

Prelude BWV 998

J S Bach

Long descending lines

Chord	D	→	D ⁷	G ^{maj7}	D	Em	C ^{#°}
Function	I		I ⁷ (V/V)	IV	I	ii	vii [°]

Passing tone

Ascending arpeggio

Passing tone

Ascending arpeggio

Ch	D	→	D ⁷	B ^m	→	B ^{m7}	E ⁷	A
Fn	I		I ⁷	vi		B ^{m7}	II ⁷ (V/V)	I

3

Passing tone

Ascending arpeggio

Passing tone

Pivot chord E⁷ leading to A

Modulating to A (Dominant)

Passing tone

Descending scale run

Melody note added to beat 1

Ascending arpeggio

Ch	B ^{m7}	E ⁷	A	→	A ⁷	D
Fn	ii ⁷	V ⁷	I		I ⁷	IV

5

Melody note added to beat 1

Ascending arpeggio

Passing tone

Descending scale run

Triad on beat 1

Passing tone

Tendency tone

Passing tone

Ascending arpeggio

Ch A⁷ B_m E⁷ A → A⁷ F[♯]m⁷(b⁵)

Fn I⁷ ii V⁷ I V⁷ ii Modulating to E_m (Supertonic)

7

Revert to bass note only on beat 1

Ascending arpeggio

Passing tone

Ascending arpeggio

Descending scale run

Passing tone

Ch B⁷ E_m F[♯]m⁷(b⁵) B⁷

Fn V⁷ i ii V Descending scale run

9 Descending bass line.....

Ascending arpeggio

Passing tone

First descending arpeggio

Passing tone

First ascending scale run

Ascending arpeggio

Passing tone

Descending scale run

Passing tone

Melody note added to beat 1 for 7 bars

Tonicisations E_m to A then D

Ch E_m → E_m⁷ A A⁷ D⁷ D⁺⁷ G

Fn i i⁷ (v/V) I I (V/V) I⁷ I IV Ascending scale run

11

Passing tone

Ascending scale run

Passing tone

Passing tone

Ascending scale run

Tendency tones

Ch	C#m ⁷	F# ⁷	Bm ^(maj7) →	Bm ⁷ Em ^(maj7)
Fn	vii ⁷ /ii ⁷	V ⁷	i	i ⁷ iv

13

Descending arpeggio Ascending scale run Ascending arpeggio

Modulating to Bm
(Submediant)
using Cm#7
as a pivot chord

Ch	Bm	A# ^o	Bm ⁷	Gmaj ⁷
Fn	i	vii ^o	i ⁷	VI

15

Revert to bass note only on beat 1 Passing tone Tendency tone Passing tone Ascending arpeggio Passing tone Ascending arpeggio Passing tone Descending scale run

Modulated to
F#m (Mediant) using

Ch	C# ⁷	C# ⁷ as V/V	F#m	G#m ⁷ (b5)	C# ⁷
Fn	II ⁷ /V ⁷		i	ii	V ⁷

17

Melody note added to beat 1 for 9 bars Ascending arpeggio Passing tone Passing tone Ascending arpeggio Passing tone Descending scale run

Descending bass line.....

Ch F#m F#m⁷ B⁷ Modulated to Em Descending scale run
 Fn i i⁷ IV⁷ using B⁷ as V/V

19

Ascending arpeggio
 Passing tone
 Passing tone
 Tendency tone
 Ascending arpeggio
 Passing tone
 Passing tone
 Passing tone

Ascending scale run

Ch Em → Em⁷ A → A⁷ C⁷
 Fn i i⁷ IV IV⁷ VI⁷

21

Ascending arpeggio
 Passing tone
 Passing tone
 Descending scale run
 Ascending arpeggio
 Tendency tone
 Passing tone
 Descending scale run

Ch D^{maj7} Modulated to G G Ascending arpeggio D⁷
 Fn VI (V/V) (Subdominant) using D⁷ as V/V I V⁷

23

Descending arpeggios
 Passing tone
 Passing tone
 Ascending scale run
 Passing tone
 Tendency tone
 Passing tone
 Ascending arpeggio

Descending bass line.....

Ch G → G⁷ C G F#m
 Fn I I⁷ (V/V) IV I vii

25

Passing tone Passing tone Passing tone Passing tone

Pedal G in Bass.....

Ch Gmaj⁷ Em → Em⁷ A⁷ D
 Fn I vi/ii vi⁷/ii⁷ V⁷ I

27

Ascending scale run.....

Passing tone Ascending arpeggio Chromatic passing tone Tendency tone Chromatic passing tone Passing tone

Pedal G in Bass.....

Modulated to D using Em as a pivot chord

Ch A → A⁷ D Gmaj⁷
 Fn V V⁷ I IV

29

Chromatic passing tone Passing tone Passing tone Passing tone Tendency tone Passing tone

Descending scale run.....

Ch C#m7 F#m7 Bm7 Em7
 Fn vii7 iii7 vi7 ii7

31

Ascending arpeggio
 Passing tone
 Ascending arpeggio
 Passing tone

Ch A7 Bm7
 Fn V7 vi7

33

Descending arpeggio
 Ascending arpeggio
 Ascending arpeggio
 Ascending arpeggio
 Ascending arpeggio
 Ascending arpeggio
 Passing tone
 Passing tone
 Passing tone
 Passing tone

Only section with repeated ascending arpeggios (6 consecutively)

Ch A → A7 D
 Fn V V7 I

35

Ascending arpeggio
 Ascending arpeggio
 Passing tone
 Passing tone
 Descending bass line.....

Pedal in major 3rds - texture change

Ch Gm D7 Gm
 Fn iv I7 iv

37

Descending bass line..... Passing tone Passing tone Passing tone Passing tone

Repeated descending sequence

Ch Eb E7 A7
 Fn N6 (bii6) II7 (V/V) V7

moving to E7 then resolving to A7

39

Ascending arpeggio Passing tone Ascending arpeggio Descending scale run Descending arpeggio Ascending arpeggio

Ch D Em7 A7 D Gmaj7
 Fn I ii7 V7 I IV

41

Passing tone Passing tone Passing tone Passing tone Passing tone

Descending scale run Start of D pedal in bass for 4 bars Restatement of opening bars

Ch D Em C#° D D7 G Descending
 Fn I ii VII° I I7 IV scale run

43

Ascending arpeggio
 Passing tone
 Ascending arpeggio
 Passing tone

Ch D Em7 D F#m7 Em7 A7
 Fn I ii7 I iii7 ii7 V7

45

Ascending arpeggio
 Passing tone
 Passing tone
 Passing tone
 Ascending arpeggio
 Triad with 2 tendency tones
 Triad
 Triad

Ch B7 Em A7 D
 Fn VI7 ii V7 I

47

Descending arpeggio
 Ascending arpeggio
 Descending arpeggio
 Ascending arpeggio
 Passing tone resolves to F#

Only section with repeating descending and ascending arpeggios