

Bourrée (Bourée)

Le Carnaval, Mascarade, 1668

B-Bc MS 27220, no. 60, pp. 92–3
LWV 36/5

The first system of the Bourrée consists of five measures. The right hand (treble clef) begins with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5, then a quarter rest, and finally quarter notes B4, A4, and G4. The left hand (bass clef) starts with a half note G3, followed by quarter notes A3, B3, and C4, then a quarter rest, and finally quarter notes B3, A3, and G3. The key signature has one flat (Bb) and the time signature is common time (C).

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The second system contains measures 6 through 9. The right hand continues with quarter notes G4, A4, B4, and C5, then a quarter rest, and finally quarter notes B4, A4, and G4. The left hand plays quarter notes G3, A3, B3, and C4, then a quarter rest, and finally quarter notes B3, A3, and G3. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

The third system contains measures 10 through 14. The right hand starts with quarter notes G4, A4, B4, and C5, then a quarter rest, and finally quarter notes B4, A4, and G4. The left hand plays quarter notes G3, A3, B3, and C4, then a quarter rest, and finally quarter notes B3, A3, and G3. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

The fourth system contains measures 15 through 18. The right hand begins with quarter notes G4, A4, B4, and C5, then a quarter rest, and finally quarter notes B4, A4, and G4. The left hand plays quarter notes G3, A3, B3, and C4, then a quarter rest, and finally quarter notes B3, A3, and G3. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Source

B-Bc: Brussels, Bibliothèque du Conservatoire Royal: MS 27220 (Brussels, post 1678).

Forty-five arrangements, one incomplete and two with *doubles*, entered by two unidentified (French?) hands (Hands A and E). Fuller has identified Hand A as the same as that in two organ manuscripts, Paris, Bibliothèque Nationale de France, Rés. 476 (see below) and Rés. 2094, both of which are linked to the Parisian organist Guillaume-Gabriel Nivers (ca. 1632–1714) and his circle. The scribe is very competent, and is particularly scrupulous in notating the intricate details of the *brisé* texture. The handwriting of the later scribe (Hand E) is hastier and less refined. The two scribes demonstrate different traditions of notating ornaments. The first scribe uses wavy lines above notes to denote *tremblements* and the same wavy lines below notes to denote *pincés*. In the case of Hand E, the *pincé* is represented by a stroke across a wavy line.

The Lully arrangements entered by the primary (and more professional) hand (Hand A) were chosen from ballets and operas from up to 1678, and the rest (by the later Hand E) were drawn from works from between 1674 (*Alceste*) and 1681 (*Le Triomphe de l'amour*). Exceptionally, 21 arrangements (nearly half of the total number) in *Brussels-27220* were transposed to other keys, and some were sequenced into key groups with pieces drawn from diverse sources.

Literature: Gustafson-Fuller 1990, 374–82: *Pièces de clavecin ca.1670–1685*, facsimile edition, introduction by David Fuller (Geneva: Minkoff, 2003).

Editions: WLSCM, forty-four pieces, two with *doubles* (nos. 2, 9, 26–7, 41, 45, 47–8, 53, 60–9, 71–3, 76, 81–2, 87–93a, 97, 98, 102–5, 111–5).

Performance Notes

In the seventeenth century, the notation is under-prescriptive by modern standard and some elements of the performance may only be partially indicated or not indicated at all. Generally speaking, the performer has the discretion to supply in performance much that is not indicated in the source, such as by adding ornaments as well as melodic and rhythmic fillers, by spreading chords in a variety of ways, by embellishing the cadences, and sometimes even by enriching the texture with points of imitation. The modern performer can take lessons from D'Anglebert, who re-edited a selection of his autograph pieces for publication in 1689.¹ The performance attitude and elusive nature of the seventeenth-century French repertory has been exhaustively discussed by David Fuller, Ronald Broude, Bruce Gustafson, and others.²

The player can refer to the table below for guidance on the interpretation of ornament symbols commonly found in manuscript sources.

1. See Chung, “Lully, D’Anglebert and the Transmission of 17th-Century French Harpsichord Music,” 586–92.

2. For example, see Ronald Broude. “Composition, Performance, and Text in Solo Music of the French Baroque,” *Text: An Interdisciplinary Annual of Textual Studies* 15 (2002): 25.

Tremblement *Pincé*

Port de voix

Cadence *Coulé* *Harpegement*

In “c” time, eighth notes in conjunct motion (mm. 3–4, 8–9, etc.) should be rendered long and short successively as if notated in dotted values. Further advice on the rhythmic convention of *notes inégales* and other performance practice issues can be found in the “Introduction”.

Critical Notes

- No. 60 (pp. 92–3, Hand A), Bourée (d) [Bourrée from *Le Carnaval, Mascarade* (1668) LWV 36/5 (g)]
 M. 3 lhU1 dot missing in the facsimile edition (Geneva: Minkoff, 2003)
 M. 14 rhU2 dot missing in the facsimile edition (Geneva: Minkoff, 2003)