

For J.S. Bach's Three- hundred-twenty-eighth Birthday

by Gary Hardaway

In Bach one hears distinctly
horn and violin, double reed and flute
in conversations both engaged

and erudite. They point
and counterpoint, exploring
aspects of the theme

each instrument understands
in its own way. Sometimes,
the keyboard investigates

the theme with itself
being somewhat more complex.
To listen is to feel embodied reason

sing and dance with consummate grace
from a time when reason itself
was heard and trusted.

