Bach, Händel and Domenico Scarlatti plus a stamp for Turkish composer Buhurazide M. Itri. All stamps contain notation. There are five lines of music on each stamp and each is taken from a different section of a composition.

The Itri stamp contains the opening of his song “Yürük Senai Segan”. Chuichi Maeda has also kindly furnished the following biography of Turkish composer Buhurizade Mustafa Itri (1640-1712). Itri was born in Yaylak, in the quarter of Mevlana Kapisi and is considered one of the greatest musicians and composers of Turkish music of all time. He was also gifted as a poet and for his published poetry he used the pen name Uri instead of his real name Buhurizade Mustafa and in time this pen name was generally accepted for all his writings. He was in great favor in the palaces of various sultans and his popularity gained him the post of general administrator in different branches of the palace. During his lifetime he composed over 1000 compositions of which only 42 have survived. He died in January 1712.



TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS

Scott 680-689

Michel 747-751

Two sets of stamps and two souvenir sheets were issued to commemorate the anniversaries of G.F. Händel and of J.S. Bach.

The 4c stamp for Händel contains musical notes from “Zadok the Priest”, one of four anthems written for the coronation of King George II and Queen Caroline. Composed in 1727, Zadok the Priest has been used in all subsequent British coronations. In the foreground is a portrait of George II. Queen Caroline was Händel's patron and friend who later bestowed upon him a pension of 600 pounds, an income he enjoyed for life.



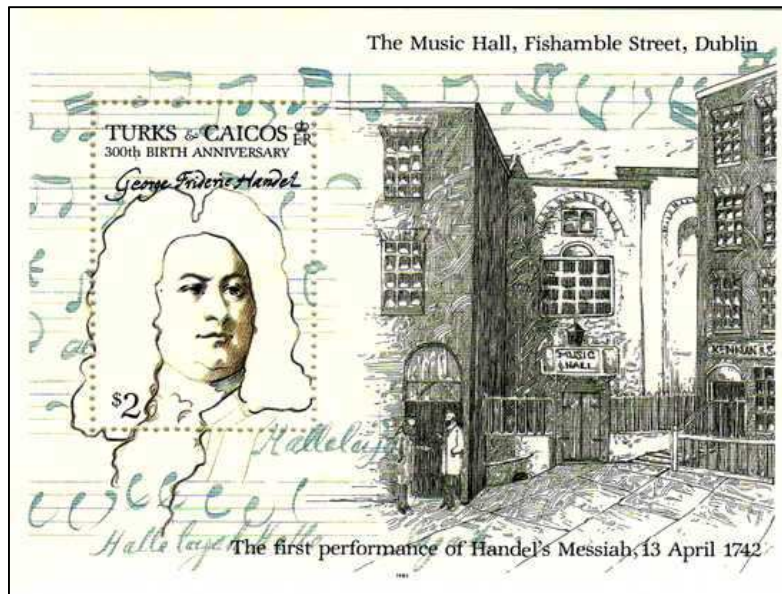
The 10c stamp contains musical notes from the Funeral Anthem for Queen Caroline, wife of King George II. Caroline died on November 20, 1737, and Händel was asked to compose a funeral anthem for his friend and patron. It was finished on the 12th of December and was performed at Westminster Abbey on December 17. Her portrait appears on the stamp.

The 50c stamp contains notes from Händel's famous “Water Music” which he composed for King George I whose portrait appears on the stamp. Queen Anne died on August 1, 1717, and was succeeded by the Elector of Hanover as George I. Händel was previously in the employ of the Elector of Hanover as Kapellmeister but left him to go to London. When George attained the throne Händel was reluctant to appear at court. However, a reconciliation occurred, arranged by a friend of Händel, when the King and his court took an excursion by barge on the Thames River. A second barge containing musicians under Händel's command followed and the Water Music especially composed for the occasion so captivated the monarch that he pardoned the truant and chastened Händel and restored him to favor.

The 1.10 stamp contains notation from Händel's opera Rinaldo. Händel first visited London in 1710 and was favorably received at Queen Anne's court. For the Queen's Theatre in the Haymarket, Händel composed Rinaldo, the first Italian opera specially composed for London. It was produced on February 24, 1711, and was a sensational success. Queen Anne's portrait is on the stamp.



The \$2 souvenir sheet contains a picture of Handel plus an illustration of the Music Hall on Fishamble Street in Dublin where Händel's Messiah was first performed on April 13, 1742.

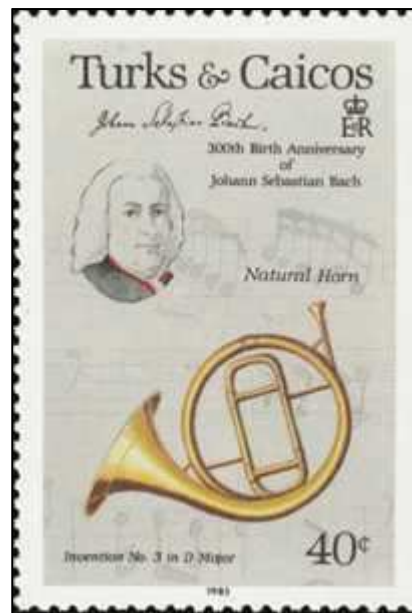


TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS

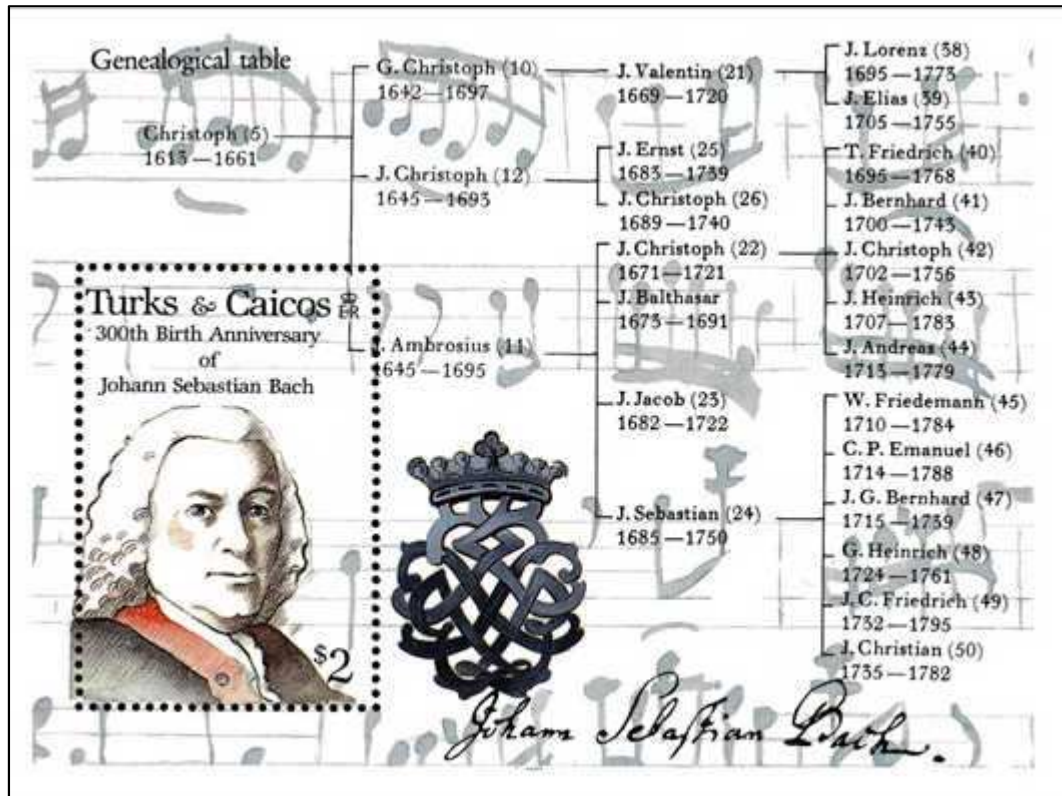
Scott ???

Michel 752-756

Two sets of stamps and two souvenir sheets were issued to commemorate the anniversaries of G.F. Händel and of J.S. Bach. The four Bach stamps all contain fragmentary notation taken from his third two-part invention for piano in D major. In addition to a drawing of the composer, the stamps also feature musical Instruments. The 15c stamp a bassoon, the 40c stamp a valveless natural horn, the 60c stamp a six-string viola d'amore (with six sympathetic strings) and the 95c stamp pictures a clavichord with decorated lid.



The \$2 souvenir sheet contains a portrait of Bach, the Bach seal (first shown on two stamps of Germany in 1950 (Scott: B314, B315; Michel 121-122) and a genealogical table beginning with Christoph Bach (1613-1661), the grandfather of Johann Sebastian, and including most of the members of the famous Bach family.



URUGUAY

Scott 1173

Michel 1740-1742

A stamp for the 50th anniversary of the death of Carlos Gardel was issued by Uruguay on 21 June 1985. Gardel, popular Latin American guitarist and tango singer, first appeared on a stamp of Uruguay in 1974 (Scott 884; Michel 1307). Very little biographical information is available. Some sources state that he was born in 1887, Dec. 11, in Toulouse, France. His original name was Charles Romuald Gardes. He was immensely popular in Latin America as a vocal interpreter of tangoes and he also appeared in several Spanish speaking movies made in Hollywood, Paris and Buenos Aires. He died in a plane crash in Columbia in 1935.



With the conclusion of European Music Year 1985, this column will revert to its original intention and will devote itself to Musical Notations of Stamps. It has been an abundant year for music philately and there may be a few stragglers yet to appear but these will be reported as they arrive.