

MOZART | BACH

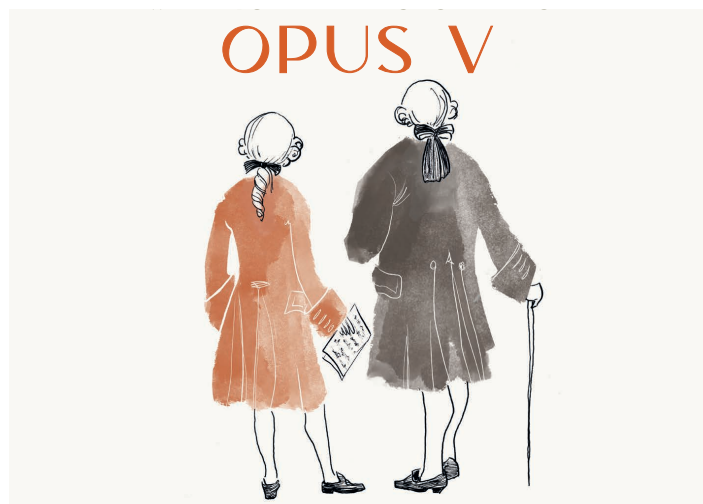


Illustration: Eva Gau

On 10th of April 1764 the Mozart family left Paris for London, leaving behind the various musical experiences of their five-month stay. Johann Christian Bach, who was one of the most popular and well-known composers in London at the time, welcomed the Mozart family with open arms and instructed young Wolfgang. According to an anecdote, Johann Christian took Wolfgang on his lap while they played the harpsichord together, and they would alternate every other bar without the listeners noticing, and composer fugues, with Bach starting and Mozart completing. The young, passionate Wolfgang certainly recognised that Johann Christian valued his talent and for his part, Wolfgang loved and admired the successful court composer throughout his life.

The final encounter between Wolfgang and Christian Bach occurred in the summer of 1778 in Paris. Mozart later wrote to his father: *"I love him, as you well know, with all my heart and have great respect for him."* When Bach died in 1782, Wolfgang commented: *"What a loss to the musical world!"*.

In 1766, Johann Christian Bach published a collection of six sonatas for piano or harpsichord opus 5 in London. Wolfgang was so fond of them that he arranged three sonatas from the collection as keyboard concertos KV 107. The Sonata VI to be heard in this concert belongs to the same Opus.

This programme shows the mutual inspiration of both composers, but it could not begin in any other way than with Johann Sebastian Bach, who had a clear influence on Johann Christian, even though the latter was, naturally, a son of another era. This is why in his Sonata VI we can see both the presence of his father's style and the evolution to Preclassicism.

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Inés Moreno Uncilla – Harpsichord

J. S. Bach
(1685-1750)

Toccata BWV 914

Preludio & Fuga BWV 881

J. Ch. Bach
(1735-1782)

Sonata VI (Op. V)

Grave

Allegro moderato

Allegretto

W. A. Mozart
(1756-1791)

Sonata KV. 545

Allegro

Andante

Rondo (Allegro)

Sonata KV 457

Molto allegro

Adagio

Allegro assai