**Bach: Cantata no.48, mvt.2 (recitative)**

**Words** (see p.538 for translation)

* Express the pain and torment of sin to the earthly body, with images of infirmaries and poison
* Personal expression of the effects of sin, as opposed to the more general biblical quotation in the 1st mvt, and the communal expression of the chorale

**Vocal line**

* Recitative for solo voice (derived from opera, cf. Anthology no.36)
* **Fragmented** into short phrases and speech-like, largely syllabic
* Widish range, from low Bb to high Eb
* Many **awkward intervals** (sixths, sevenths, tritons) expressing pain and torment

**Accompaniment**

* Strings and continuo, sustaining chords

**Harmony and tonality**

* Begins on Eb and ends on Bb
* Moves through various keys:
  + Fm
  + Cm
  + Ab
  + Bbm
  + E
  + Gm
* Much use of chromatic chords, especially **diminished 7ths**, to pivot between keys
* Much use of **chromatic movement** between chords

**Question**

How does Bach illustrate the meaning of the words in the 2nd movement of Cantata no.48?

Comment on the vocal writing and harmonic language.