

## **J.S. Bach St John Passion**

How to read from these scordatura parts:

### **Numbers 31 (19) *Betrachte, meine Seel* and 32 (20) *Erwäge, wie sein blutgefärbter Rücken***

The original parts were written in 'real' (sounding pitch) notation and give no indication of the intended tuning of the viola d'amore. These parts have been rewritten in scordatura notation to make them easier to read. This version is for the tuning C, g, c', g', e flat', c".

Use the tuning indicated before the first bar. Pretend you are playing on an instrument tuned in fifths like a violin (g,d,a,e).

As the viola d'amore has 6 (or 7) playing strings we read the notation as follows: (all read as if the four strings indicated are the strings of the violin).

Treble clef = the top four strings

Alto clef = the middle four strings

Bass clef = the bottom four strings

(N.B. These parts are for a six string instrument – if you have a seven string instrument, disregard the lowest string)

Leon King, March 2010



Viola d'amore 1 - C minor scordatura

9

10

13

14

18

19

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Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for Viola d'amore 1 in C minor scordatura. It consists of 31 measures across 11 staves. Measures 9-10: Measure 9 starts with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a 3/4 time signature. It contains a quarter rest followed by a series of eighth notes. Measure 10 continues with eighth notes and a quarter rest. Measures 11-12: Measure 11 has a quarter rest followed by eighth notes. Measure 12 has a quarter rest followed by eighth notes. Measures 13-14: Measure 13 has eighth notes with a slur. Measure 14 has eighth notes with a slur and a trill (tr) on the final note. Measures 15-17: Measure 15 has eighth notes with a slur. Measure 16 has eighth notes with a slur. Measure 17 has eighth notes with a slur. Measures 18-19: Measure 18 has eighth notes with a slur. Measure 19 has eighth notes with a slur. Measures 20-21: Measure 20 has eighth notes with a slur. Measure 21 has eighth notes with a slur and a trill (tr) on the final note. Measures 22-23: Measure 22 has eighth notes with a slur. Measure 23 has eighth notes with a slur. Measures 24-25: Measure 24 has eighth notes with a slur. Measure 25 has eighth notes with a slur. Measures 26-27: Measure 26 has eighth notes with a slur. Measure 27 has eighth notes with a slur. Measures 28-29: Measure 28 has eighth notes with a slur. Measure 29 has eighth notes with a slur. Measures 30-31: Measure 30 has eighth notes with a slur. Measure 31 has eighth notes with a slur.

Viola d'amore 1 - C minor scordatura

27

29

31

32

34

36

37

38

39

40

41

Da Capo