

## Bach-Archiv Acquires Trio in G Major Autograph Score and Parts

In June 2021 the Bach-Archiv Leipzig acquired at auction from Sotheby's the autograph score and autograph parts of C. P. E. Bach's Trio Sonata in G Major for Flute, Violin, and Bass (Wq 144). The manuscript includes:

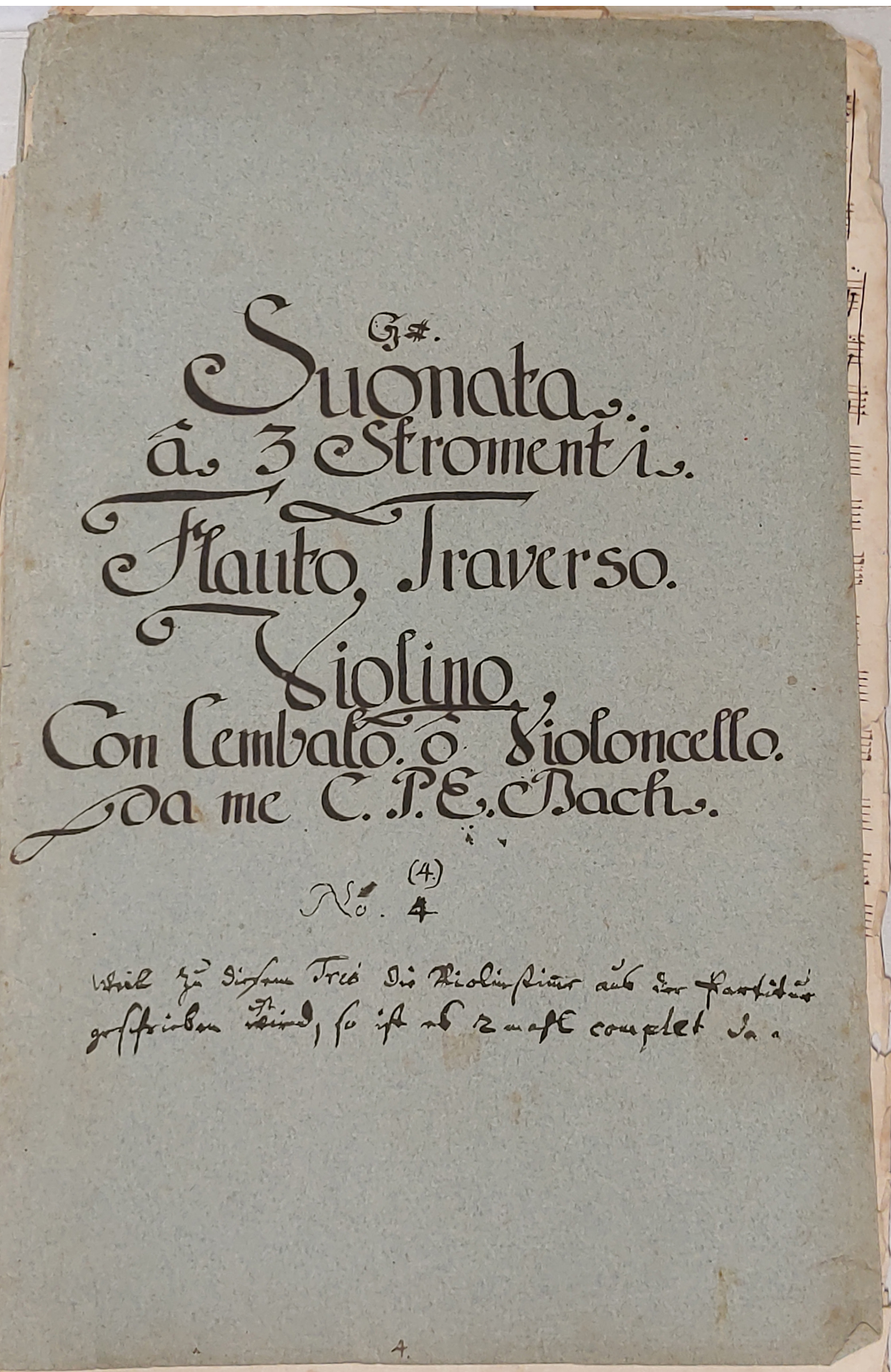
- 1) The autograph full score, with autograph title signed ("Sonata a 1 Flauto, 1 Violino & Basso di CPEBach");
- 2) The autograph parts for flute and continuo, in score, with autograph title ("Flauto Traverso e Basso");
- 3) The violin part, in the hand of a Hamburg copyist; and
- 4) The original blue wrappers in the hand of a copyist in a large calligraphic script:  
"G# / Suonata. / à 3 Stromenti. / Flauto Traverso. / Violino / Con cembalo o Violoncello. / Da me C.P.E.Bach.;" annotated by the composer in his late hand: "No. 4 / Weil zu diesem Trio die Violinstimme aus der Partitur / geschrieben wird, so ist est 2 mahl complet da."  
(See figure on next page.)

This is a new and otherwise unknown source for one of C. P. E. Bach's compositions, written first in Leipzig in 1731, and revised in Berlin in 1747, according to the composer's estate catalogue. It is a work written at the very beginning of Emanuel's composing career and it may have been performed in the Bach household or at the Collegium Musicum concerts in Leipzig. The wrapper dates from Frankfurt/Oder, where Emanuel himself led the Collegium Musicum.

This manuscript presents the revised form of the composition, dating from 1747, when C. P. E. Bach was working at the court of Frederick the Great in Berlin and Potsdam. Bach may have revived this trio for performance at court by his royal patron. The separate violin part is later than the score and the flute and basso continuo parts, and is written in the hand of a copyist working in Hamburg in the last decade of Emanuel Bach's life. This suggests that the manuscript was used throughout the composer's life, the re-copied manuscript replacing a lost or defective part.

The manuscript was sold in Hamburg in 1805 to an unknown buyer. It was later acquired by Friedrich Chrysander in the late nineteenth century and passed to his heirs. This is the only music autograph by C. P. E. Bach that has come to auction in more than a hundred years, and thanks to the contributions of some members of the Bach Kuratorium, it is now back "home" in Leipzig.

The autograph score will be published in facsimile, along with the other early trios for flute, violin, and basso continuo, as a supplement to series II in CPEB: CW.



Cover of wrapper for newly-acquired manuscript at Bach-Archiv, Leipzig.