# 58 VERY EASY RENAISSANCE PIECES

From Sixteenth Century Lute Literature
Arranged for Guitar by
Kevin McChesney

Derived from "58 Very Easy Pieces for Renaissance Lute" with the generous permission of The Lute Society

(www.lutesociety.org)



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All pieces are anonymous with the exception of #58, "A Toy For Monica Bishop", which is used with the gracious permission of Mr. Christopher Goodwin.

27a The Division Of Rogero Before (in D)

#### **58 VERY EASY RENAISSANCE PIECES**

Foreword by Kevin McChesney

The purpose of this collection is to provide an exciting and beautiful selection of technically simple pieces for guitar.

As my father and greatest mentor Richard McChesney said often, "There is nothing wrong with playing easy music well". The goal of performing music is to play with confidence, with facility and in a relaxed enough manner that the music is allowed to connect to the hearts and spirits of those listening. This collection offers a wealth of music that can be played with ease by guitarists of all levels. Beginners will find music that is accessible and builds confidence, even with limited experience, and more advanced players have a collection of music that is lively and varied that can be quickly added to their repertoire.

I offer fingerings that I feel provide the most straightforward paths to achieving smooth performance and that make the musical purposes of the composers clear. However, fingering is a personal matter, and I always encourage you to find what works best for you. In fact, several of the pieces are arranged in two different keys to give you a choice as to what key lies best under your fingers.

Tempos are left to the player's discretion. Generally, these pieces are effective at a wide range of tempos, so feel free to experiment, the aim always being to find a tempo that is comfortable for you.

The easier pieces appear in the first half of the collection; the second half contains some titles that are a bit more intricate but are still generally simple.

I am deeply indebted to The Lute Society (<a href="www.lutesociety.org">www.lutesociety.org</a>). With their kind permission and encouragement, I have derived this collection from their first-rate resource "58 Very Easy Pieces for Renaissance Lute" (<a href="www.lutesociety.org/pages/catalogue">www.lutesociety.org/pages/catalogue</a>). This magnificent offering has been meticulously researched and edited, reflecting The Society's unflagging energy in generously giving the world authoritative material for the lute. In particular, my thanks to Mr. Christopher Goodwin who has been marvelously helpful and is the composer of this collection's final selection.



#### **SOURCES**

The Lute Society (<u>www.lutesociety.org</u>) collected the titles in their authoritative volume "58 Very Easy Pieces for Renaissance Lute" from the following sources. I have used their collection as the basis for this collection for guitar, "58 Very Easy Renaissance Pieces", with The Society's generous permission.

Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, Munich, MS.1511b. An early/mid-sixteenth century lute book containing mostly Italian dance tunes.

Trinity College, Dublin, MS 408/1. "William Ballet's Lute Book", an amateur anthology, compiled by several hands, c.1595 and c.1610.

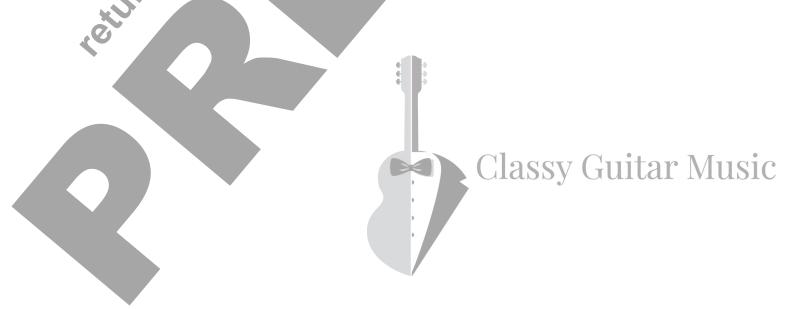
Trinity College, Dublin, MS 408/2. An amateur anthology, now bound with "William Ballet's Lute Book".

Fabritio Caroso, *Il Ballarino* (Venice, 1581; facsimile, New York: Broude Brothers, 1967). One of the great dance treatises of the 1500s.

Trinity College, Dublin, MS 410/1. A student's lute book, belonging to a Cambridge student of Thomas Dallis, compiled over a few years from 1583.

Adrien Le Roy, A briefe and easye instruction to learne the tablature... (London, 1568). A lute tutor, translated from Le Roy's French original.

Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, MS.v.a.159. A commonplace book in which lute music was written by several amateur players, probably from the 1560s onwards.



#### 1. Calleno







#### 8. O, What It Is To Love





8a. O, What It Is To Love (in A minor)





#### 9. The Blacksmith





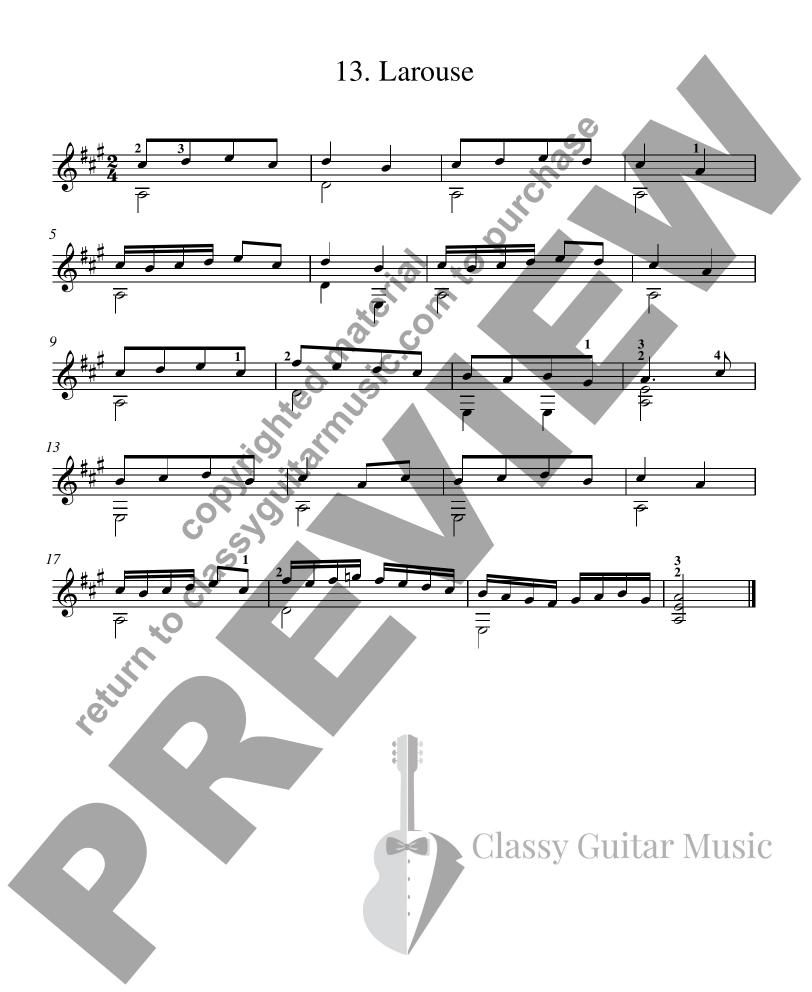
#### 10. [The Hunt's Up?]



#### 11. Robin Reddocke







#### 14. All Floures In Brome



14a. All Floures In Brome (in D)

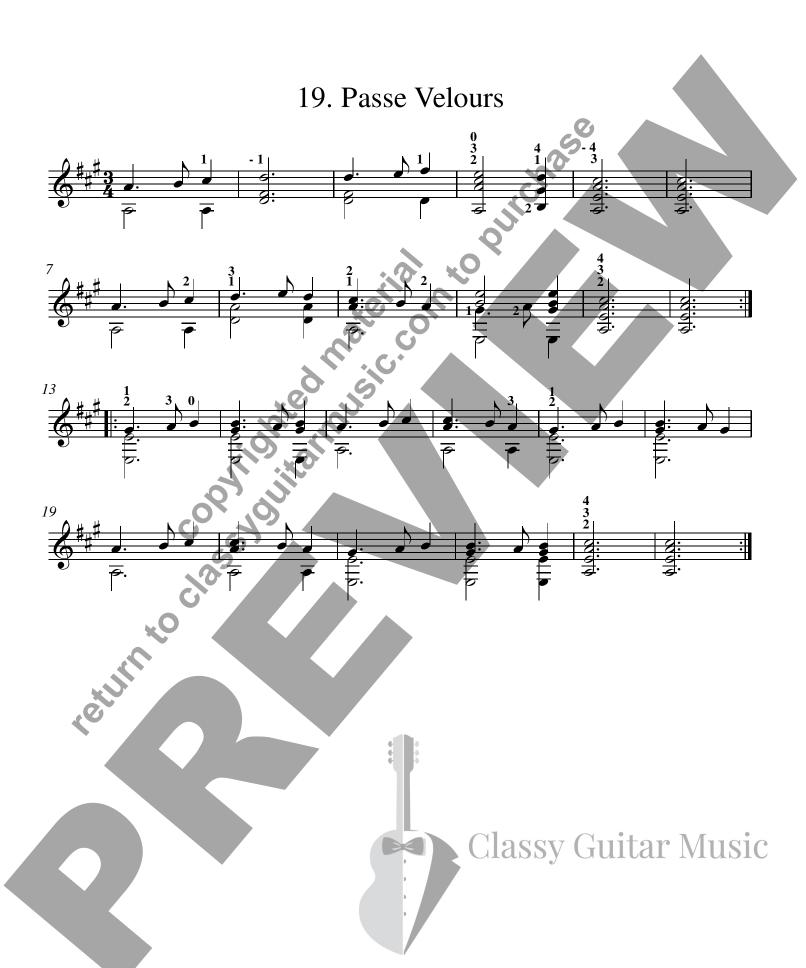






#### 18. I Am My Lordship's Grees [Man]



















# 22. Il Conto d'Oreossy Guitar Music







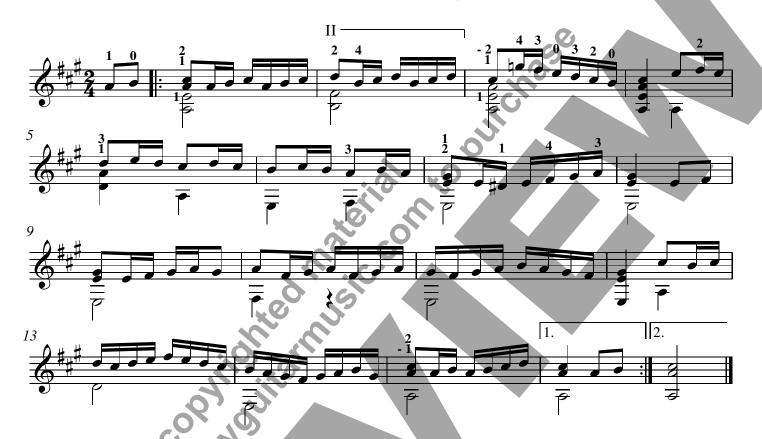
#### 25. Quadro Pavin Galliard





<sup>\*</sup>These are natural in the original. A case can be made for sharps as well. This is left to the player's discretion.

#### 27. The Division Of Rogero Before

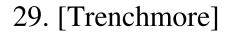


27a. The Division Of Rogero Before (in D)



#### 28. Trenchmore







#### 31. El Bataino

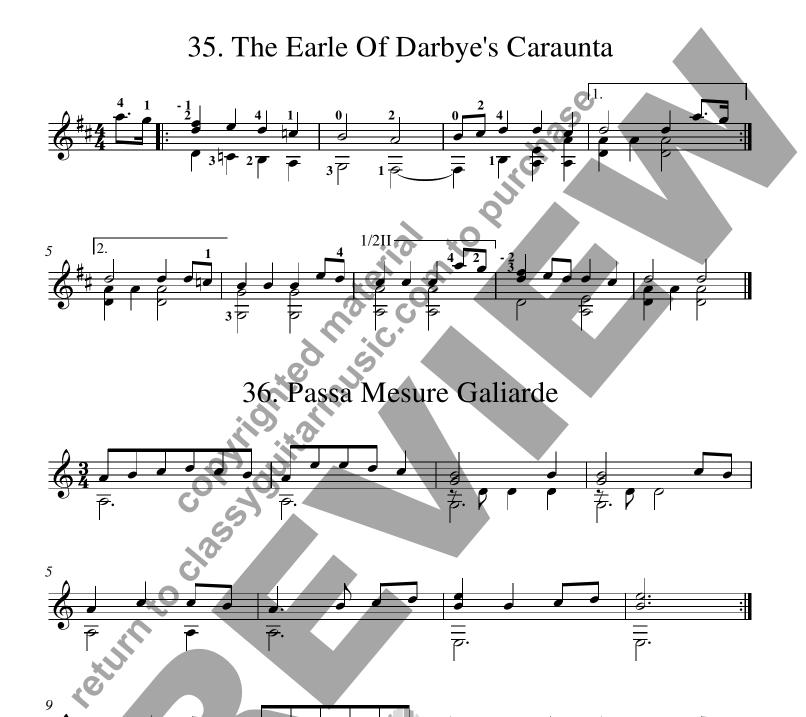


#### 32. La Conciera



#### 33. Lightlie Love Ladies





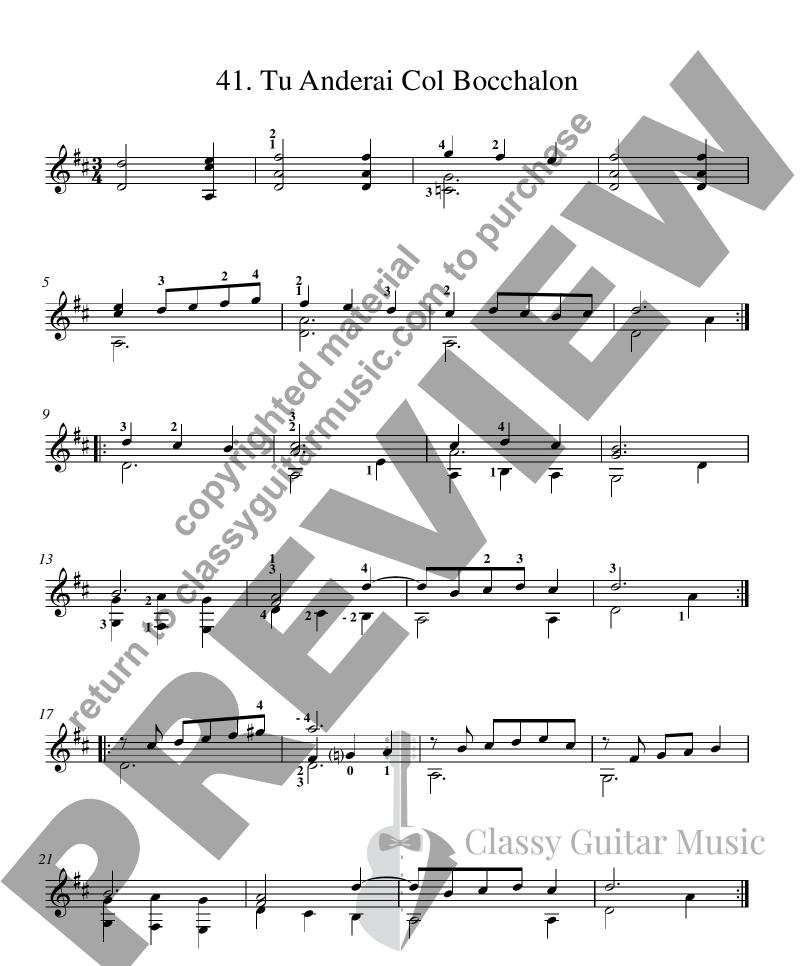
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#### 37. Blame Not My Lute

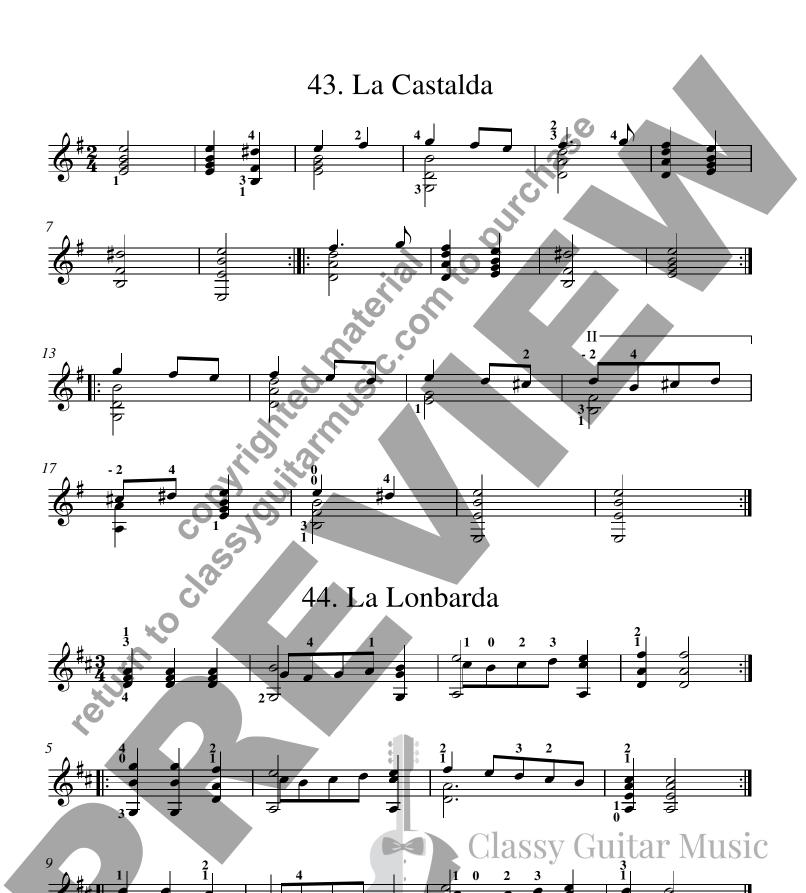


#### 39. Tiente Alora















## 46. Paul's Galiarde

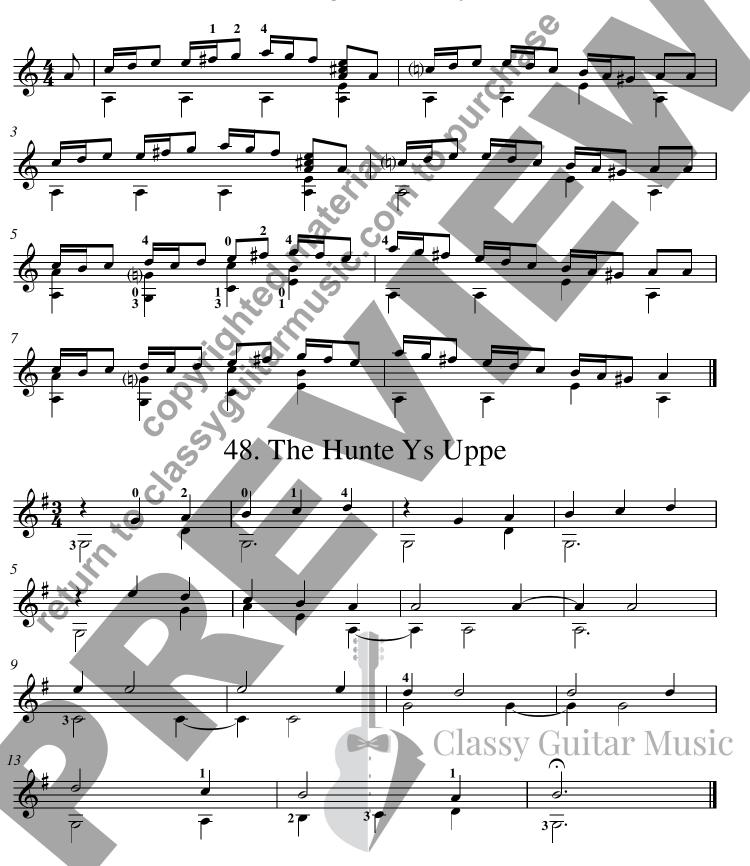






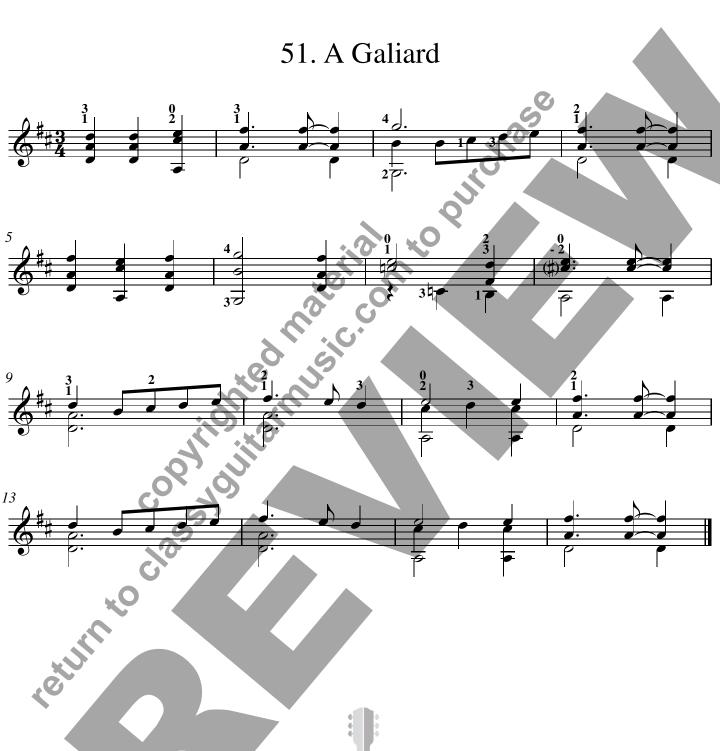
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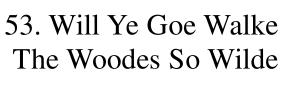


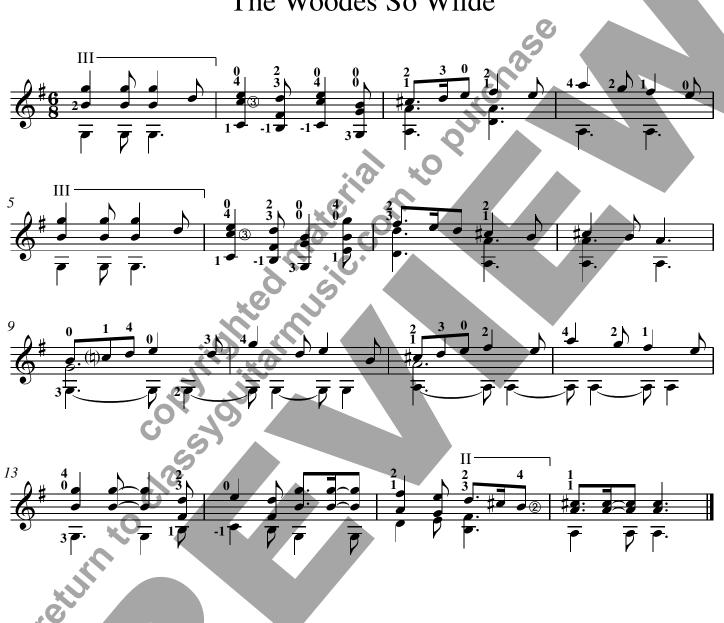


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#### 52. The Passe A Mesures Pavion





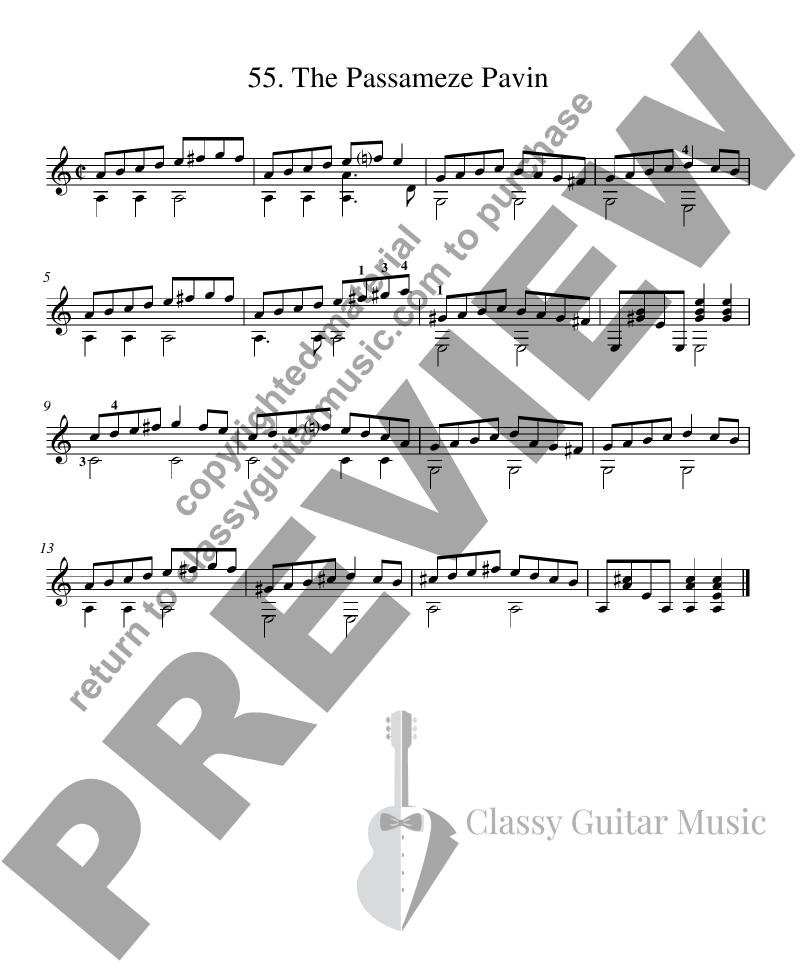




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#### 56. La Bressanina





This slightly more difficult piece is a delightful example of the free-flowing style of early sixteenth century Italian lute music. Although barred in duple time, this piece alternates in "feel" between duple and triple time, an intriguing element to be brought out in performance.



#### 57. Lost Is My Lyberty



#### 58. A Toy For Monica Bishop

