

71. Sonate zu vier Stimmen (Sechs Sonaten, 1696)

Johann Georg Christian Störl
(1675-1719)
arr. William Melton

Störl, Johann Georg Christian

(born 14 August 1675 in Kirchberg an der Jagst; died 26 July 1719 in Stuttgart)

Störl, whose father was both baker and musician in service to the local court, was raised in the town of Gaildorf in Swabia. At the age of twelve the boy was sent to the choral school at the ducal court in Stuttgart. Soon his skills on the organ set him apart from his peers, and in 1697 he was sent to Johann Pachelbel in Nuremberg for instruction in composition. On his return to Stuttgart he was appointed court organist. His master, Duke Eberhard Ludwig, was indulgent, allowing Störl to travel and study in Vienna in 1701, and extensively in Italy in 1702-03 (where he was taught by Archangelo Corelli in Rome). Once again in Stuttgart, he was made Court Kapellmeister, and he took up duties as organist of the Stiftskirche a few years later. There he composed extensively: a cycle of cantatas for the entire year as well as other sacred works, arias, and a noteworthy hymnbook (1710) that remained in use for generations.

The early *6 Sonaten für Cornetto, Alto, Tenor und Bass Posaune* were first published in Gottfried Reiche's *Vier- und Zwanzig Quatricinia* (Leipzig, 1696). Scholar Günter Thomas referred to 'Störl's dignified, two-movement sonatas for cornett and three trombones' and Eberhard Stiefel noted that 'The six sonatas for brass instruments, presumably meant for tower music [...] are invariably designed in two parts: the first movement in the form of a prelude, and the second as fugue, chaconne [or passacaglia], gigue or rondo.'

Text by William Melton