EIGHTH NOTE PUBLICATIONS

Fantasie in C
BWV 570

Johann Sebastian Bach
Arranged by Markus Tannenholz

Bach's Fantasia in C Major is thought to be one of his earliest surviving organ works, possibly composed even before (or in any event during) his Arnstadt period beginning in 1703, making Bach a teenager at the time of its writing. The original is a "manualiter" played with the hands alone, but contemporary organists (including the arranger) usually play the bottom voice with the pedals to enable the use of strong, sub-bass registers.

The articulations chosen for the eighth and sixteenth notes are primarily an attempt to reproduce the sound of the organ-pedal-playing of the period, which used only the "toes" of the feet and never the "heels" (which came into use only much later). Thus two sixteenths and an eighth descending become R-L-L (and ascending L-R-R). This also coincides neatly with the documented trumpet-articulation of the baroque; playing sixteenths in groups of two with the first being strong and the second being weak (see Fantini's treatise "Modo per imparare a sonare" among others). Most dynamics have been left out to allow advanced quintets to find their own solutions, but careful attention will need to be paid to ensure that moving voices are always heard.

Preview

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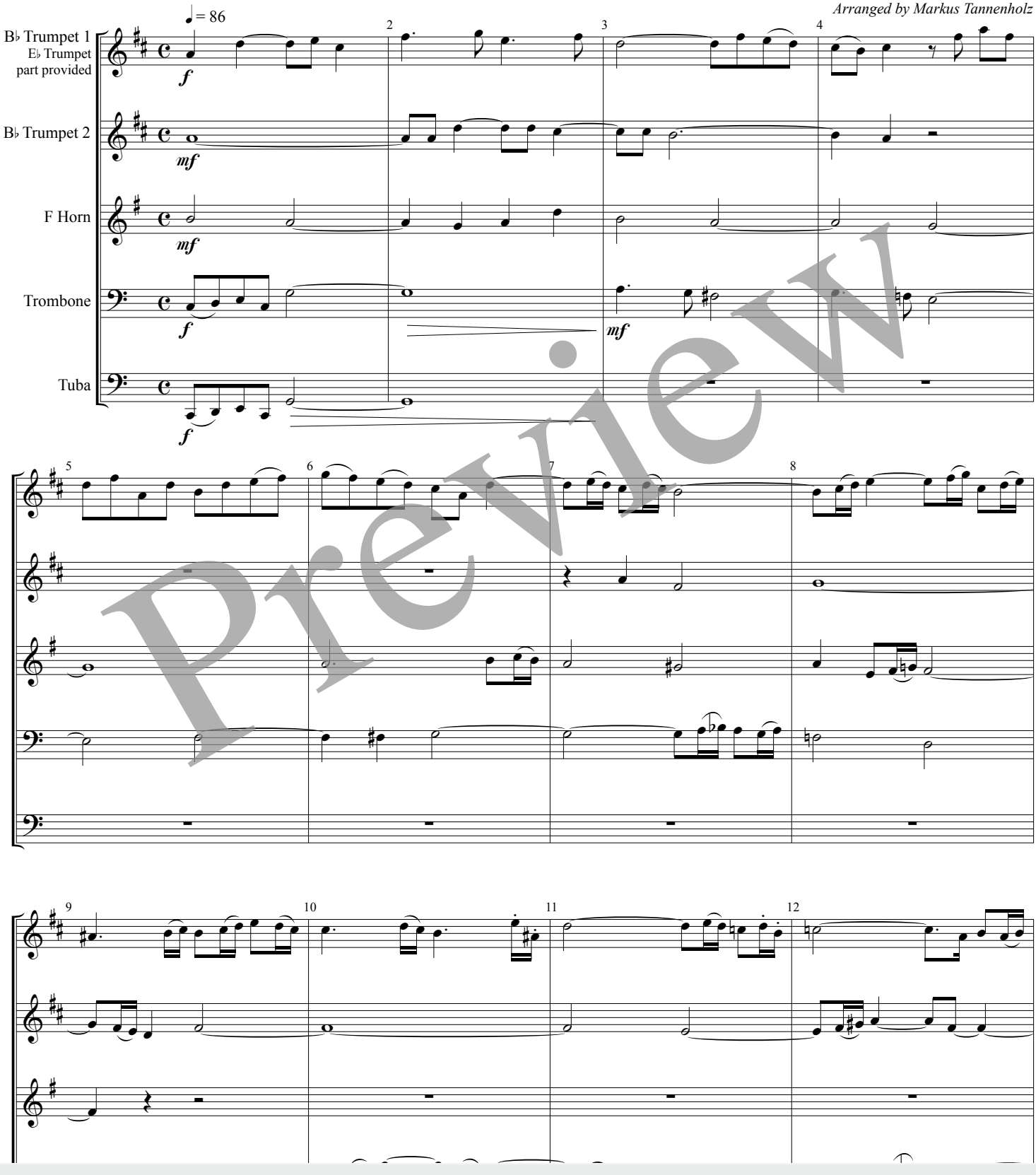
BWV 570

J.S. Bach
(1685-1750)
Arranged by Markus Tannenholz



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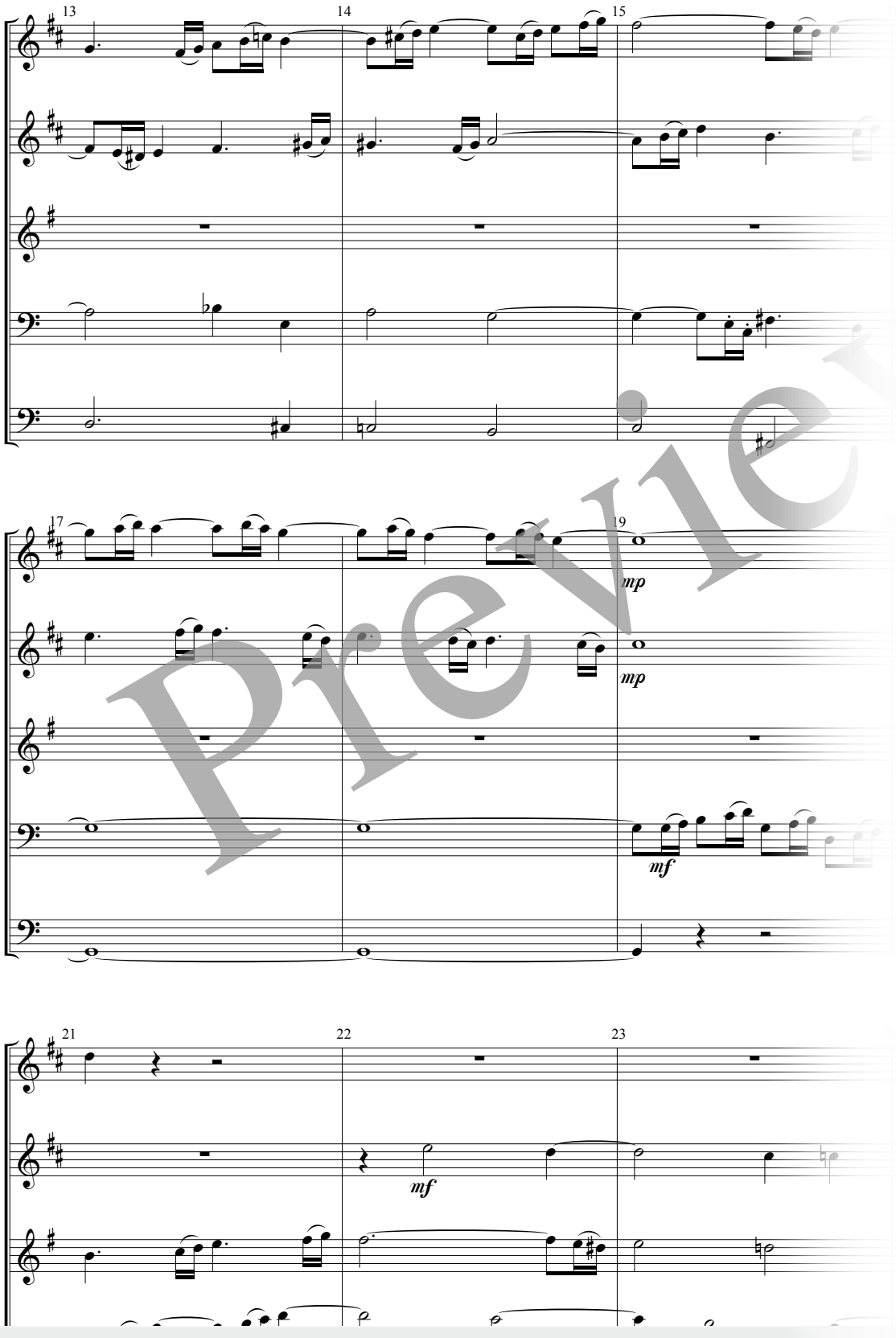

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