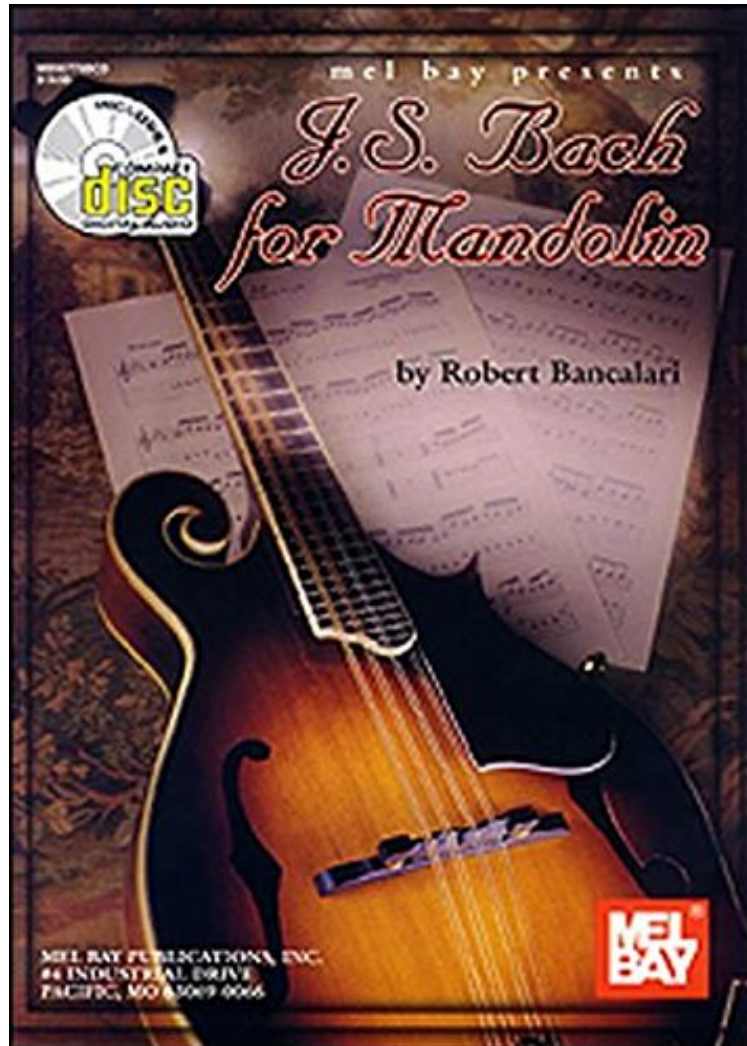


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## Mel Bay J. S. Bach for Mandolin

*Johann Sebastian Bach, Robert Bancalari*  
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**Johann Sebastian Bach, Robert Bancalari : Mel Bay J. S. Bach for Mandolin** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Mel Bay J. S. Bach for Mandolin:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Barebones sheet music, Poor CDBy H. TsengA somewhat random hodgepodge of various Bach pieces transcribed for mandolin. Standard notation and TAB provided. There is no instructional material or explanation of technique specific to Bach/classical. No description of the music, barely even the correct titles for pieces. Definitely NOT for a beginner or anyone who hasn't played Bach before.The CD is only about 24 minutes long and only has about half the pieces (no idea why they didn't include more pieces)! Also the person playing it actually plays quite mechanically and though gets the notes right, is unable/unwilling to convey ANY emotion or feeling to some of these very moving pieces...almost robotic playing.5 of 5 people found the following

review helpful. Mel Bay J. S. Bach for Mandolin By yzenhorn Nice collection of Bach tunes. These tunes bring a lot of satisfaction to the ear and fingers as they are pure genius. Bach sounds absolutely wonderful when played on the mandolin. Some of these tunes also sound great on an octave mandolin. I find myself playing some of these pieces over and over - they are extremely addictive. The tunes just flow. Bach's work is pure beauty. The book has a nice spiral binding so it lays flat against music stand - can't emphasize just how nice this is! The level of musicianship required is intermediate to advanced. I find it difficult to play some of these tunes up to tempo as the notes are jumping all over the fret board - hard to keep my eyes on the music when I'm moving from the 3rd fret to the 10th . Additionally, many of the tunes are riddled with accidentals - keep on your toes. I noticed a couple mistakes in the tab as compared to the music notation (wrong numbers and missing numbers) but only a couple. Many tunes require a page turn or 2 - this is impossible to do without stopping. You will either have to memorize the tune or copy a page so you can see everything. The CD is helpful. Not the best quality recording, but adequate. Robert Bancalari is obviously a very talented musician and mandolinist. Personally I don't think it's necessary to play all the tunes as fast as he does (on the CD). Only 13 of the 26 pieces are recorded on the CD. Overall: this is a great collection. Arranged and recorded by a very talented musician. I highly recommend it to anyone wanting to learn some Bach. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Challenging By Corvus corax Wow!!! What a book! I give it 5 stars, because of how challenging it is. This is not a book for the beginner mando player, the CD is very helpful also, if you do play other stringed instruments and just started learning the mandolin then you will be very busy with this book, however if you never played a stringed instrument you might be frustrated with this book. The songs get harder as you learn, love BACH!

These arrangements of many pieces by J.S. Bach make a great composer's works accessible to the mandolinist. Since the bulk of the music has been adapted from various suites, sonatas, and partitas, the authors provides an explanation of each dance form and other similar pieces. Includes: 'Bauree Angloise' from Partita in A Minor for solo flute; 'Marche' from Anna Magdalena Back Book; 'Fantasie' from Partita No. 3 in A Minor; and more. In notation and tablature. Includes a CD which contains 13 of the 26 solos.

About the Author Johann Sebastian Bach was the first great musician to disregard the rules of harmony and rhythm that were strictly followed by other composers. This fact alone helped to make him the forerunner of musical composition as we know it today. Born the son of a violinist in Eisenach, Germany, in 1685, he received his first musical training on the violin. At the age of 10, he went to live in the home of his brother Christoph, who taught Johann to play the harpsichord and the organ. It was also at this time that Bach began school, where his boy-soprano voice was greatly admired and appreciated. When his voice changed, Bach concentrated on the violin; but the organ soon took his interest, and he decided to devote himself to church music. At the age of 18, Bach became the organist at Arnstadt and began his work in musical composition. After a short period of time, he moved to Muhlhausen where he married his cousin, Maria Bach. At Muhlhausen he began to experiment with changes in the music used in the church services of the German Protestant Church. It was also during this time that he began to become somewhat well known. It was this that gained for him the position as court organist and violinist to the duke at Weimar, where he remained for about nine years. During this nine-year period, he wrote many cantatas for the Church, suites for the clavichord and harpsichord, and fugues (musical compositions in which the first melody is continually repeated and imitated throughout the entire piece). In fact, because he wrote so many fugues for the organ and piano, he is often called "the Great Master of the Fugue." His next position at Kthen was during the period in which he produced much of his orchestral music and music for the clavichord and harpsichord. In 1720 his wife died; and a year later he married Anna Wulken, who was also a musician. She evidently helped him considerably in his work. In 1723 Bach went to Leipzig as music director of the Thomas-schule. During his stay at Leipzig, he wrote many of his church cantatas and oratorios. Among these is his famous Christmas Oratorio. In 1749 Bach became totally blind; and in the following year, 1750, he died. Historians tell us that Bach did not seem to associate very much with other musicians and was far more interested in his family of 20 children and in composing and directing his church choirs than in becoming famous. In addition to his almost unequalled skill as a composer, he also was an excellent organ builder, as well as an expert music copyist. Since most of his life was spent within a few miles of his birthplace, we also now know that Bach's music was not widely known throughout the world during his lifetime. In fact, many of Bach's most beautiful works were unpublished and unperformed for almost 100 years, until two later composers (Mendelssohn and Schumann) discovered the beauties of his music and began to perform them and make them known to the world. Robert Bancalari has been a musician since the age of ten. He played viola for the Burbank Symphony at the age of fourteen and taught himself mandolin in his spare time. At seventeen, he took up the guitar and Hammond B-3 organ and has played with various R B bands in the Los Angeles area ever since. He also enjoys studying Baroque music for recorder, lute, mandolin, guitar and viola da gamba.