

See my video lesson for additional info as well as the collaboration videos with lutenist Elizabeth Pallett via her excellent site at luteweb.com and YouTube channel.

Fingered for relative lute tuning on guitar with the 3rd string tuned down to F sharp and optional capo on 3rd fret.

There are two manuscripts for this work. I've based this edition on the manuscript from the Siena Lute Book (The Hague, Gemeentemuseum, MS 28.B.39) which is an anthology of over 150 items compiled in Siena, Italy.

The other manuscript can be found in the Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris: F-Pn Rés.429, ff. 107v-108v (Italian Tablature Copy c.1560-1565). An excellent modern edition of the Paris edition in French tablature can be found in *158 Early Cinquecento Preludes and Recercars for Renaissance Lute*, ed. John H. Robinson, The Lute Society Music Editions, 2018. You can find this collection at lutesociety.org.

Comments on this edition:

- Measure 34, First Beat - In the Paris manuscript there is an open third string (F#) in the lower voice.
- Measure 37, Third Beat - The Paris manuscript has an open E in the lower voice instead of open A.
- Measure 57, First Beat - The Paris manuscript has an additional open 1st string E in the upper voice.
- Measure 63 - The C is a C sharp in the Paris manuscript.
- The final two measures of the Paris manuscript are shown below.

Recercata Bella

French Tablature Edition

Anonymous
Renaissance Lute

③ = F#

Measures 1-9 of the piece. The treble clef staff shows a melodic line with fingerings: 2 0 1 3, 1 2 4, 3 1 0, 2 0 1 0. The tablature below shows the fret positions: r a b d, a r d, a r d f d, r a, b b, a b a, r a b a, r a, a r d a, r a b r.

Measures 10-19. The treble clef staff includes fingerings: 1 4 0, 4, 4 3, 4, 3, 1, 3, 1, 4, 3. The tablature shows fret positions: r, d a, b, a, a, r a, b d, a e, a, b, a, b a.

Measures 20-28. The treble clef staff includes fingerings: 4, 3, 4, 3, 3, 0, 1, 0, 1, 4, 1, 0, 3, 0, 4. The tablature shows fret positions: d r, d, r b r, a, a, r, a, b a, r, b b, a r a e.

Measures 29-37. The treble clef staff includes fingerings: 4 0, 1 0, 1 3, 2, 4, 2 3, 4, 2 1, 4, 4. The tablature shows fret positions: a, b a, b r a, b a r, a r, a r d f d r a, b b a, r b d.

38

8

a r e a a e a b r a b a b a r b a b a

47

8

a r a e a r a r b a r b a b a a r a e b a a r b

57

8

r a b d a d r a b d e a a d r b d b b a a r a b d

67

8

a e a r a b d a b d a b a a a b d a b a a r a e a

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The final two measures of the Paris manuscript are shown below.

The image shows musical notation for the final two measures of the Paris manuscript. The top staff is a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first measure contains a whole note chord with notes G4, A4, and B4. The second measure contains a whole note chord with notes G#4, A4, and B4. The bottom staff is a four-line tablature with letters 'a', 'b', 'a', 'r', 'r', 'a' on the lines from top to bottom, indicating fret positions for the strings.

Recercata Bella

Italian Tablature Comparison

Anonymous
Renaissance Lute

③ = F#

Measures 1-9 of the piece. The treble clef staff shows a melodic line starting with a treble clef sign and a sharp sign. The tablature below shows fret numbers on a six-line staff. Measure numbers 1 through 9 are indicated above the treble staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#).

Measures 10-19 of the piece. The treble clef staff continues the melodic line. The tablature below shows fret numbers. Measure numbers 10 through 19 are indicated above the treble staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#).

Measures 20-28 of the piece. The treble clef staff continues the melodic line. The tablature below shows fret numbers. Measure numbers 20 through 28 are indicated above the treble staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#).

Measures 29-37 of the piece. The treble clef staff continues the melodic line. The tablature below shows fret numbers. Measure numbers 29 through 37 are indicated above the treble staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#).

38

48

57

68

The Italian tablature here is a direct transcription of the Siena manuscript (the notation is my edited edition).

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