

G.F. Handel

# Sonata in F

for solo mallet percussion with piano accompaniment

arranged by Brian Slawson



creativity in percussion™

**Sonata in F.** By G.F. Handel, arranged by Brian Slawson  
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# Performance Notes

A violin sonata is, quite simply, a musical composition for solo violin, usually in three movements and almost always accompanied by a keyboard instrument or figured bass. Although Handel's sonatas were not nearly as well known as his operas, oratorios, and concerti grossi, the delightful F Major has been performed for centuries on a variety of solo instruments.

One of the Baroque's finest composers, G.F. Handel was born in Germany, trained in Italy, and spent most of his life in England. Strongly influenced by great Italian composers as well as English composer Henry Purcell, Handel experienced the all-too-familiar ups and downs often associated with entrepreneurial composers. As a result, he performed benefits and gave generously to charities that helped impoverished musicians and their families.

In addition to Handel's music becoming well known to such greats as Mozart and Haydn, he was a favorite of Ludwig van Beethoven.

This arrangement of the third movement (Allegro) to Handel's *Sonata In F* is recommended for performance on marimba. Due to the fact that it was transcribed in the same range as the original violin version, it can also be played effectively on vibraphone or xylophone. Alternate (hand-to-hand) stickings should be utilized throughout except where noted. Pay special attention to the placement of the dynamics as they often change on weak beats. The louder passages should be thought of as full but not accented.

Listen carefully to assure that your accompanist compliments your dynamic range, plays articulately, and doesn't drag, keeping the tune bright and cheerful. In the B section, however, a more legato, connected approach should make for a lovely contrast, setting the scene for a triumphant recapitulation.

- Brian Slawson

## About Brian Slawson

Since his scholarship studies at The Juilliard School, **Brian Slawson** has continued to pioneer innovative paths in percussion. Grammy-nominated as 'Best New Classical Artist,' Brian has appeared on NBC's Tonight Show, Entertainment Tonight, The CBS Morning News and NPR's "All Things Considered." Mr. Slawson has an extensive discography, including solo releases on the Sony/CBS and Belltone labels. His smash debut, *Bach On Wood* hit Billboard's Top 10 and remains one of the world's premier vehicles for exposing new audiences to classical music.

Brian has shared the stage with classical luminaries Leonard Bernstein and Aaron Copland, recorded with pop icons from Stevie Ray Vaughan to Marie Osmond and punctuated jokes for comedians Bill Maher, Eddie Murphy, and Jerry Seinfeld. He is the voice of "Gusto the Bulldog" in Warner Bros. *Music Expressions* and a featured artist in McGraw-Hill's *Spotlight on Music*. In addition to serving as Principal Timpanist of the Brevard Symphony Orchestra, Brian's multi-media company, Slawsongs, has created award-winning custom music for feature films, television and radio.

Mr. Slawson proudly endorses Ludwig-Musser, Zildjian, Vic Firth, Remo, Grover Pro Percussion, Rhythm Tech, Alternate Mode and Sibelius. His teachers have included Saul Goodman, Buster Bailey, Alexander Lepak, David Smith and Drew Grouse.

Legendary vibraphonist, Lionel Hampton, described Brian Slawson as "one of the finest percussionists to come along in many years." *Modern Drummer* magazine calls Brian "a visionary, be it performer, producer or composer."

Level: Medium  
Duration: approx. 3'30"

# Sonata in F

for solo mallet percussion with piano accompaniment

G.F. Handel  
arr. by Brian Slawson

**Allegro** ♩ = 100

Mallet solo

Piano

The first system of the musical score is in 4/4 time. The mallet solo part (treble clef) begins with a forte (f) dynamic and a left-hand (L) marking above the first note. The piano accompaniment (grand staff) also begins with a forte (f) dynamic. The piano part features a steady eighth-note bass line and chords in the right hand.

4

I

L

L L

The second system continues the musical piece. It includes a measure number '4' at the start. The mallet solo part has a first ending bracket labeled 'I' over a measure. The piano accompaniment continues with its characteristic rhythmic pattern. The system concludes with mallet solo notes marked with 'L' and 'L L'.

L R L L R R

The third system of the score shows the mallet solo part with specific hand markings: 'L R L L R R' above the notes. The piano accompaniment continues to provide harmonic support.

Sample  
Image

The fourth system shows the final measures of the piece. The mallet solo part has a double bar line at the end. The piano accompaniment also concludes with a double bar line.

Measures 1-11 of the Sonata in F, arr. Slawson. The score is written for a single melodic line (L) and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The melodic line begins with a *p* (piano) dynamic and a *cresc.* (crescendo) marking, followed by a *mp* (mezzo-piano) dynamic and another *cresc.* marking. The piano accompaniment also begins with a *p* dynamic and a *cresc.* marking, followed by a *mp* dynamic and another *cresc.* marking. The melodic line features a series of eighth notes, while the piano accompaniment consists of chords and eighth notes.

Measures 12-14 of the Sonata in F, arr. Slawson. The score continues with the same melodic line (L) and piano accompaniment. The melodic line begins with a *mf* (mezzo-forte) dynamic and a *cresc.* marking. The piano accompaniment also begins with a *mf* dynamic. The melodic line features a series of eighth notes, while the piano accompaniment consists of chords and eighth notes.

Measures 15-16 of the Sonata in F, arr. Slawson. The score begins with a section marked 'A' in a box. The melodic line (L) begins with a *p* dynamic and a *cresc.* marking. The piano accompaniment also begins with a *p* dynamic and a *cresc.* marking. The melodic line features a series of eighth notes, while the piano accompaniment consists of chords and eighth notes.

Sample  
Image

18 L R R L L R

*p*

21 R R

*cresc.* *mp* *cresc.*

24 L L

*p*

Sample  
Image

27

L L

*f* *p* *pp* *cresc.*

30

R R

33

**C**

Sample  
Image

36

L L

*f* *mp* *cresc.*

39

R R R

*f* *p*

42

*rit.*

*cresc.*

(rit. and fermatta 2nd x only)



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