

# J.S. Bach

## 2 Preludes

### BWV 878, BWV 867

*arr. Duo Gruber-Maklar*

The two Preludes selected from Johann Sebastian Bach's Well-Tempered-Clavier seemed to us very attractive to arrange for two guitars.

The dark and mystical Prelude in G-Minor (original B flat minor) BWV 867 belongs to the first part of the collection, which was laid out by Bach 1722 in Köthen. An insistently reminding theme rises up slowly, followed by the bass, while knocking and dissonant chords of the inner-voices expand the texture up to five voices – a rewarding template for two guitars.

In the Prelude E-Major BWV 878 from the second part, which Bach assembled in the early 1740<sup>s</sup>, emerges a movement in two voices consisting exclusively of suspensions and sixteenth-notes runs, in which the bass is soon included. This three-voiced, refined fabric sounds especially striking when covered by two guitars.

The two Bach Preludes are recorded on the Gruber & Maklar CD "30 Years".

Christian Gruber and Peter Maklar, two dedicated and idealistic ambassadors for the classical guitar, have been working together as a guitar duo since 1985 and have long represented one of the pre-eminent ensembles on the international guitar-music scene. Their successful concert career began when they won first prize at the International Contest for Guitar Duos in Montélimar/France in 1991.

Numerous invitations to concerts and festivals led them to give concerts in Europe, North- and South-America and Asia. Christian Gruber and Peter Maklar have been guest performers at such famous venues as the Manhattan School of Music in New York, the Moscow Philharmonic Society's Tschaikovsky Concert Hall, Gendai Guitar Hall in Tokyo and Amsterdam's Concertgebouw.

The magazine Guitar Review wrote about their concert at the Manhattan School of Music in December 2000: "Their technique is spectacular, their musical understanding cannot be overstated, their ensemble with each other is outstanding and, as they proved in a magnificent evening of music on December 7th at the Manhattan School of Music a part of the Augustine Guitar Series, they deserve to be recognized as one of the finest guitar duos in the world."

Many respected composers, including Dusan Bogdanovic, Enjott Schneider, Atanas Ourkouzounov and Paolo Devecchi have written works for the Duo or dedicated pieces to them.

Besides participating in recordings of music by Dusan Bogdanovic, Canticles and And Yet on the Doberman-Yppan label, they have issued 10 CDs to date: 30 Years, tempi d'oro, Guitar Gala Night, Talking Trees, The Song of the Torero, Corazón y Kokoro, Cantos de España, Iberia, Attacca, Gruber & Maklar.

**Gravure musicale / Music engraving:** Sylvain Lemay

**Page couverture / Cover page:** Florence Lemay

© 2021, LES ÉDITIONS DOBERMAN-YPPAN, 2220 chemin du Fleuve, Lévis (Québec) Canada G6W 1Y4

E-MAIL : [info@productionsdoz.com](mailto:info@productionsdoz.com) WEB : [www.productionsdoz.com](http://www.productionsdoz.com)

Dépôt légal 2<sup>e</sup> trimestre 2021, Bibliothèque Archives nationales du Québec, Bibliothèque et Archives Canada