



## US National Standard in Culture

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## R&B Melisma

### Song:

Johann Sebastian Bach: *Das alte Jahr vergangen ist*

Johann Sebastian Bach: *Praeludium & Fuge*

The image shows a musical score for a vocal line. The lyrics are: "Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day. Al - le - lu - ia!". The score is divided into two sections: "Syllabic" and "Melismatic". The syllabic section covers the first part of the lyrics, and the melismatic section covers the second part, where the notes are more ornate and less tied to the syllables.

**Stevie Wonder:** You have asked for more examples of melisma. It is an essential aspect in R&B.

**Johann Sebastian Bach:** I performed for the Church. And there you have a different audience for soul music.

**Michael Jackson:** Stevie Wonder being blind could sing soul music and deflect eyes of criticism.

**Johann Sebastian Bach:** There will be more a time for more soul music when people return to church.

**MOSES:** I would add killing and sadism to that “high hallucinate.”

**“All hallucinate drugs are poison.”**

**Mother Mary**