**Music supplement to Lute News 30 (April 1994):**

**Lute Solos from The Montbuysson manuscript in Kassel**

The selection for the fifth tablature sheet is taken from the so-called Montbuysson manuscript (Kassel, Landes-bibliothek [D-Kl], 4o Mus 108.1 (facsimile edition by Claudia Maria Knispel, Kassel, Barenreiter 2005 and online facsimile: <https://orka.bibliothek.uni-kassel.de/viewer/image/1484138262748/1/> : ‘Liure de tablature de lhut pour Madame Elisabett princesse de hessen. Commençé par Victor de montbuysson, le dernier Januier 1611’ [f. 54r] and presumed mostly to be in Montbuysson’s hand. Elisabeth was born in 1596, the second of four children of Maurice, Landgrave of Hessen (1572-1632) by his first wife, Agnes von Solms-Laubach. Therefore, Montbuysson, who was court lutenist to Maurice whilst Landgrave between 1592-1627, began copying Elisabeth’s lute book when she was 15. Elisabeth married Herzog Johann Albrecht II von Mecklenburg-Güstrow in 1618, but she died 7 years later in 1625. An engraving of Elisabeth with her father, mother and three siblings is in the Würtembergische Landesbibliothek, Stuttgart [I am grateful to Uta and Rudolf Henning in Stuttgart for the above information]. Around 1595, John Dowland visited the court of ‘Prince Mauritius, Lantgraue of Hessen’ who contributed the fine pavan dedicated to ‘Ioanni Doulandi Anglorum Orphei’, to Robert Dowland’s *Varietie of Lute Lessons* (London 1610). In the preface to his *First Book of Songes or Ayres* 1597 John Dowland refered to Maurice as one of two ‘excellent masters and the most honourable patrons of music’, and Henry Peacham, in *The Complete Gentleman* 1622, described seeing ‘eight or ten several sets of motets and solemn Musick’ by Maurice, ‘set purposely for his own Chappell’, at which ‘he is his own Organist’. Other extant music by him includes the lute solo *Ursach habe ich zuchlagen Landgrafin von Hessen* in Leipzig II.6.15, *c.*1615, p. 414, and psalm settings ascribed to M.L.H. in Reymann’s *Cythara Sacra sive Psalmodiæ Davidis* (Köln 1613).[[1]](#footnote-1)

Only one lute solo is ascribed to Montbuysson in the manuscript, *Courente de Victor de Montbuysson* on f. 66v. Ten other lute solos by him are listed in the CNRS edition, from Denss’ *Florilegium* (Köln 1594) [3], Besard’s *Thesaurus Harmonicus* (Köln 1603) [3], the manuscript Hainhofer Lautenbüecher, Herzog August Bibliothek, Guelf.18.7/8, Wolfenbüttel, dated 1603 [2] and Mylius’ *Thesaurus Gratiarum* (Frankfurt 1622) [2], with concordant versions in several other sources [all edited for the tablature supplement to *Lute News* 112 (December 2014)].

The Montbuysson manuscript comprises tablature for 9 course renaissance lute [7th to F, 8th to E flat & 9th to D] and ornament signs and dots under tablature letters are reproduced here for you to interpret as you wish. Many pieces in the manuscript lack barlines, but they have been added here. The tablature in the original supplement was set by Miles Dempster of Score Conversions, Montreal, but has been reset using Wayne Cripps TAB in this revision.

D-Kl], 4o Mus 108.1:

**1.** ff. 59v-60r *Ballett ángloys* 2

An arrangement in d minor of the ballad tune ‘Mall Symes’ [all versions edited for the *Lutezine* to *Lute News* 114 (July 2015)].

**2.** f. 67r *englische danz tilediteri i genant* 3

**3.** f. 60r *ballett de la déese diane* 3

Note the da capo sign indicating repetition of the last 4 bars

**4.** f. 70r *Ballet angloys* 4

**5.** f. 1r untitled and anonymous 4

**6.** f. 73r untitled and anonymous prelude 5

**7.** f. 26v *Landtgraves Alman* 6

A setting of Une jeune fillette presumably arranged by or dedicated to Elisabeth's father Maurice. Also known as *Ich ging ein mal spazieren* and *Von Gott will ich nicht lassen* in Germany and *Madre non mi far Monaca* in Italy [all versions edited for *Lute News* and *Lutezine* 119 (October 2016) and *Lutezine* to *Lute News* 120 (December 2016)].

**8.** f. 60r *ballett* 6*John H Robinson April 1994/*revised *August 2015*

1. Lute solos ascribed to Maurice, Landgrave of Hessen: Twenty two psalm settings by ‘M.L.H.’ each with a ‘Variatio’ in Reymann’s *Cythara Sacra* 1613; Nürnberg 33748, f. 52v ‘Intrada Mauritij’, ‘Intrada’ Bautzen 13.4o.85, p. 69, ‘Allemande de Bocqueti’ Donaueschingen III, f. 30r, ‘Chorea Anglica’ Dresden 297, p. 149, ‘Ballet’ Montbuysson, f. 3v, ‘The Earl of Darbyes Caraunta’ Ballet, p. 111, ‘Maske The french Kinges maske’ Board, f. 8r ii, ‘King’s Maske’ [consort part?] Dd.2.11, f. 61v, cf. The french kings maske [mixed consort] Dd.5.20, f. 4r; Dd.5.21, f. 4v; Dd.14.24, f. 23r; ‘I[ntrada?] M[oritz?]’ Nürnberg 33748, f. 57r, ‘danz’ Nürnberg 33748, ff. 55v-56r; ‘Courrente M.L.H.’ Montbuysson f. 12v, ‘So solstu doch mein liebstes seyn’ Dresden 297, pp. 86-87, ‘Current 15’ Leipzig II.6.15, p. 246, ‘Courante’ [instr. a?] Praetorius, ‘Courante van Jan Bull Doet:’ [keyboard?] Add.23625, f. 75v; ‘Courrente de Mad. la premiere fille d’Hessen. M.L.H.’ Montbuysson, f. 15v; ‘Courrente blanche et bleue. M.L.H.’ Montbuysson, ff. 15v-16r, ‘Courrente blanche et bleue. M.L.H.’ Montbuysson ff. 17v-18r; ‘Courante. Es wolt ein Megtlein hochzeit. M.L.H.’ Montbuysson f. 26r; Dresden 1.V.8 [olim MS. B.1030], Lautenbuch des Johann Joachim von Loss, f. 64v ‘Galliarda M. [H?] L.H. a.4’. Rude’s *Flores Musicæ, Libri Secundi* (1600), no. 107 ‘Pavana di Mauritio d’alto Monte’ is probably by Landgrave of Hessen, as d’alto Monte [from the high mountain] probably refers to the large hill on which is found Moritz’s Schloss at Kassel. This pavana is also found as a lute duet entitled ‘Pauana Englessa’ in the Eijsertt [Linzer] lutebook [thanks to Tim Crawford for both pieces of info.]. Finally, The ‘Landtgraves Alman’, is in fact a setting of the Almande Don Frederico or Gar lustig ist spazieren, with many cognates and concordances scattered through lute sources, many but not all listed in the Tree facsimile edition [1991] of Ms. Herold, Padua 1602, ff. 16v-17v. - all in LN? [↑](#footnote-ref-1)