

The Quintet in A is the fifth of the set published under the title *Six Quintettos for a Flute, Hautboy, Violin, Tenor and Bass, Composed by John Christian Bach, Music Master to Her Majesty The Queen of Great Britain and most humbly dedicated to His Most Serene Highness the Elector Palatin*. The works were composed in London; their dedication to the Elector Karl Theodor is accounted for by J. C. Bach's visit to the electoral court at Mannheim in 1772.

The original edition of the six quintets was issued by Welcker in London about 1776. A copy of that edition in the British Museum (R.M. 17.a.1(3)) was used as the principal source for this first performing edition. Note has been taken, however, of variants in other contemporary versions. Obvious mistakes in the original have been corrected and some phrasing and dynamic marks added (virtually all of them implied by the original) in strict accordance with the performing style appropriate to *galant* music of this period; distinction is not made between added and original markings, since a critical edition of the work is already available. A simple realisation of the figured bass is given (together with the original figures, which are not entirely accurate). It is perfectly possible, however, to perform the work as a quintet for flute, oboe, violin, viola and cello without keyboard support. Appoggiaturas are realised and marked  $\wedge$ .

Stanley Sadie,  
London, 1962.