MUSIC SUPPLEMENT TO LUTE NEWS 95 (OCTOBER 2010) COLLECTED LUTE MUSIC OF DIOMEDES **CATO OF VENICE - PART IV: FANTASIAS 1-10**

This is the fourth part of a series of the complete lute solos of Diomedes Cato of Venice,1 and will be followed in the future with part V, between them to include twenty fantasias ascribed to Diomedes. This part also includes an appendix of an additional Fuga, omitted from part II.

Some fantasias ascribed to Diomedes bear the names of other composers in concordant versions, namely Francesco da Milano, [nº 7 here] and Petrus Konopacky [nº 4] as well as Cydrac Rael and Lorenzino, to be edited in Part V. Either of the ascriptions might be copyist errors, or suggest that Diomedes performed music by other composers he had encountered, leading copyists to assumed they were his own. However, close concordances for two typical Diomedes fantasias [no 3 & 5] are found in the lute book published by Simone Molinaro in Venice in 1599, where the ascriptions are unlikely to be in error.2 The first fifteen fantasias in Molinaro's print are anonymous but were probably composed by him,3 and the further twenty five fantasias are ascribed to Gio: Battista dalla Gostena, Molinaro's uncle and teacher.4 Both were Genoese composers of vocal and instrumental music, Della Gostena as maestro di cappella of San Lorenzo in Genoa from the 1570s, and succeeded in the post on his death in 1598 by Molinaro, who held it until he died in 1615. It may be more than coincidence that the appendix item here is ascribed to Diomedes, amongst the manuscript additions to a copy of Besard's Thesaurus Harmonicus of 1603 now at Genoa University [I-Gu M.VIII.24], although it is not certain that the copy was in Genoa when the manuscript additions were added.⁵ However, this ascription as well as the concordances with Molinaro's print might suggest that Diomedes returned to Italy from Poland at some stage and had some direct association with Molinaro, who was about the same age, or with Gostena, who may even have taught him and given him copies of the two fantasias.

Ten of the remaining twenty fantasias are edited here,⁶ ordered by key [all those in part V are in C or D]. The major sources are the Herbert of Cherbury lute book [9] and Besard's Thesaurus Harmonicus of 1603 [6], although the circumstances that brought Diomedes' music into their hands are not known. The majority of the fantasias of Diomedes are of the monothematic or polythematic imitative recercar type - and it is rewarding to seek out and emphasise the themes buried in the polyphonic texture. The dense harmony and awkward chords suggest some of his fantasias were intabulated from consort settings.7 All the music is in

¹ Parts I-III (Galliards; Preludes, Fugas and Intabulations; and Chorea, Balletti, Passamezi and Barriera) can be found in Lute News 85 (April 2008), 87 (September 2008) and 90 (July 2009) and Lute Society Tablature Sheet A27/1-3.

viel ton tuning, no 7 & 8 for 6-course lute; no 10 for lute with a 7th course in F used once; no 2, 5b & 6 a 7th course in D [used once in no 5b, 6, and in bar 72 of no 2 but edited out here]; no 4a for 8-course lute [F/D]; no 1, 3, 4b & 9 for 9course lute [F/E/D but not necessarily using all three]; and nº 5a with 7th course in F, and 10th in C used once.

Worklist8

- 1. GB-Cfm 689, f. 76r Fantasia Diomedes [W II no 17]9
- Dowland 1610, sigs. E2v-F1r Fantasie 1 Composed by the most famous Diomedes of Venice: Lutenist to the high and mightie Sigisimund 2º King of Poland
- 3. GB-Cfm 689, f. 80r Fantasia Sr Diomedes [W II no 18] Molinaro 1599, pp. 85-86 Fantasia XV
- **4a.** D-Hs M B 2768, p. 42-43 *Dio: Fantasia* **4b.** GB-Cfm 689, ff. 74v-75r *Fantasie Diomedes* [W II nº 16] I-Gu M.VIII.24, ff. 177v-178r Fantasia / P[etrus]. Pol[onus?]. Konop[acky?]¹⁰ cf. A-Wm XIV. 714, f. ? Fantasia [organ]

F:

- 5a. GB-Cfm 689, f. 38r Fantasia Diomedes [W II nº 12]
- **5b.** Molinaro 1599, pp. 125-126 *Fantasia XXV* [in **G**]

G:

- 6. Besard 1603, f. 17r Fantasia Diomedis [W I nº 6]
- 7. D-W Guelf. 18.7/III, ff. 11v-12v Phantasia Diomedes Francesco da Milano, Ness 3311
- 8. D-LEm II.6.15, p. 59 Fant A Diom. prima [W II nº 8]

A:

9. GB-Cfm 689, f. 80v Fantasia com'To credo [i.e. believed to be by] Sne Diomedes [W II App.]

B flat:

10. Besard 1603, ff. 33v-34r Fantasia Diom. [W I no 11] App. I-Gu M.VIII.24, f. 30r Fuga Diomed. senza.5 [in D]

John H. Robinson, Newcastle University, September 2010

- 8 Minor editorial changes made without comment. Sources other than those in the text: A-Wm XIV. 714 - Wien, Minoritenkonvent, Klosterbibliothek und Archiv, MS XIV.714, for organ, early 17th-c; D-Hs M B 2768 - Hamburg, Stadt- und Universitätsbibliothek, Ernst Schele lute book, 1619, facsimile: Glinde, Jarchow, 2004; D-LEm II.6.15 - Leipzig, Musikbibliothek der Stadt, 1619, facsimile: Lübeck, Tree Edition, 2001; D-W Guelf. 18.7/III - Wolffenbüttel, Herzog August Bibliothek, Musikabteilung, MS Codex Guelferbytanus Augusteus 2°, Philipp Hainhofer lute books I-III, copied in Italian lute tablature a.1603-4; GB-Cfm 689 - Cambridge, Fitzwilliam Museum: Herbert of Cherbury lute book, c.1624-40, facsimile: Lute Society, forthcoming; Besard 1603 - Jean-Baptiste Besard, Thesaurus Harmonicus (Köln, 1603), facsimile: Genève: Minkoff Éditions, 1975); Dowland 1610 - Robert Dowland, Varietie of Lute Lessons (London, 1610), facsimile: Schott, 1958. Thank you to Richard Corran for providing TAB files for most of the music here.
- ⁹ W I & II refer to volumes I (1953/1970) & II (1973) of *Diomedes* Cato: Preludia, fantazje, tance i madrygały, na lutnie, edited by Maria Szczepanska and Piotr Pozniak, volumes 24 and 67 in the series Wydawnictwo Dawnej Muzyki Polskiej.
- ¹⁰ Edited in tablature supplement 'Complete Lute Solos ascribed to Kasper Sielicki, Petrus Konopacky and Franciszek Maffon' for Lute News 82 (July 2007), no 1. Paul O'Dette plays the Herbert version on his CD Lord Herbert of Cherbury's Lute Book (Harmonia Mundi 907068, 1992, track 13, which is titled Fantasia sopra 'la Canzon degli Ucelli' and the sleeve notes say it 'is based on themes from Jannequin's famous chanson "Le Chant des oiseaux" '.
- ¹¹ A version of the well know fantasia by Francesco da Milano, no 33 in Arthur Ness (ed), The Lute Music of Francesco Canova da Milano (Harvard University Press, Cambridge MA, 1970), where sources are listed, with additional concordances listed in The Consort 62 (Summer 2005), p. 17, fn. 39, reprinted with minor revision in The Lute Society of America Quarterly xliv/3 (Fall 2009), p. 20 fn. 39.

² Intavolatura di Liuto di Simone Molinaro Genovese Libro Primo (Venezia, Ricciardo Amadina, 1599), facsimile: Studio per Edizioni Scelte, Firenze 1978. The concordances are identified in James M. Meadors 'Italian Lute Fantasias and Recercars Printed in the Second Half of the Sixteenth Century' (doctoral thesis, Harvard University, 1984), p. 333.

³ The last of these is a close concordance for no 3 here.

⁴ The last is a close concordance for no 4a, transposed a major second higher, edited as no 4b here.

⁵ Thank you to Franco Pavan for this suggestion.

⁶ Part II included an additional fantasia, entitled Ut re mi sol fa la (nº 13a & b), making twenty one in all.

⁷ One is concordant with one of the consort recercars ascribed to Diomedes in GB-Och.372-6, edited in part V of this series.



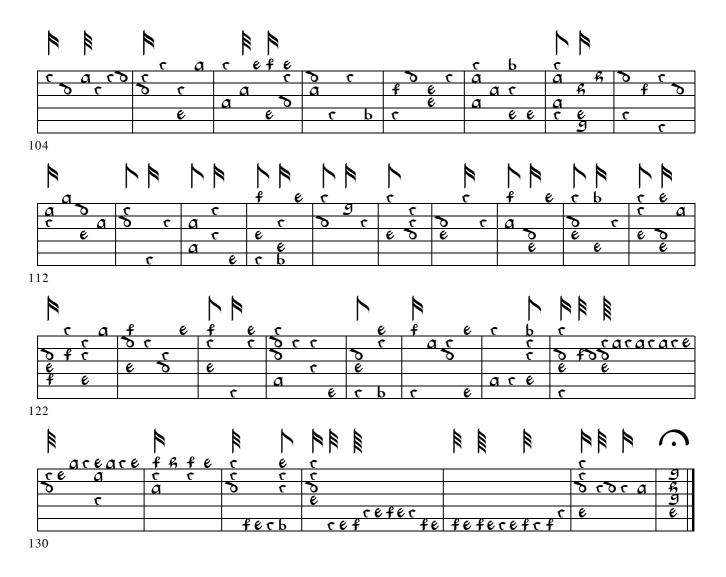


Besard 1603, f. 17r

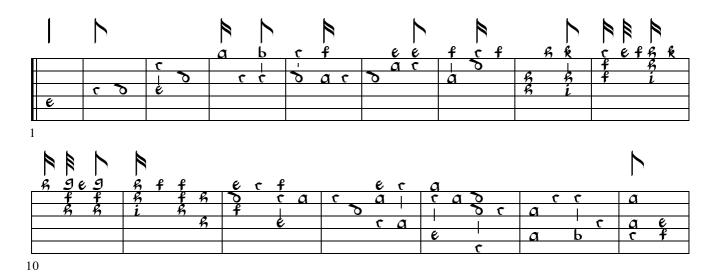


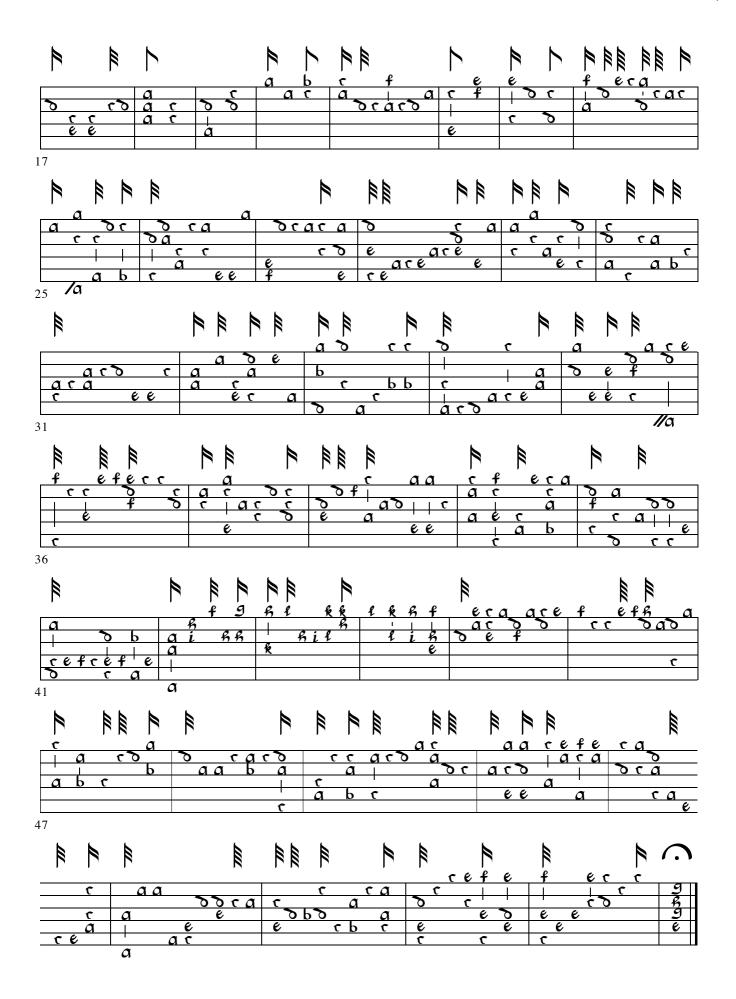




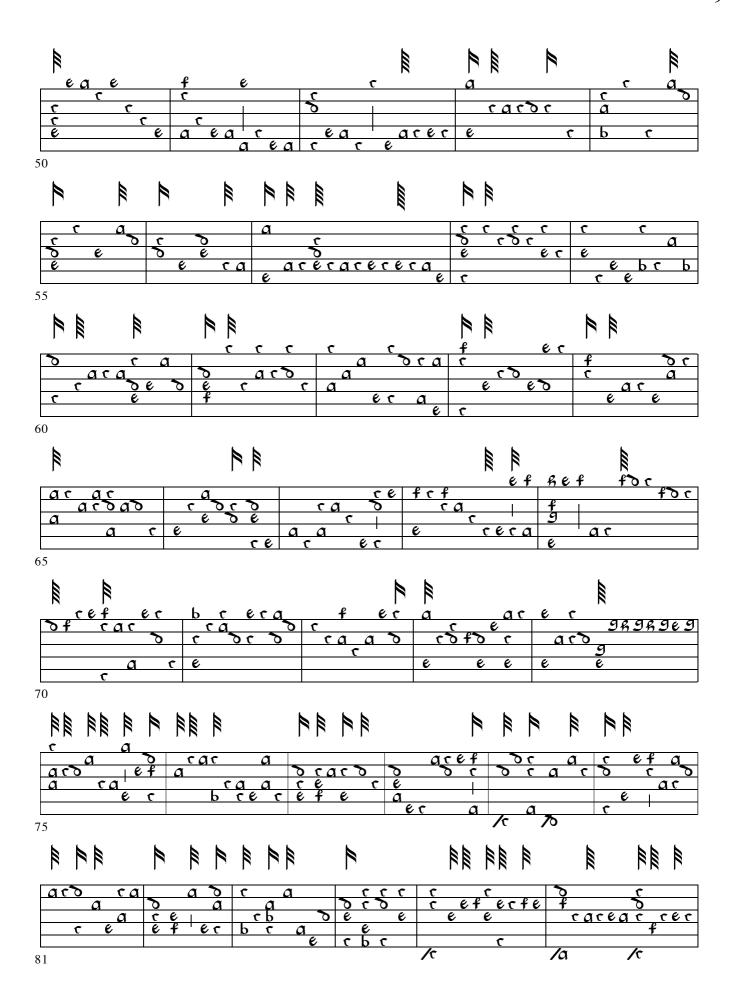


GB-Cfm 689, f. 80r



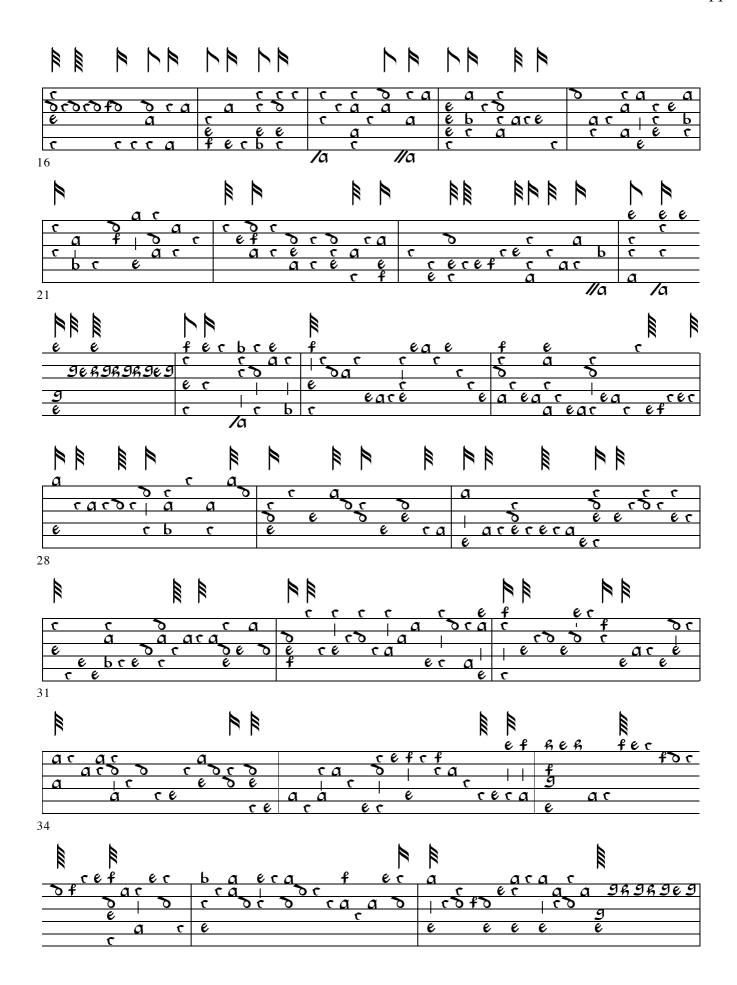


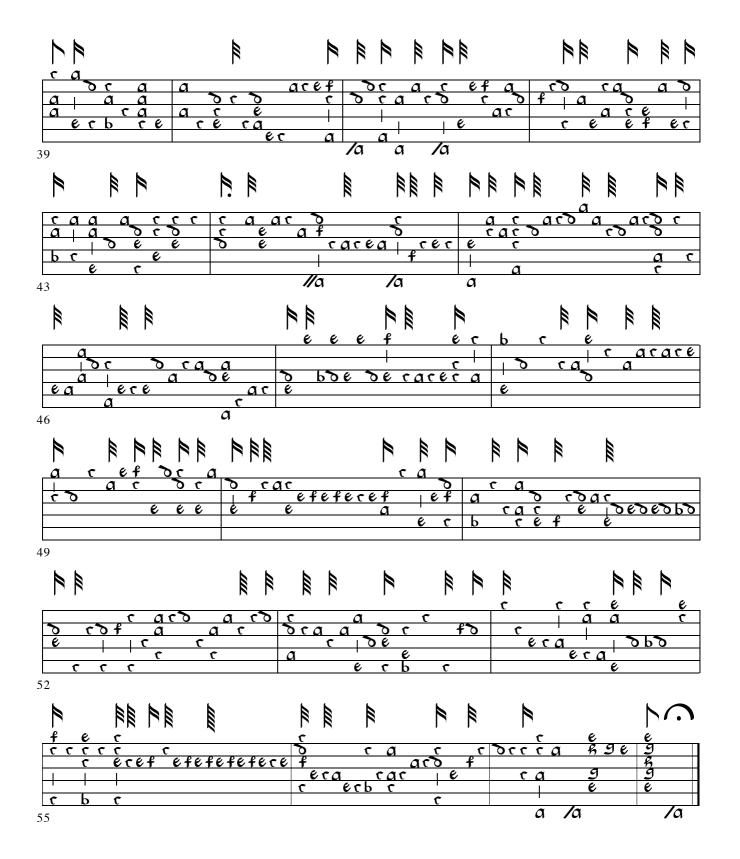






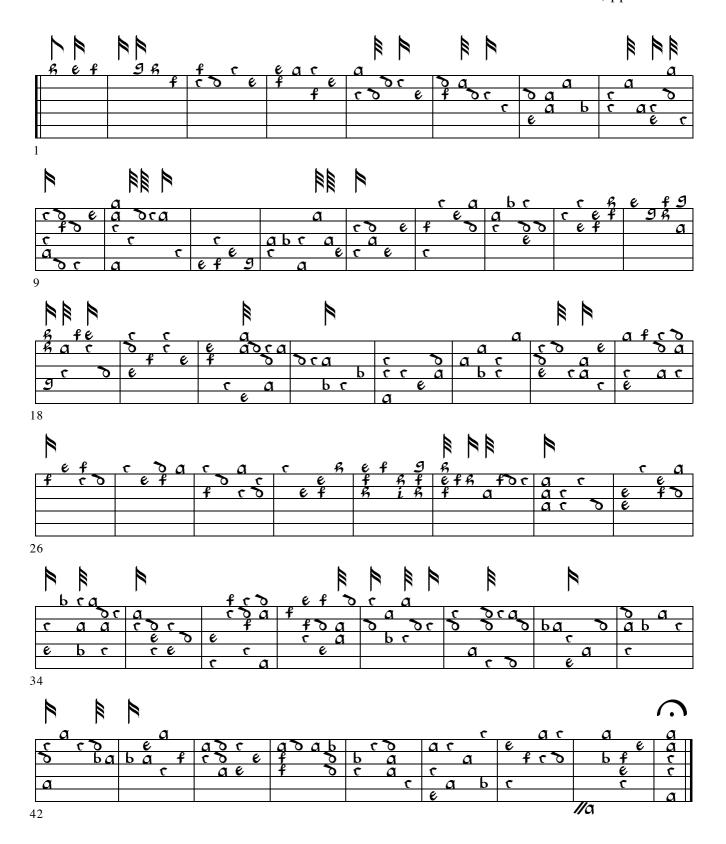
















D-LEm II.6.15, p. 59



9. Fantasia Diomedes

GB-Cfm 689, f. 80v





