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The English Bach Awakening **Knowledge of J.S. Bach and his Music in England, 1750–1830**

Edited by **Michael Kassler**, Michael Kassler and Associates, Australia

Music in Nineteenth-Century Britain Series

The English Bach Awakening concerns the introduction into England of J. S. Bach's music and information about him. Hitherto this subject has been called 'the English Bach revival', but that is a misnomer. 'Revival' implies prior life, yet no reference to Bach or to his music is known to have been made in England during his lifetime (1685-1750).

The book begins with a comprehensive chronology of the English Bach Awakening. Eight chapters follow, written by Dr Philip Olleson, Dr Yo Tomita and the editor, which treat particular parts of the Awakening and show how they developed. A focus of the book is the history of the manuscripts and the printed editions of Bach's '48'—the Well-tempered Clavier—in England at this time, and its culmination in the 'analysed' edition that Samuel Wesley and Charles Frederick Horn published in 1810-1813 and later revised. Wesley's multifaceted role in the Bach Awakening is detailed, as are the several efforts that were made to translate Forkel's biography of Bach into English. A chapter is devoted to A. F. C. Kollmann's endeavour to prove the regularity of Bach's Chromatic Fantasy, and the book concludes with a discussion of portraits of Bach in England before 1830.

Contents: Chronology of the English Bach Awakening; The Dawn of the English Bach Awakening manifested in sources of the '48', *Yo Tomita*; The English translations of Forkel's *Life of Bach*, *Michael Kassler*; Kollmann's proof of the Regularity of Bach's Chromatic Fantasy, *Michael Kassler*; Samuel Wesley and the English Bach Awakening, *Philip Olleson*; The Bachists of 1810: subscribers to the Wesley/Horn edition of the '48', *Michael Kassler*; Pursuit of perfection: stages of revision of the Wesley/Horn '48', *Yo Tomita*; Samuel Wesley as analyst of Bach's fugues, *Yo Tomita*; Portraits of Bach in England before 1830, *Michael Kassler*; Appendix; Indexes.

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