

### PACHELBEL for TENOR

Pachelbel *Verzag doch nicht, du armer Sünder...* edited by Johannes Weiss. Edition Güntersberg (G148), 2009. Score & parts (from Edition Walhall) €23.50.

This is scored for tenor solo with a moderate compass (from the C below middle C up to an occasional top F), with violin and four *viola*. It's a compelling piece that deserves publishing and performing. My only grouse is that the Preface is too much of a programme note and doesn't give basic information. Did the the upper three *viola* originally have C<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>3</sub> & C<sub>4</sub> clefs? (If so, the top *viola* is not meant to be a violin, despite the single top F, which a viola-played would reach by playing the preceding E flat with the third finger that he would use for a D sharp.) Is there a source for the text? (For what it's worth, Google didn't find anything.) If the singer needs the introduction in English, surely he needs even more a translation of an archaic German poem? (There is, incidentally, doubt over the first word: *Vergeh* or *Verzag*, the latter being used more often.) The musical quotation of *Wo soll ich fliehen hin* is unlikely to mean much to anyone who doesn't know Bach's Cantata 5. A plus is the inclusion of a copy for the singer with his part and the continuo, which is figured so could be used by the organist if the tenor is leading the performance; there is a separate figured bass, whose existence might encourage the use of an additional melodic instrument, which I don't think the

work needs. The only reason for an organist not to prefer the copy that includes the voice part is the page turns.

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