

Notes for edition of Bach Sonata in e minor:

I. Adagio ma non tanto (slowly, but not too much)

Not all breath marks were added, only suggestions to inform other breaths in the movement.

Added grace notes are appoggiaturas – they are to be played ON the beat, leaned into, then released into the trill.

The principle of the couplet, 2 notes slurred: diminuendo to the second note, being careful not to cut the second 8th of each couplet. Despite the diminuendo on each couplet, *keep a clear sense of the melody line*. Each couplet: **Strong-weak, Strong-weak, Strong-weak...** “**sigh-ing, sigh-ing, sigh-ing...**” or “**dew-y, dew-y, dew-y...**” Just like the inflection of speech, *not all strong to weak syllables are the same*. For example, in cresc. passages there would be barely a hint of strong-weak.

II. Allegro (although often interpreted as fast, actually means cheerfully)

Two 8th notes with tenuto over 1st and dot over 2nd (like in measure 9): means to put just a little bit more weight on first 8th note then play second 8th note lightly and detached. This can be done in similar places throughout the movement. Notice the similarity to the inflection of 2 note couplets.

Symbol on downbeat 8th of measure 28 & 64 is a short trill from the upper note, on the beat.

Measure 61, beat 4: fill in & slur the notes between D#-A with notes from e minor scale (E,F#,G)

Measures 16 – 25 and 40 – 48 can be interpreted a variety of ways, for example:

2 _|_| (quarter notes) *mf*, followed by 2 _|_| *mp* (and/or more detached), or
1 bar *mf*, 1 bar *mp*, 1 bar *mf*, 1 bar *mp*, etc, or
start passages more quietly and build dynamic through section.

Breath suggestions in these section could be:

Before the 3 last tied 16^{ths} in a measure, or

On the bar line, tapering the last three 16^{ths} in the measure to allow for the breath, or

Pacing the breath so one does not need to breathe at all until a logical place.

The occasional breath marks are suggestions to inform other breaths.

Christine Fish Moulton, DMA

Professor of Flute, Mansfield University of PA

Licensed Body Mapping Educator

WEBSITE: christinemoulton.com

Cell (best): 484-553-8975

Office: (570) 662-4726