

BWV 866 Prelude XXI

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Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

The Well Tempered Clavier - Book 1

Transcribed by
Richard Yates

Standard tuning

♩ = 65

The musical score is presented in four systems, each with a treble clef staff and a guitar tablature staff. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 4/4. The piece is in standard tuning.

- System 1:** Labeled **B VII** and **B IX**. The treble staff shows a sequence of chords and melodic lines with fingering numbers (1, 2, 3, 4). The guitar tablature includes fret numbers (9, 7, 5, 9, 12, 9, 10, 9, 5, 9) and a circled number 4.
- System 2:** Labeled **B VII** and **B IX**. The treble staff continues the melodic line with fingering (2, 3, 4). The guitar tablature includes fret numbers (2, 0, 2, 5, 6, 6, 3, 6, 6, 7, 6, 0, 0, 1, 3, 1) and a circled number 3.
- System 3:** Labeled **1/2 B II** and **p i m**. The treble staff shows a melodic line with fingering (3, 4). The guitar tablature includes fret numbers (2, 2, 0, 2, 2, 2, 2, 4, 2, 2, 2, 5, 4, 2, 4, 2, 4, 1, 3, 4, 1, 2, 4, 2, 4, 1, 2, 0, 2, 4, 5) and a circled number 3.
- System 4:** Labeled **B IV**. The treble staff shows a melodic line with fingering (1, 2, 3, 4). The guitar tablature includes fret numbers (4, 4, 2, 4, 4, 4, 4, 6, 4, 4, 4, 7, 6, 4, 6, 4, 6, 7, 4, 6, 8, 9, 6, 9, 6, 8, 9, 6, 8, 5, 7) and circled numbers 3 and 2.

5

④

TAB: 6 5 4 5 0 6 6 6 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 4 2 2 3

6

TAB: 0 2 2 2 2 2 2 4 2 2 3 2 0 2 2 1 4 4 2 4 4 3 6 6

B IV

7

④

TAB: 4 1 1 4 7 7 6 7 7 6 0 5 0 0 4 0 6 7 6 6 10 6 8 8

8

④

TAB: 6 0 6 4 5 7 4 5 7 5 4 7 0 3 2 0 2 5 4 2 0 3 2 0 2 0 2 0 2 1 4 2

B IV

9

⑤

TAB: 0 5 0 4 4 4 7 7 5 5 4 4 6 6 6 6 0 4 4 2 4 4

10

T
A
B

11

B IX

T
A
B

12

T
A
B

13

B VII

T
A
B

14

p i

T
A
B

Musical notation system 1. Treble clef, key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). Measure 15. The staff contains a whole note chord with a 4-fingered melodic line above it. The guitar tablature below shows fret numbers for strings T, A, and B.

T: 17, 0, 0, 0, 8, 7

A: 0, 0, 0, 0, 7, 7

B: 0, 0, 0, 0, 6, 6

Musical notation system 2. Treble clef, key signature of three sharps. Measure 16. Labeled "B VII" and circled "2". The staff contains a melodic line with a slur over measures 16-18. The guitar tablature shows fret numbers.

T: 7, 12, 13, 0, 0, 9, 7, 9, 7, 9, 0, 0, 9, 7, 13-12-10, 13-12-10, 13-11

A: 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7

B: 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7

Musical notation system 3. Treble clef, key signature of three sharps. Measure 17. The staff contains a melodic line with a slur over measures 17-19. The guitar tablature shows fret numbers.

T: 0, 1, 2, 3, 1, 3, 2, 1, 2, 3, 4, 4, 1, 2, 4, 2

A: 13, 13, 12-15-18, 16-19-17, 12-13, 13-14, 13, 7, 10, 7

B: 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0

Musical notation system 4. Treble clef, key signature of three sharps. Measure 18. Labeled circled "2". The staff contains a melodic line with a slur over measures 18-20. The guitar tablature shows fret numbers.

T: 5, 5, 6, 7, 0, 7, 6, 5, 6, 5, 6, 7, 5, 7, 6, 5, 6, 8, 0, 2, 3, 0, 2

A: 6, 6

B: 0, 0

Musical notation system 5. Treble clef, key signature of three sharps. Measure 19. Labeled circled "3" and "m". The staff contains a melodic line with slurs and accents over measures 19-21. The guitar tablature shows fret numbers.

T: 3, 6, 0, 6, 7, 6, 0, 2, 1, 2, 0, 2, 1, 4, 2, 4, 6, 4, 2, 0, 4, 0, 2, 0, 4, 2, 5, 4

A: 4, 4

B: 4, 4

1/2B II

20

④

③

T
A
B

5 4 2 4 4 2 2 7 7 6 7 4 11 9 10 9 9 10 9 10 14 14 12 14 17