

ITALIAN CONCERTO

J.S. Bach, B.W.V. 971

Allegro M.M. ♩ = 108 - 116

ben articolato

The musical score is presented in three systems. The first system (measures 1-5) features a treble and bass clef with a 2/4 time signature. It is marked with a circled 'a' and the word 'forte'. The music is characterized by sharp articulation, with notes often starting with a 'y' (accents) and having distinct fingerings (e.g., 5, 2, 1, 3, 1, 4, 2, 3, 2, 1, 4, 5, 3, 2, 1, 5, 2, 1). The second system (measures 6-10) is marked with a circled '6' and 'mf'. It continues the melodic and harmonic development. The third system (measures 11-15) is marked with a circled '11' and 'b)'. This system contains more complex rhythmic patterns and articulation, with notes often beamed together in groups of three or four.

- (a) For the meaning of the *forte* and *piano* indications, see page 7. The *forte*'s at the beginning do not appear in the sources but are understood. All of Bach's concerti grossi begin with the tutti.
- (b) All of the original sources show the rhythm as given above. It is quite probable it was intended to be as follows:



This is identical with the rhythm in related passages found in measures 73-74 and 175-176. Most editors make this change.

15

più f

(c)

19

più f

23

27

forte

piano

(c) Here the original edition had Db, which was corrected in Bach's own copy to Eb, as shown in our text.