ØKTAV

A Maske

Giles Farnaby

♪ Level 50/100 (Ambitioniert)

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The concert pianist

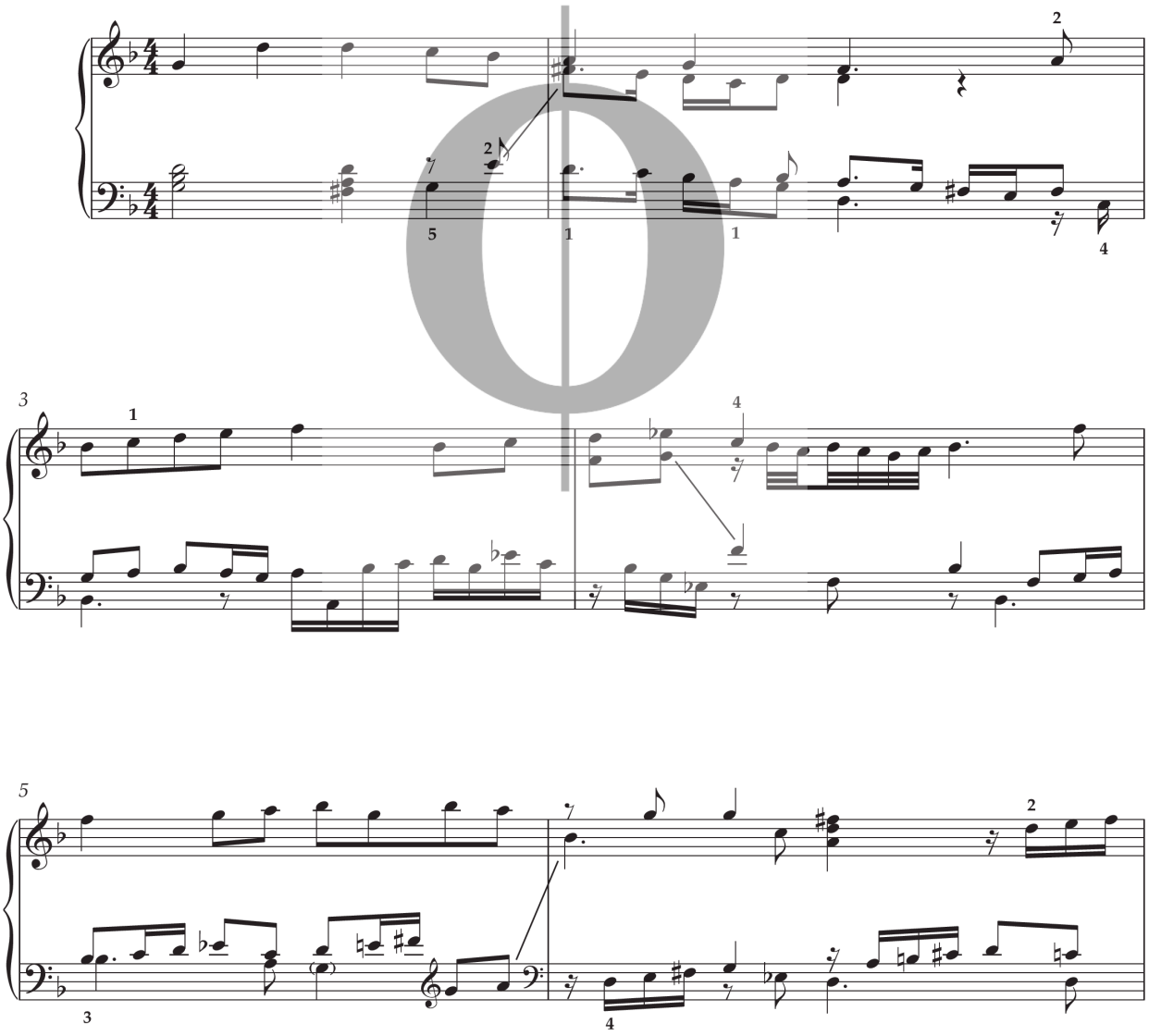
If you trace out the top line of this piece you'll spot its highest point in bar 5 (B flats). While this isn't an invitation to wade in with a Brahmsian allargando, do use the music's changing landscape to avoid a 'flat', monochrome feel. Experiment with a variety of speeds and dynamics – don't feel hemmed-in by the lack of markings or by the tempo suggestion. Taken too slowly, the sense of line will evaporate (and remember that the virginal had the briefest of note durations), all the delicious contrapuntal detail will lack rhythmic vitality and we may end up relying too heavily on the sustain pedal instead of our fingers. You may wish to modify the ornament at bars 4 and 16.

Repertoire

A Maske

There was comparatively little dynamic variation in the keyboard instruments of the Renaissance and Baroque periods, which is why there is none to be found in this piece. Add in a variety of dynamics and articulation for your performance.

Giles Farnaby
(1563–1640)



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