

teacher's notes:

*Prelude Number 2* builds on note reading skills acquired in the learning of *Rot und Schwarz* and *Prelude Number 1*. In this piece, students learn to recognize a step wise progression that begins, always, on a red or black string. They should already be able to find all the red and black strings so the focus shifts to recognizing patterns and intervals. Step wise movement is easier to discern and that is what is used here.

teaching the music:

- 1) Remind your student that he can already find all the black and all the red strings from both the treble and bass clef staff. Look through the music together and find them.
- 2) Point out that the new notes introduced in *Prelude Number 2* always move step wise in the same direction, beginning with an F or a C.
- 3) Some students may still have trouble seeing the similarities between this and the first two pieces in this series. Go ahead and compare the new music to the old pieces already practiced to remind them of what they already know.
- 4) Suzuki trained students learn early on how to place 4 notes in a row. They should have no trouble placing each group of step wise eighth notes as a group. Be sure placement and hand position is correct. If this is a new skill, be sure that you explain carefully how the student is to approach this placement pattern. The finding of notes should be becoming easier. If more practice in placing four notes in a row is needed, get the (free) etude from the student resources page of this website.
- 5) *Prelude Number 1*, and *Prelude Number 2* and *Rot und Schwarz* may be played as an ensemble piece. Playing duets can help students read faster and focus on steady tempo and rhythm better than playing alone or with a metronome. Students should be able to play either part, with a teacher or fellow student playing the other.