**Music Supplement to Lute News 32 (November 1994):**

**Lute Solos from the Grässe manuscript in Lodz**

The seventh tablature sheet contains seven lute solos from the Grässe manuscript, formerly Berlin-Charlottenburg, Biblio-thek der Hochschule für Musik, Ms.5102, and now at the Biblioteka Uniwersytecka, Lódz in Poland with shelmark M 6983. The manuscript has 107 folios in german tablature, and includes 18 preludes, a fantasia, 6 fugas, 12 intradas, 12 passamezzos and saltarellos, 13 galliarda, 6 padoana, 4 tantz and a baleto moresca, as well as a neopolitana 2 canzona and 11 vocal intabulations. The composers represented are Diomedes [Cato], Caspari [Polachi], Melchior Neusidler, Jacobus Losius, Leonis Hassler and Hieonymus Wully. The pieces I have chosen are a representative selection transcribed into french tablature. Minor errors have been corrected without comment.

**No. 1.** Galliarda Diomedi. Diomedes’ skill at creating rythmic interest is shown in this galliard and no. 2. Bar 20 is rather confused and has been reconstructed with the help of bar 30. The rhythyms at the end of each strain have been reproduced as in the original, but need to be modified slightly if playing section repeats.

**No. 2.** Galliarda Diomedi. See comment to no. 1. The upper voice is confused in bars 25-26, and has been reconstructed. Diomedes writing is very idiosyncratic, demanding to play, but rewards perseverence!

[Additional: The complete lute music of Diomedes - over fifty works - was edited in a 5-part series in *Lute News* 85 (April 2008) - included nos. 3 & 7 here, *Lute News* 87 (September 2008), *Lute News* 90 (July 2009), *Lute News* 95 (September 2010), *Lute News* 97 (April 2011).]

**No. 3.** The rhythmic simplicity of three preludes Nos. 3-5 contrasts dramatically with the Diomedes galliards. This prelude is reminiscent of the ‘Prelude des preludes par Sn Diomede’, the first piece copied into Lord Herbert of Cherbury’s Lute Book, f. 1r and ‘Pælud. Diomed’ in Besard’s *Thesaurus Harmonicus* 1603, f. 6r.

**No. 4.** This Præambulum begins as a duo with two interwoven descending phrases on alternative notes. Articulate the voices separately for the best effect. This can be improved if the third note ‘b1’ is played as ‘g2’, and the fifth note ‘a1’ as ‘f2’, if you don’t mind altering the original.

**No. 5.** Play this Præambulum fast and sound out the slower phrases in the central section.

**No. 6.** The composer Jacobus Losius of Nos. 6-10 is not to be confused with Johann Joachim Loss, whose Lute Book was destroyed in 1944 [Dresden Ms.Mus.1-V-8, formerly Ms.Mus.B.1030, *c.*1620 - additional: a nearly complete set of photographs of the manuscript has now been found]. This intrada is followed in the manuscript by eight more anonymous intrada that could possibly be by him too.

**No. 7.** The two strains of ten bars of this Galliarda by Jacobus Losius have irregular repeats of nine and eleven bars respectively, but I have not attempted a reconstruction.

**Nos. 8-10.** are additional compositions by Lossius, a paduana and two more intrada added for the revision. Nos 6-10 is all the music known by this composer.

**Worklist**

**1.** PL-LZu M 6983, f. 84v *Galliarda Diomedi* 2

**2.** PL-LZu M 6983, f. 85v *Galliarda Diomedi* 3

D-KNu K 16a 6745, pp. 4-5 *Galliarda Diomedis*

Rude 1600 II, sig. HH4v *104* added by hand: *Galliarda Harnisy*

index: *Galliarda Diomedis*

Besard 1603, f. 123v *Galliarda eiusdem* [*Djom*]

**3.** PL-LZu M 6983, f. 70r *Præambulum* 4

**4.** PL-LZu M 6983, f. 74v *Præambulum* 4

**5.** PL-LZu M 6983, ff. 72v-73r *Præambulum* 5

**6.** PL-LZu M 6983, f. 81r *Intrada Jacobus Losius* 5

**7.** PL-LZu M 6983, ff. 60v-61r *Jacobus Losius Galliarda* 6

Additional:

**8.** D-LEm II.6.15, p. 141 *Intrada Jacoby Lossi 1* 7

**9.** D-LEm II.6.15, p. 142 *Intrada Jacoby Lossi 2* 8

**10.** A-LIa 475 (Eysertt), f. 80r *Paduana Jacobus Lossius A.4* 9

*John H Robinson - November 1994/revised August 2022*