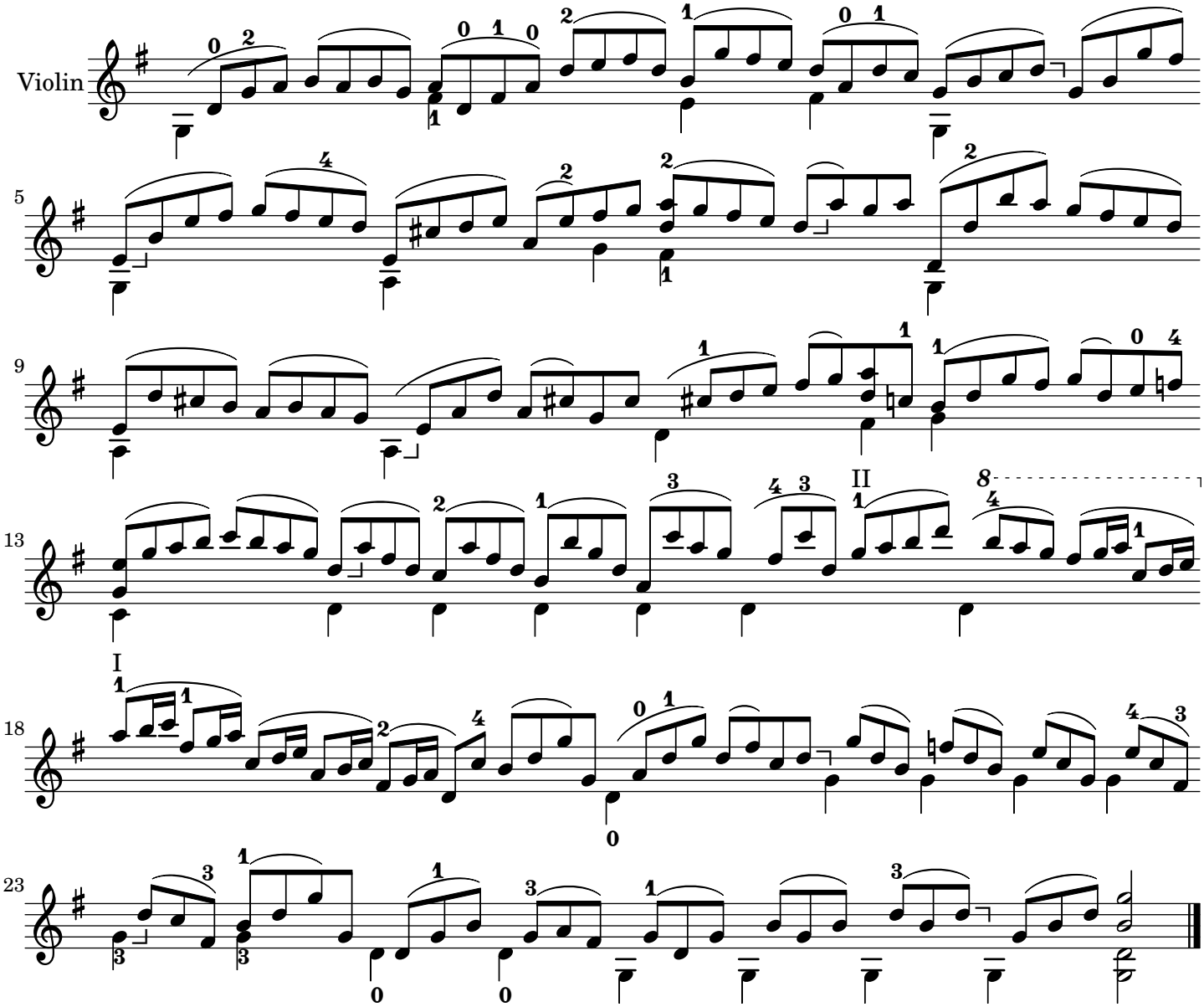
Lute Suite in G Major

Arranged for violin

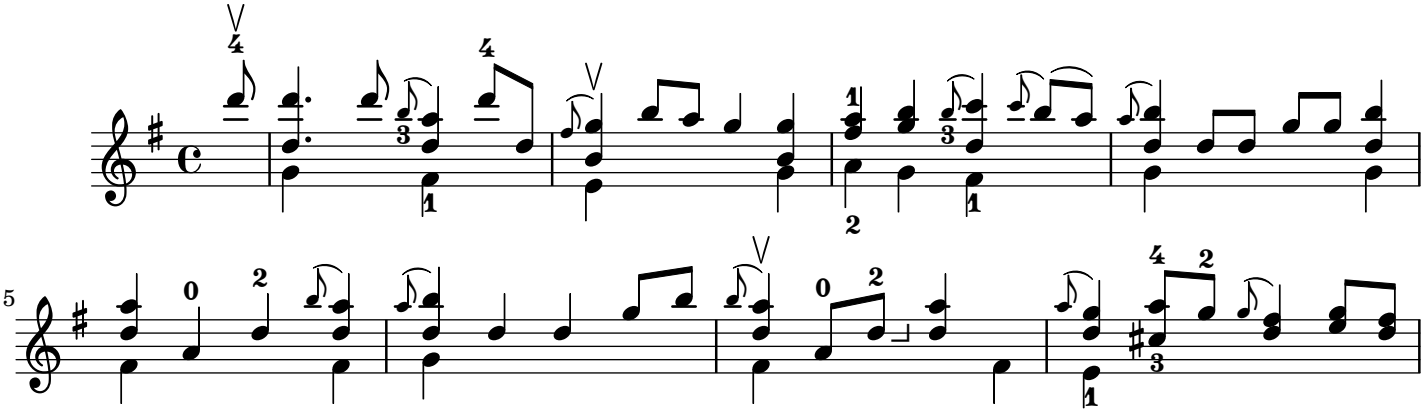
by Stelian Dumitrascu

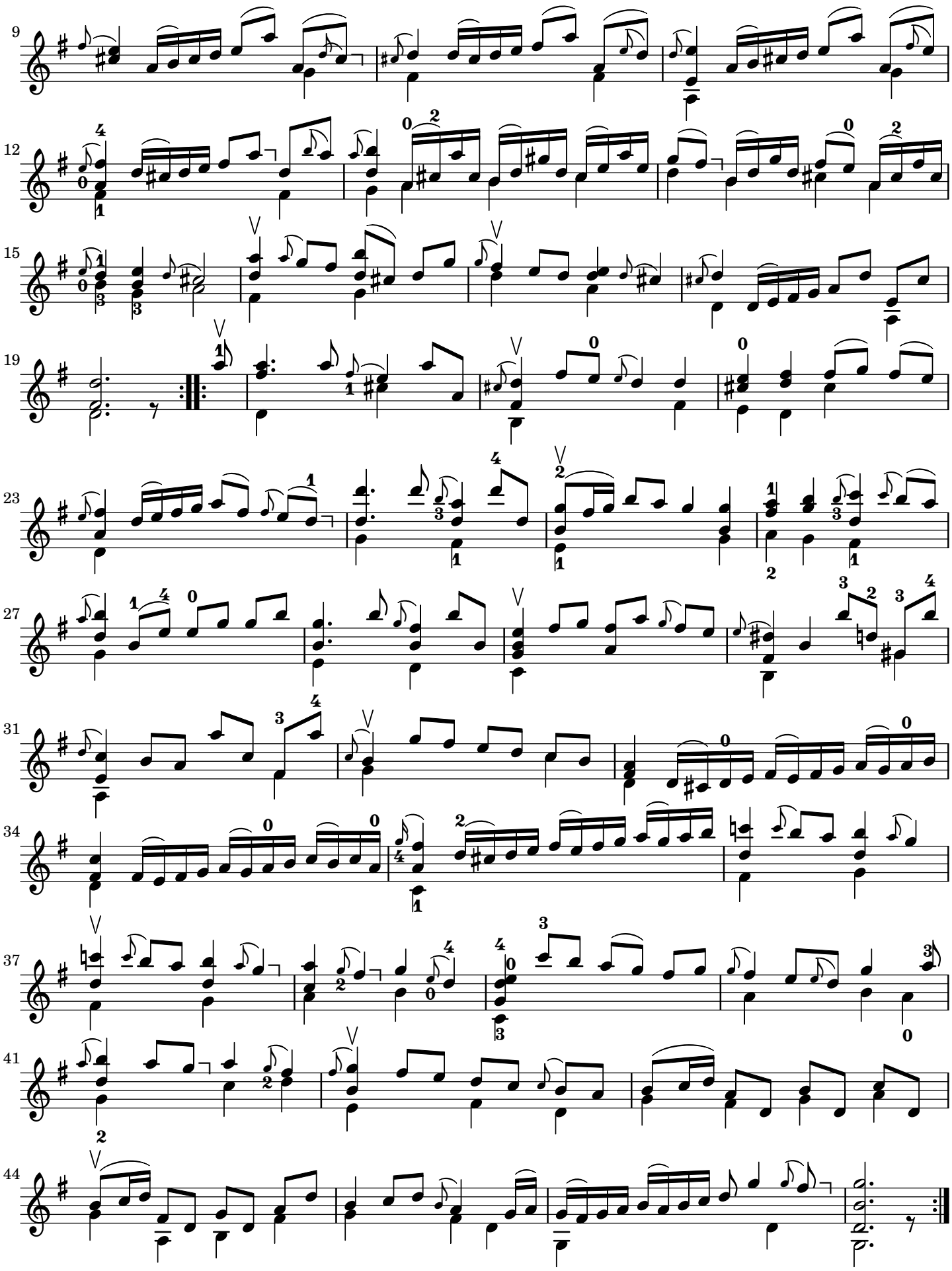
Silvius Leopold Weiss (1687-1750)

Prelude

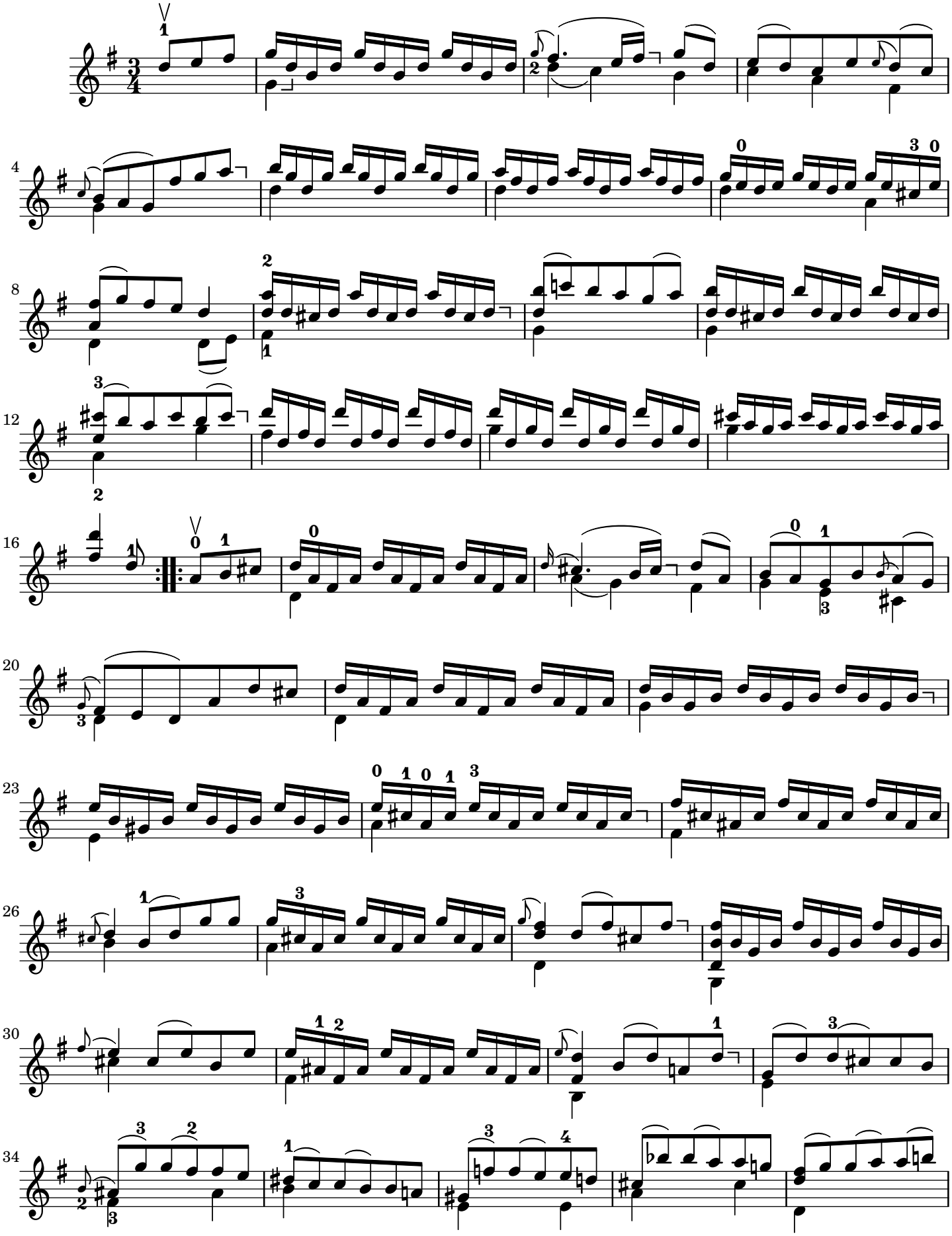


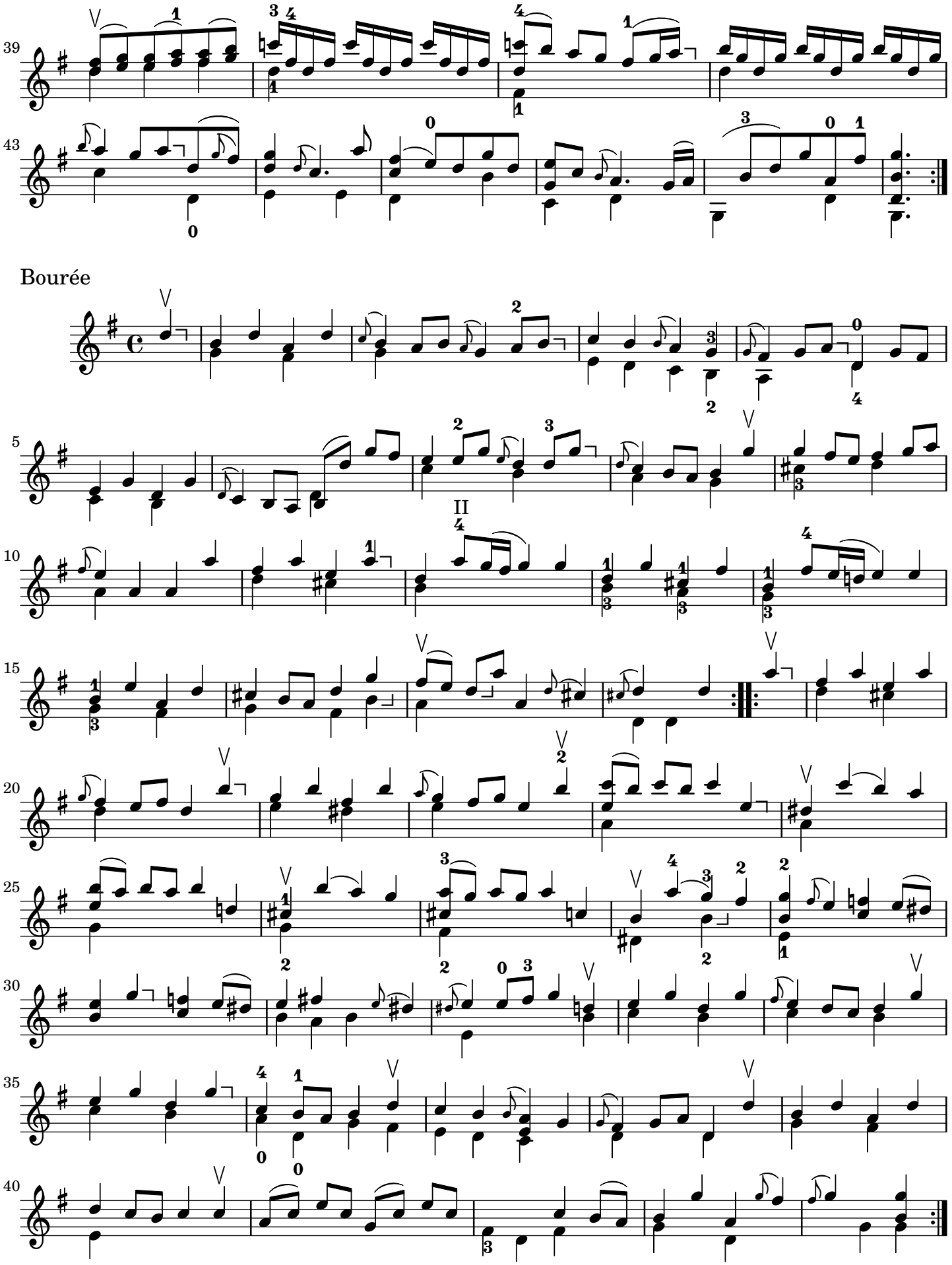
Allemande



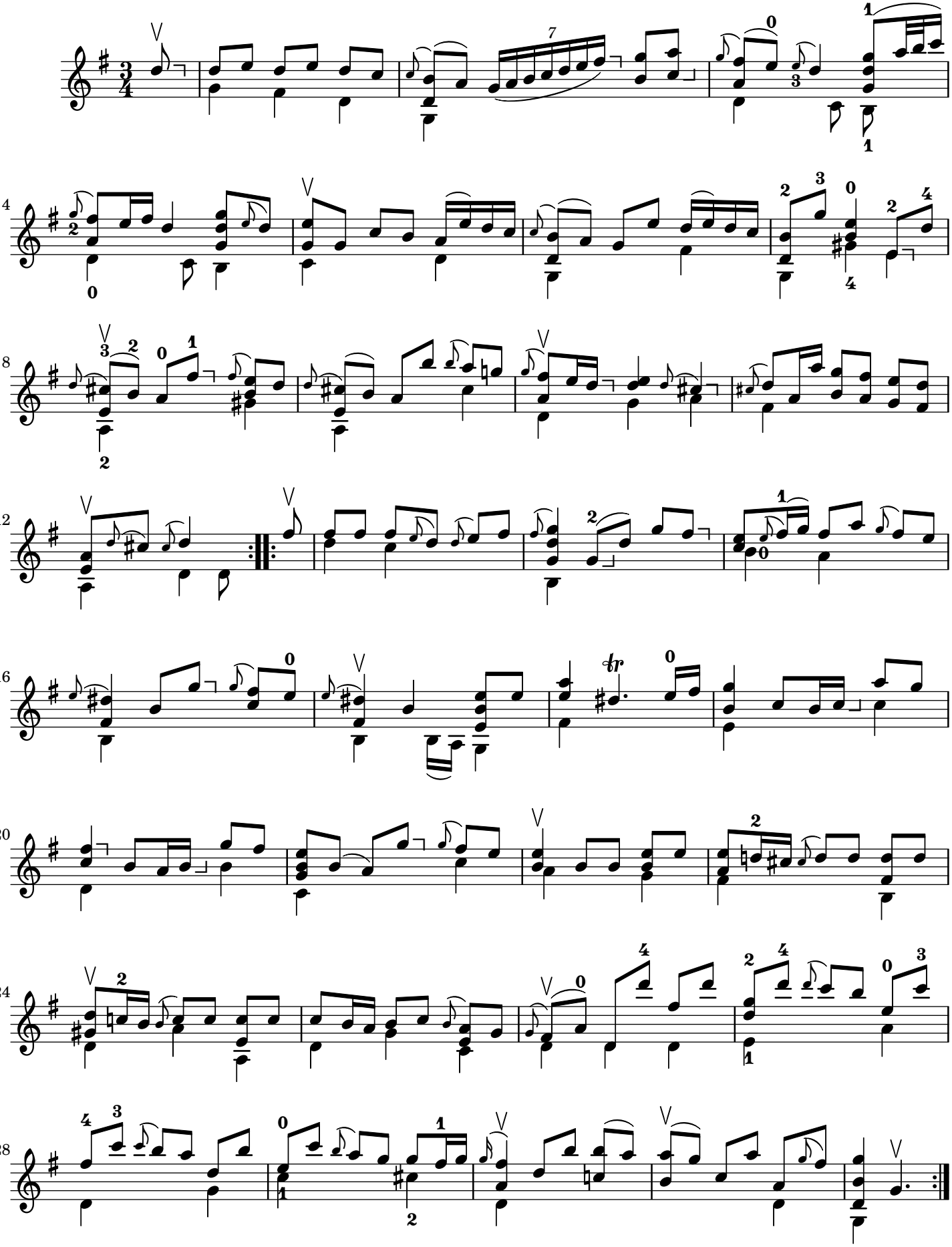


Courante

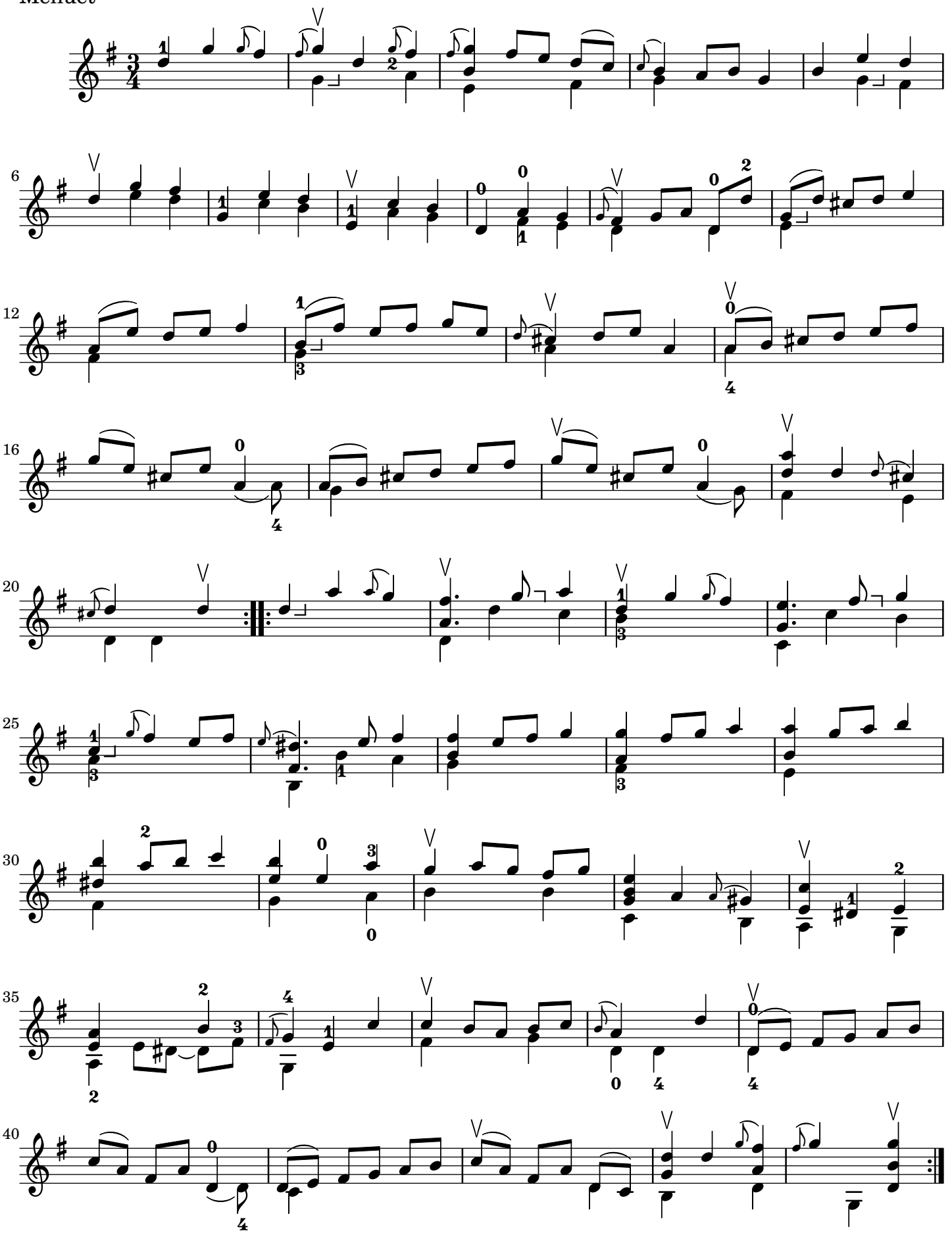



39
43
Bourée
5
10
II
15
20
25
30
35
40

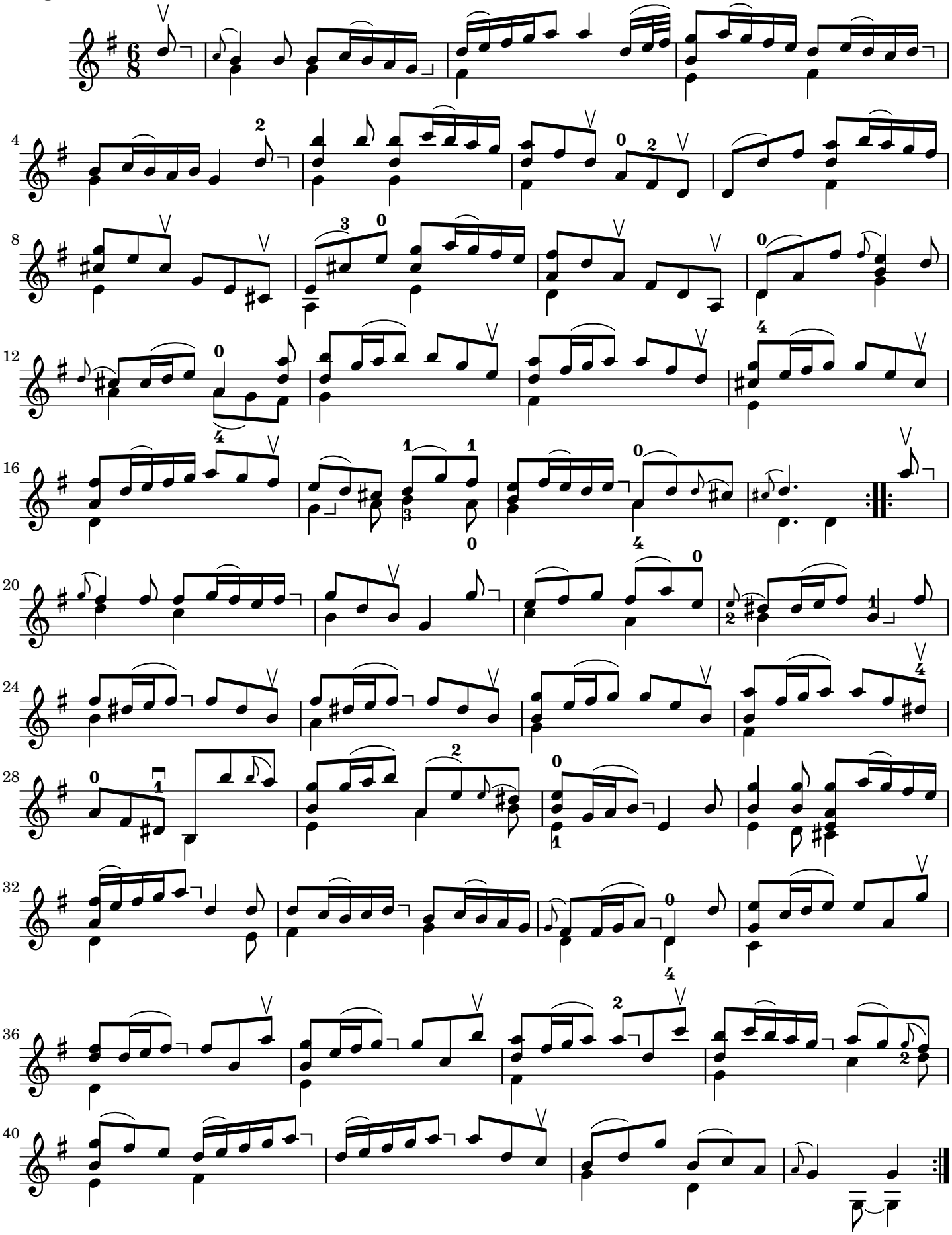
Sarabande



Menuet



Gigue



Notes

Original score

The original lute tablature for this piece can be found in the so called London Manuscript :

> The British Library
> GB-Lbl Add. Ms. 30387, pages 42 to 49

In the lute world, the piece is known as London Suite #4 .

Harmonic choice

A player familiar with the sonority of the existing offering of Baroque music for unaccompanied string instruments, such as J.S.Bach's Sonatas and Partitas, as well as his Cello Suites, may see certain harmonic elements in this transcription as odd. That is because, when facing the choice between keeping close to the original lute harmonies, on the one hand, and adapting them so that they sound more *violinish* , on the other, we opted invariably for the former approach. Evidently, ad litteram chord rendition is not always possible due to limitations of range and fingering on the violin.

Bowing

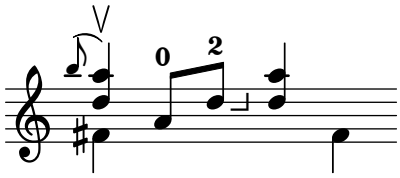
By default, the first note in a bar is down-bowed. Up-bowed first notes are explicitly marked for easier orientation. Out-of-order bowings are explicitly marked as well.

Extra fingerings

We have included fingering ties: ┘ ┐ , which the player may find useful during the first readings of the score, as well as when the score is visited infrequently. A tie is a finger applied on two strings simultaneously, in anticipation of a fifth interval to be played in the same position shortly thereafter.

Voicing

In order to give the player an idea about the voicing in the original lute score, throughout most of the violin score the bass is outlined using downward stems. Durations are not stictly observed, nor the rests:



Download

The latest PDF version of this piece is available at:

> http://geocentral.net/music

together with MIDI files and the date of the most recent revision.

Acknowledgment

The lute score in modern notation was provided by Andrew Forrest, to whom I wish to express my gratitude.

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