

# Felix Mendelssohn

## Prelude

MWV U 123  
Op. 104a, No. 2

Performance Edition  
Edited by Benjamin Geer

Version 0.1 (draft), 24 September 2020

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# Preface

This draft edition is part of an experimental project, <https://tondauer.art>, aimed at developing technology for digital editions of music.

Footnotes in the music text point out editorial choices that are worth your attention, especially where you may prefer a different option. The critical edition, which can be found on the project web site, explains these choices.

## About the Piece

Mendelssohn composed this prelude in 1836, intending at first to include it in Op. 35, a set of preludes (originally études) and fugues. He then chose a different prelude for Op. 35, and this one was published posthumously in 1868.<sup>1</sup>

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1. R. Larry Todd, *Mendelssohn Essays* (New York: Routledge, 2008), 188–198.



# Prelude

Felix Mendelssohn  
MWV U 123 (Op. 104a, No. 2)

**Allegro agitato**

**Allegro agitato**

*p*

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<sup>1</sup>G # or G ♯? See the critical edition.



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<sup>1</sup>E ♭ or E #? See the critical edition.

4  
18

Musical score for 'The Rose Tree'. The score is written for piano (p) and features a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The melody is in the treble staff, and the accompaniment is in the bass staff. The melody consists of a series of eighth notes, with a final measure containing a quarter note and an eighth note. The accompaniment is a continuous eighth-note pattern. The score is marked with a '4' and a '18' at the beginning.

21

Example 10

21

*p* *sf*

5 3 1 2 3 2 1 3

22

22

*f*

*cresc.*

*p*

23

2

2 3 1 2

3 4 1 2

4 2 1 4

<sup>1</sup>Staccato? See the critical edition.



24

Measures 24-25 of a piano piece in D major. Measure 24 features a complex right-hand melody with triplets and sixteenth-note runs, while the left hand has a simple bass line. Measure 25 continues the right-hand melody with more triplets and a crescendo leading to a fortissimo (ff) dynamic. The left hand provides harmonic support with sustained notes and a triplet in measure 25.

25

Measures 26-27 of the piano piece. Measure 26 shows a continuation of the right-hand melody with various fingerings and a fortissimo (sf) dynamic. Measure 27 features a more active right-hand melody with triplets and a fortissimo (sf) dynamic. The left hand has a simple bass line with sustained notes.

26

Measures 28-29 of the piano piece. Measure 28 continues the right-hand melody with triplets and a fortissimo (sf) dynamic. Measure 29 features a more active right-hand melody with triplets and a fortissimo (sf) dynamic. The left hand has a simple bass line with sustained notes.

27

Measures 30-31 of the piano piece. Measure 30 continues the right-hand melody with triplets and a fortissimo (sf) dynamic. Measure 31 features a more active right-hand melody with triplets and a fortissimo (sf) dynamic. The left hand has a simple bass line with sustained notes.

28

Measures 32-33 of the piano piece. Measure 32 continues the right-hand melody with triplets and a fortissimo (sf) dynamic. Measure 33 features a more active right-hand melody with triplets and a fortissimo (sf) dynamic. The left hand has a simple bass line with sustained notes.

29

This musical score segment contains measures 29 through 32 in the key of D major (two sharps). The notation is as follows:

- Measure 29:** Treble clef has a half note D5 with a fingering of 5. Bass clef has a half note D2 with a fingering of 1, followed by a half note E2 with a fingering of 2.
- Measure 30:** Treble clef has a half note E5 with a fingering of 4, followed by a half note D5 with a fingering of 2, and a half note C5 with a fingering of 1. Bass clef has a half note D2 with a fingering of 1, followed by a half note E2 with a fingering of 2.
- Measure 31:** Treble clef has a half note D5 with a fingering of 2, followed by a half note E5 with a fingering of 4, and a half note D5 with a fingering of 2. Bass clef has a half note D2 with a fingering of 1, followed by a half note E2 with a fingering of 2.
- Measure 32:** Treble clef has a half note C5 with a fingering of 1, followed by a half note B4 with a fingering of 2, and a half note A4 with a fingering of 4. Bass clef has a half note G4 with a fingering of 2, followed by a half note F4 with a fingering of 3, and a half note E4 with a fingering of 1. The measure concludes with a half note D4 with a fingering of 2.

The piece concludes with a final measure (measure 32) featuring a whole note D4 in both the treble and bass staves, each with a fermata.