



# The Langloz Manuscript: Fugal Improvisation through Figured Bass (Oxford Early Music Series)

By William Renwick

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What sorts of processes were going through the mind of J.S. Bach as he improvised a fugue in three, four, or even six parts? And what sort of training equipped an organist of the early eighteenth century to practice the art of accompaniment and improvisation successfully? The practical method which linked keyboard technique, improvisation, performance, and composition in a continuum was the thoroughbass, the center of the Baroque musicians art. *The Langloz Manuscript*, originating in the era and proximity of Bach's region of activity, and containing the largest extant collection of figured bass fugues, provides a window into this very process, and demonstrates more clearly than any words can the method by which the art of thoroughbass provided a foundation for extemporised fugue. The present edition is the first publication of this manuscript.

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**The Langloz Manuscript: Fugal Improvisation through Figured Bass (Oxford Early Music Series) By William Renwick Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #3456033 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Oxford University Press, USA
- Published on: 2001-05-17
- Original language: English
- Dimensions: 7.40" h x .80" w x 9.50" l, 1.40 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 208 pages

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

"If one of your goals is to learn to improvise fugues in the common-practice-period idiom, this book could well be the one to get you started. Renwick's editorial work and scholarship are meticulous."--*The Diapason*

"William Renwick has edited these pieces as scrupulously as one could wish, and supplied them with very sensible commentary."--*Music & Letters*

#### About the Author

William Renwick is at McMaster University, Ontario.

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