

Johann Sebastian BACH
Prelude G sharp minor BWV 863
Prelude and Fugue No 18 from Book 1 of Das Wohltemperierte Klavier

Invertible counterpoint
 Bar 1: Theme in treble / sustained notes in bass
 Bar 2: Theme in bass / sustained notes in treble

Theme
 Th (bass)
 Sequence based on Theme head
 G# minor: I vii7 I vii7 G# minor: I⁶ B major: vi⁶ V⁶

Sequence continued
 Theme head in thirds
 Th (middle voice)
 Th (bass)
 B major: IV⁶ IV V V⁶ I IV⁶ IV I IV⁶ IV

The first note in the bass is the end of one statement of the theme and the start of another statement
 Th (treble)
 Th (bass)
 Th (bass)
 B major: I⁶ F# minor: IV⁶ VI C# minor: IV F# minor: I vii⁷

Theme inversion
 Sequence invertible counterpoint compare bar 3
 Th (mid)
 C# minor: I G# minor: IV vii⁷ D# minor: IV I V V⁶ I F# major: vi V

Sequence pattern is continued
in the bass while new material is
introduced in treble and mid voices

12

Th (treble)

Th (bass)

Sequence material in bass

F# major: IV
D# minor: VI

vii⁷ V₅⁶ V⁷ I

vii⁷ I⁶ vii⁷ V⁷

15

Th inversion (treble)

Th inversion (mid)

Th inversion (bass)

Material from bar 12

D# minor: I
G# minor: V

vii⁷ I⁶ vii⁷ C# minor: V

I V₅⁶

18

Theme

Sequence

Sequence

C# minor: I⁶

vii⁷ B major: I¹

V⁷ I⁷ IV⁷

21

Sequence continued

Sequence

Theme (partial)

Sequence continued

Sequence

G# minor: ii⁷
B major: VII⁷

V⁷ I b^{vii} IV⁷ V

24

Sequence continued

Th inv (partial)

Th inv (partial)

IV $\frac{6}{4}$ \flat ii IV $\frac{6}{4}$ vii⁷ I⁶ ii $\frac{6}{4}$ ii⁶ I $\frac{6}{4}$ V

27

Th (bass)

Th inv (mid)

Tierce di picardi

C# minor: V⁷
G# minor: I⁷

I IV vii⁷ I