

Sonata III in G Minor

Allegro

Joseph Boulogne, Op. 1a
(1745-1799)

The musical score is presented in two systems. The first system includes a vocal line (S.) and a piano accompaniment (Pno.). The vocal line begins with a treble clef, a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and a common time signature (C). The piano accompaniment is written for both the right and left hands, also in G minor and common time. The second system continues the piece, starting at measure 4, with the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The piano accompaniment features a prominent bass line with eighth notes and rests.

Joseph Boulogne (1745-1799) was the son of an African slave and her Guadeloupean master. His father moved the family to France in 1753, where Joseph became a skilled fencer and was dubbed chevalier at age nineteen. As an acclaimed professional violinist, he premiered his own concerti and published string quartets, operas, and symphonies. He founded the Concert de la Loge Olympique, directed the Amateurs, and was a colonel of the Légion des Américains et du Midi.