Sylvius Leopold Weiss (1687 - 1750)

Dresden Suite No.1

Originally for baroque lute in F major

Arranged for Guitar

by

Andrew Forrest

Competent lutenists of the time would be expected to create their own preludes, setting the key for the following suites (or Suonaten as Weiss called them). This prelude had no time signature nor bar lines suggesting a free performance. The bar lines added here give some indication of an underlying pulse and rhythmic structure.

The baroque lute for which Weiss wrote had 13 courses including a complete diatonic scale in the bass. I have endeavoured to keep the performance of this piece simple, though having to stop the strings for the bass part inevitably makes the piece less easy to perform and it has not been possible to include all the lower range of notes at their original pitch. Also, since the interval between the top 2 courses was only a third, unisons and 2nds were easy to obtain. I have here used appogiaturas and ornamentation to attempt to convey the effect.

In the event of a public performance, please include the arranger's name on the programme

http://www.forrestguitarensembles

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Transcribed from the lute tablature by Andrew Forrest















