

Bachs Arnstadt works

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The dating of the early Bach works is still uncertain. Bach's musical origins were in keyboard music. From his early productive years only keyboard compositions have been passed down, which can certainly be explained by his good knowledge of organ building and playing. His Prelude and Fugue in G-minor, BWV 535 and Fantasy in C-minor, BWV 1121 definitely date from his Arnstadt period.

A huge number of works have been said by musicologists to stem with high probability from the Arnstadt years. Many of Bach's choral adaptations derive from his church organist duties in Arnstadt, e.g. "How Brightly Shines the Morning Star", BWV 739.

In the exhibition visitors can experience Bach's works at a listening station and see short films about his life. An organ computer gives insights into the interior and functioning mechanisms of the "King of Instruments".