The Cambridge Companion to the Harpsichord

Written by fourteen leading experts in the field, this Companion covers almost every aspect of the harpsichord – the history of the instrument, tuning systems, the role of the harpsichord in ensemble, its use in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries – and includes chapters devoted to Domenico Scarlatti and to J. S. Bach and Handel. Chapters featuring almost every national style are written by authors with close connections to the countries about which they are writing, including England, the Netherlands, Germany, the Austro-Hungarian Empire, France, Italy, Portugal, and Spain, as well as the less extensive harpsichord traditions of Russia, the Nordic and Baltic countries, and colonial Spanish and Portuguese America. With musical examples, illustrations, a chronology, and lists of composers, reliable editions, and original sources, this is the book is for all who love the harpsichord or want to learn more about it.

Mark Kroll's distinguished career as a performer, scholar, and educator spans a period of more than fifty years. He has appeared worldwide as a harpsichordist and fortepianist, published numerous books, chapters, articles and editions, made more than forty recordings, and is Professor emeritus at Boston University, where he served for twenty-five years as Professor of Harpsichord and Chair of the Department of Historical Performance. He is currently recording the complete Pièces de clavecin of François Couperin.
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The Cambridge Companion to the HARPSICHORD

EDITED BY

Mark Kroll
Boston University
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Contributors

João Pedro d’Alvarenga is an Integrated Researcher, Coordinator of the Early Music Studies Research Group, and Executive Secretary of CESEM (the Centre for the Study of the Sociology and Aesthetics of Music) at Lisbon Nova University. He was an FCT Investigator affiliated with CESEM (2013–2018), and Assistant Professor at the University of Évora (1997–2011). He was the commissioner for the planning and settling of the National Music Museum in Lisbon in 1993–1994 and was also charged with the organization of the Music Service at the National Library of Portugal, which he headed in the period 1991–1997.

Rebecca Cypess is Associate Professor of Music at the Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University. She is the author of Curious and Modern Inventions: Instrumental Music as Discovery in Galileo’s Italy, as well as numerous articles on the history, interpretation, and performance practices of music in seventeenth- and eighteenth-century Europe. She is coeditor of the two-volume collection Word, Image, and Song and of Sara Levy’s World: Gender, Judaism, and the Bach Tradition in Enlightenment Berlin.

Pieter Dirksen, harpsichordist, organist, conductor, and musicologist, earned his PhD with honors at Utrecht University and the Dutch Erasmus Prize for an exhaustive study of Sweelinck’s keyboard music. His numerous publications include books on the Art of Fugue, the St. Matthew Passion, and the works of Sweelinck and Scheidemann, and critical editions of music by Bull, Sweelinck, Cornet, Scheidemann, Froberger, Buxtehude, and many others. He has recorded Sweelinck’s organ and harpsichord music and Bach’s Goldberg Variations and Art of Fugue.

Ton Koopman, a leading figure in early music and historically informed performance practice, has performed in the world’s most prestigious concert halls and on Europe’s most beautiful historical instruments as organist and harpsichordist. As a conductor, Mr. Koopman and his Amsterdam Baroque Orchestra and Choir recorded all the sacred and secular cantatas of J. S. Bach between 1994 and 2004, and he appears as guest conductor with the world’s leading orchestras. As an educator, Koopman serves as Professor at the University of Leiden.

John Koster, after graduation from Harvard in 1971, made harpsichords and was a consultant to the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. In 1990–1991 he held a Mellon Senior Fellowship at The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York and from 1991 to 2015 was Professor of Music and Curator of Keyboard Instruments at the National Music Museum, the University of South Dakota. Koster has published extensively on the history of musical instruments and in 2016 received the American Musical Instrument Society’s Curt Sachs Award for lifetime achievement.

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Mark Kroll’s distinguished career as a performer, scholar and educator spans a period of more than fifty years. He has appeared in concert worldwide, made numerous recordings (most recently the Pièces de clavecin of F. Couperin), and published biographies of J. N. Hummel and Ignaz Moscheles, a book on historical harpsichord technique, and chapters, articles, and scholarly editions on a variety of subjects and repertoire. Kroll, who has taught throughout the world, served for twenty-five years as Professor of Harpsichord and Chair of the Department of Historical Performance at Boston University.


Anna Maria McElwain has master’s degrees from SUNY Buffalo in piano performance and music theory, and in clavichord performance from the Sibelius Academy (Finland), where she also taught until 2010. She is cofounder and artistic director of the Nordic Historical Keyboard Festival, founder of the First International Clavichord Competition and International Clavichord Composition Competition, and recently made the first clavichord recording of Beethoven on an 1808 Lindholm instrument in Stockholm.

Larry Palmer, born in Ohio, holds degrees from Oberlin College and the Eastman School of Music (DMA) in Organ and Church Music. His teaching career of fifty-two years was spent in Virginia and Texas, including forty-five years as Professor of Harpsichord and Organ at Southern Methodist University, Dallas, from which he retired in 2015. Harpsichord Editor for The Diapason since 1969, he remains in that capacity and continues an active concert career as harpsichordist and organist.

Águeda Pedrero-Encabo is Professor of Musicology and Director of the postgraduate “Master in Hispanic Music” at the University of Valladolid, Spain. She has written a book about the sonata in Spain and published editions of previously unedited keyboard works by Spanish composers. Her numerous articles include a survey of sources on Domenico Scarlatti, and she is now focused on further research on Scarlatti and other Spanish keyboard composers, and new directions in musical analysis.

Pedro Persone began his harpsichord study at the Conservatório de Tatuí, received his Bachelor’s degree in harpsichord at the University of Campionas (Unicamp), Brazil, and was awarded the DMA in historical performance from Boston University. He has received numerous awards and grants, including the FAPESP to conduct postdoctoral research on European music played in Imperial Brazil, and in 2010 joined the Faculty of the Universidade Federal de Santa Maria (RS) as Associate Professor.

Paul Poletti studied composition and organ at California State University, Northridge, and since 1978 has been restoring and making copies of Viennese classical pianos. He lectures regularly throughout Europe on a variety of topics
List of Contributors

including early piano actions, the design and analysis of string scales, the interpretation of string gauge markings, and historical temperaments. He is a Professor at the Escola Superior de la Música de Catalunya (Barcelona) where he teaches acoustics, organology, and historical temperaments.

Marina Ritzarev, an Israeli musicologist of Russian background, is the author of *Eighteenth-Century Russian Music* and Tchaikovsky’s “Pathétique” and *Russian Culture*, and has contributed to research in eighteenth-century Russian music, including biographies of Dmitry Bortniansky and Maxim Berezovsky. She serves as Professor emerita at Bar-Ilan University, Israel, and is coeditor of *Min-Ad: Israel Studies in Musicology Online*.

Andrew Woolley is at present an FCT (Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology) Investigator and member of the Early Music Studies Research Group within CESEM (the Centre for the Study of the Sociology and Aesthetics of Music) at the Nova University of Lisbon. He is working on a project to catalogue Portuguese music manuscripts of the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries and is involved in preparing the keyboard volume of the revised Purcell Society Edition.
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Chronology

1494 Spain and Portugal sign the Treaty of Tordesillas
Christopher Columbus first sights Jamaica
The House of Medici expelled from Florence
1517 Publication of Martin Luther’s Theses
1534 Ignatius Loyola founds the Society of Jesus (Jesuits)
Cambridge University Press given Royal Charter by Henry VIII
English Reformation: Parliament passes the Act of Supremacy, establishing Henry VIII as supreme head of the Church of England
1558 Elizabeth I becomes Queen of England
Gioseffo Zarlino publishes *Le Istitutioni Harmoniche*
1577 Birth of Peter Paul Rubens
1578 Birth of Johannes Ruckers
1583 Birth of Girolamo Frescobaldi
1598 Death of Hans Ruckers
Calvinists in Zürich introduce music into their services
1606 Birth of Rembrandt van Rijn
Trial and execution of Guy Fawkes for Gunpowder Plot
First Charter of Virginia established
1618 First performance of Claudio Monteverdi’s *Orfeo*
Beginning of the Thirty Years’ War
Publication of René Descartes’s *Compendium Musicae*
1643 Louis XIV becomes King of France
1688 James II escapes to France
Bartolomeo Cristofori becomes keeper of Medici’s musical instruments
1701 War of Spanish Succession
1706 Publication of J.-P. Rameau’s first book of *Pièces de clavecin*
Thomas Twining opens the first known tea room in London
Birth of Benjamin Franklin
1707 John V becomes King of Portugal
George Frideric Handel meets Domenico Scarlatti
1712 Peter the Great moves Russian capital from Moscow to Saint Petersburg
Birth of Frederick II of Prussia
1713 Publication of F. Couperin’s first book of *Pièces de clavecin*
Foundation of the *Académie Royale de Danse* by Louis XIV
Treaty of Utrecht ends War of Spanish Succession
1719 J. S. Bach travels to Berlin to pick up Michael Mietke harpsichord for Köthen
Domenico Scarlatti takes up residence in Lisbon
British sink the Spanish Navy
1724 Publication of J.-P. Rameau’s second book of *Pièces de clavecin*
Founding of Longman publishing house in England
Birth of Immanuel Kant
1730 Publication of F. Couperin’s fourth book of *Pièces de clavecin*
1734 Publication of Voltaire’s *The Age of Louis XIV*
Lutherans expelled from Salzburg by the Roman Catholic bishop
1735 Publication of J. S. Bach’s *Clavierübung*, Part II (Italian Concerto and French Overture)
Austria signs peace treaty with France and Spain
Birth of Paul Revere
1738 Publication of D. Scarlatti’s *Essercizi* in London
Great Britain declares war on Spain
1768 Pascal Taskin introduces the *Peau de buffle* to the harpsichord
Royal Academy founded in London
1789 French Revolution
George Washington becomes first President of the United States
Mutiny on the HMS *Bounty*
1837 Ignaz Moscheles performs music of Scarlatti on a harpsichord in London
Prussian Copyright Act established to protect composers’ rights
1879 Birth of Wanda Landowska
First female students admitted to study for degrees at Oxford University
Births of Albert Einstein and Sir Thomas Beecham
1889 Paris Exposition
Inauguration of Eiffel Tower
Establishment of the *Wall Street Journal* in New York City
Edison Records introduces first prerecorded wax cylinders of music
1908 Births of Sylvia Marlowe, Herbert von Karajan, and Milton Berle
New York City passes Sullivan Ordinance, making it illegal for women to smoke in public
1911 Birth of Ralph Kirkpatrick
1952 Publication of Elliott Carter’s *Sonata for Flute, Oboe, Cello and Harpsichord*
Elizabeth II is proclaimed Queen of the United Kingdom
Greece and Turkey join NATO