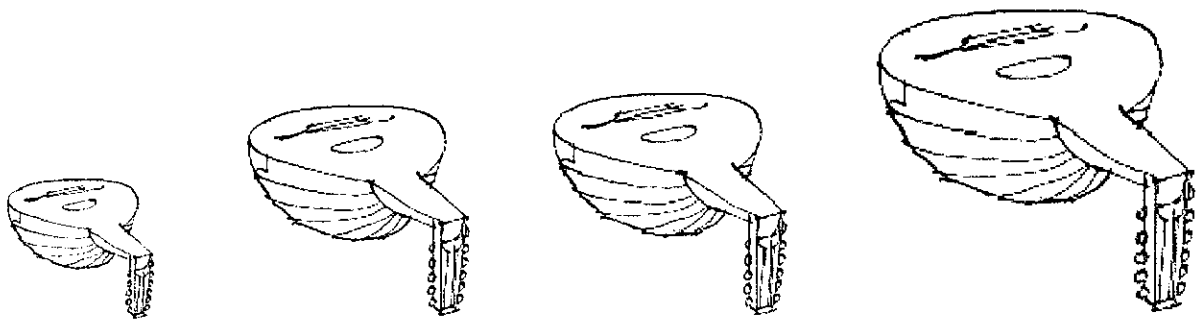
LUTE 3 in G

3 Renaissance vocal masterpieces arranged for 4 lutes

For



Lute 1 in A lute 2 in G lute 3 in G lute 4 in bass D

Sassi Palae – Andrea Gabrieli

Maria Stabat – Andrea Gabrieli

Il est bel et bon - Pierre Passereau

All of these pieces are wonderful madrigals or motets in just 5, 6 and 4 parts respectively. Therefore there are not so many notes for each lutenist to play allowing focus on playing the linear vocal lines comfortably and musically. Counting is usually the main challenge - as ever.

It is very helpful to read the words before playing to understand the mood of each piece. If possible listening to a recording of the original madrigal/motet is invaluable.

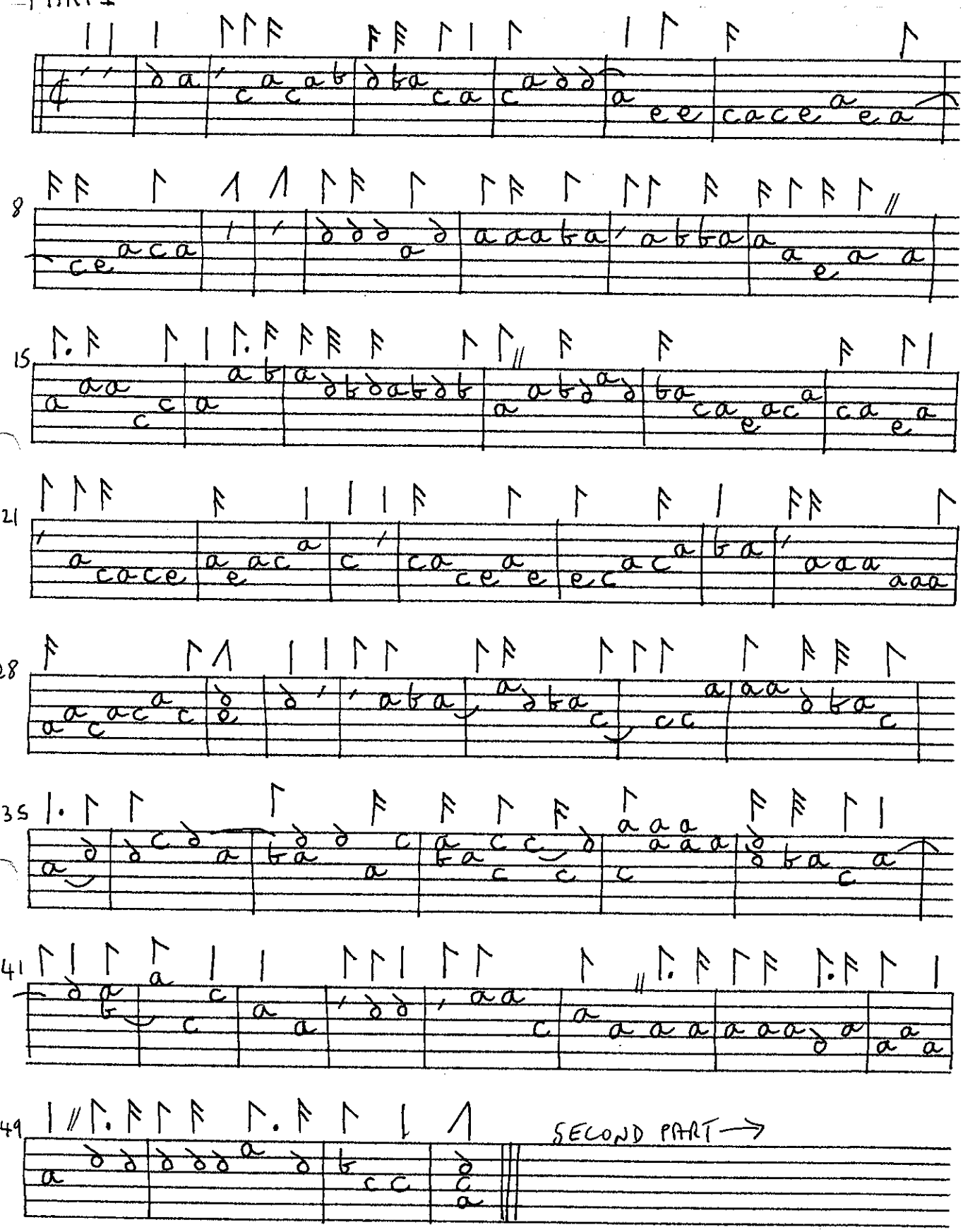
Mike Ashley, January 2020

Sassi Palae - a tribute to Adrian Willaert by Andrea Gabrieli

Arranged for 4 lutes (A, G, G & bass D) by Mike Ashley

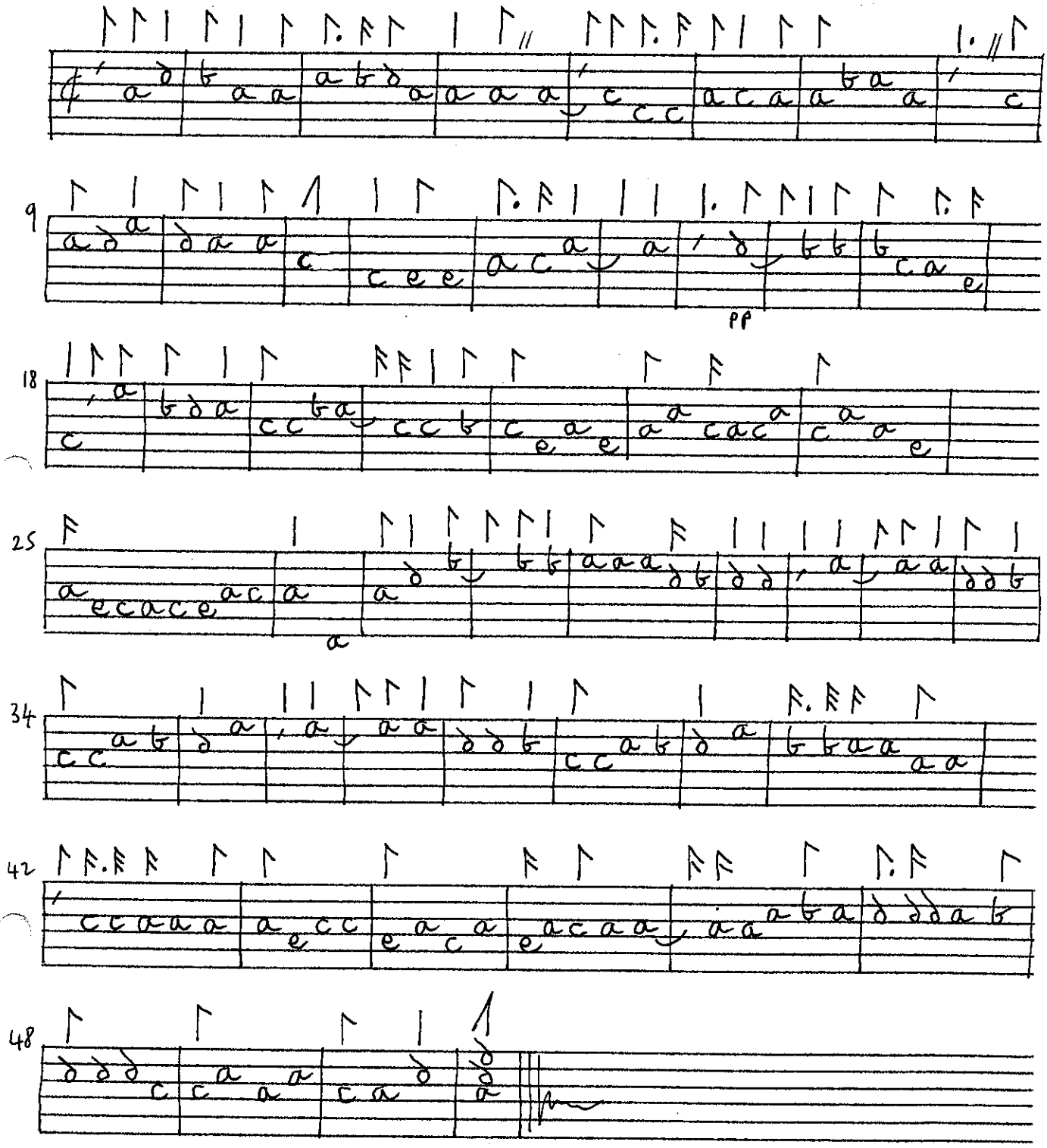
Lute 3 in G

PART I



Sassi Palae

PART II



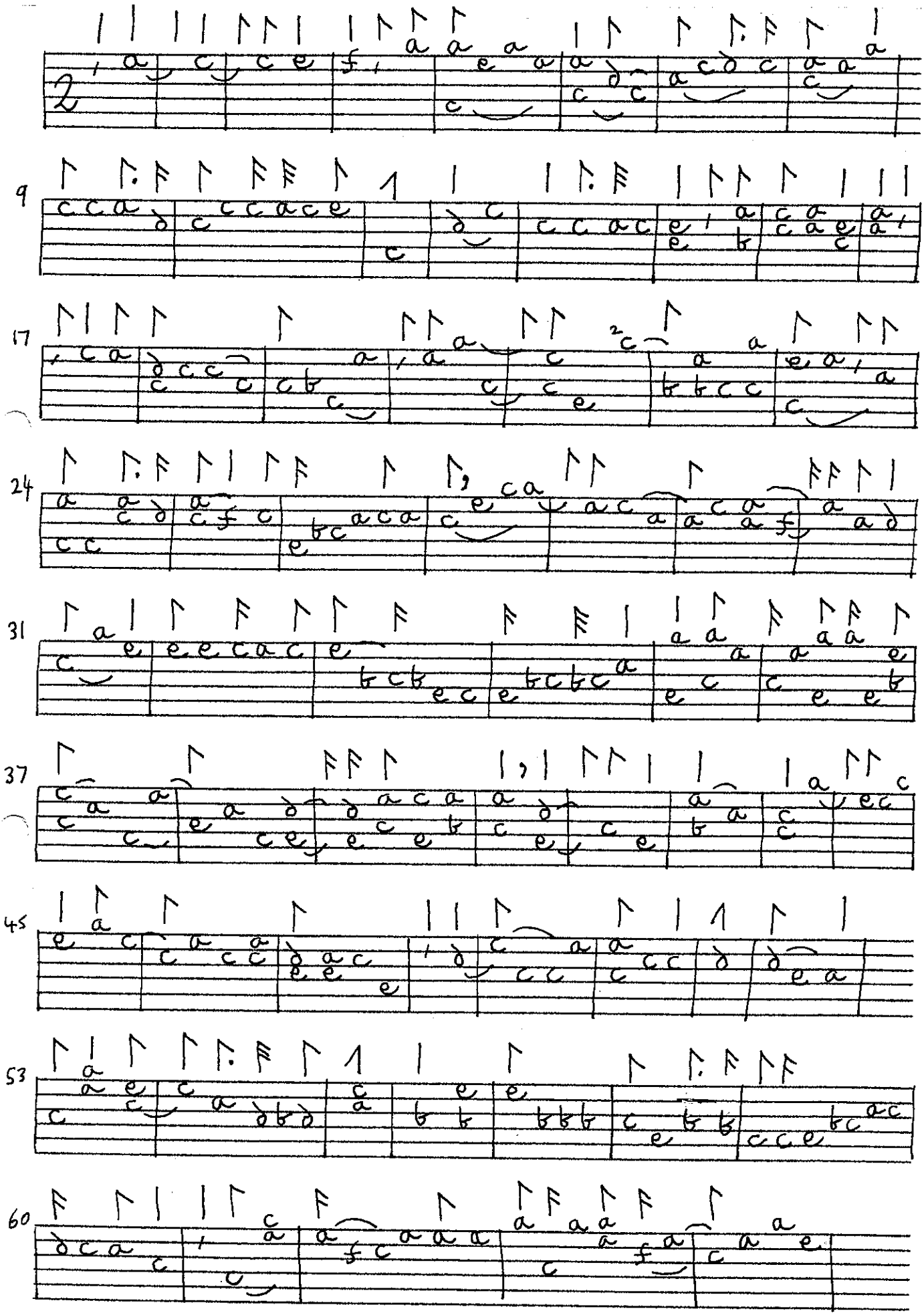
Part 1
Stones, piles, sandbanks on the Adriatic coast
Seaweeds, reeds and other plants which live there
Islands, marshes, quays that are home to
Oysters, cockles and the amiable flatfish,
And you, fish in every stream in the valley
And in the sea, both large and small,
Mackerel, cuttlefish, sardines which swim around there,
Mermaids, both unattached and married,

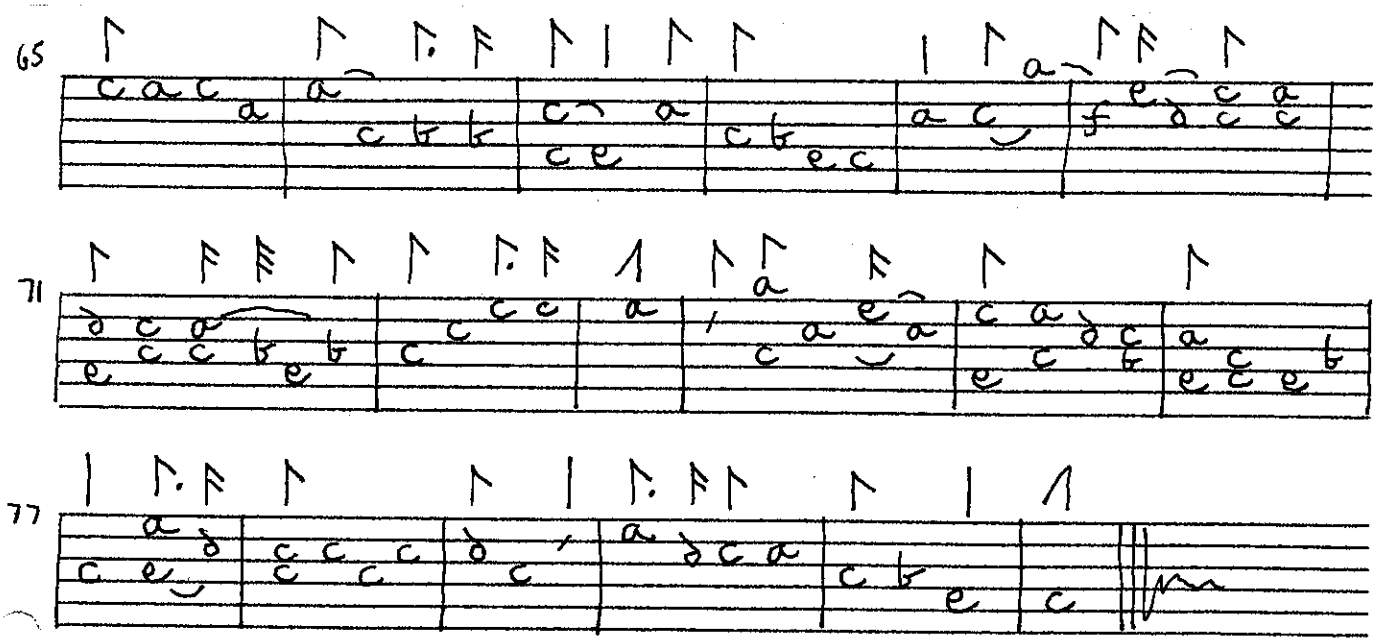
Part 2
And you, rivers that do tribute to the sea --
Piave, Adige, Po, Sil, Brenta and Ogio
come, so that all may lament
the death of Adrian, which fills me with grief,
who will never again set my verses
to sweet song, breaking apart every rock on the shore.
Oh what a sorrow for the whole world!
Who will there be now
that can rival him for harmony?

Maria Stabat – 6 part motet by Andrea Gabrieli

Arranged for 4 lutes (A, G, G & bass D) by Mike Ashley

Lute 3 in G





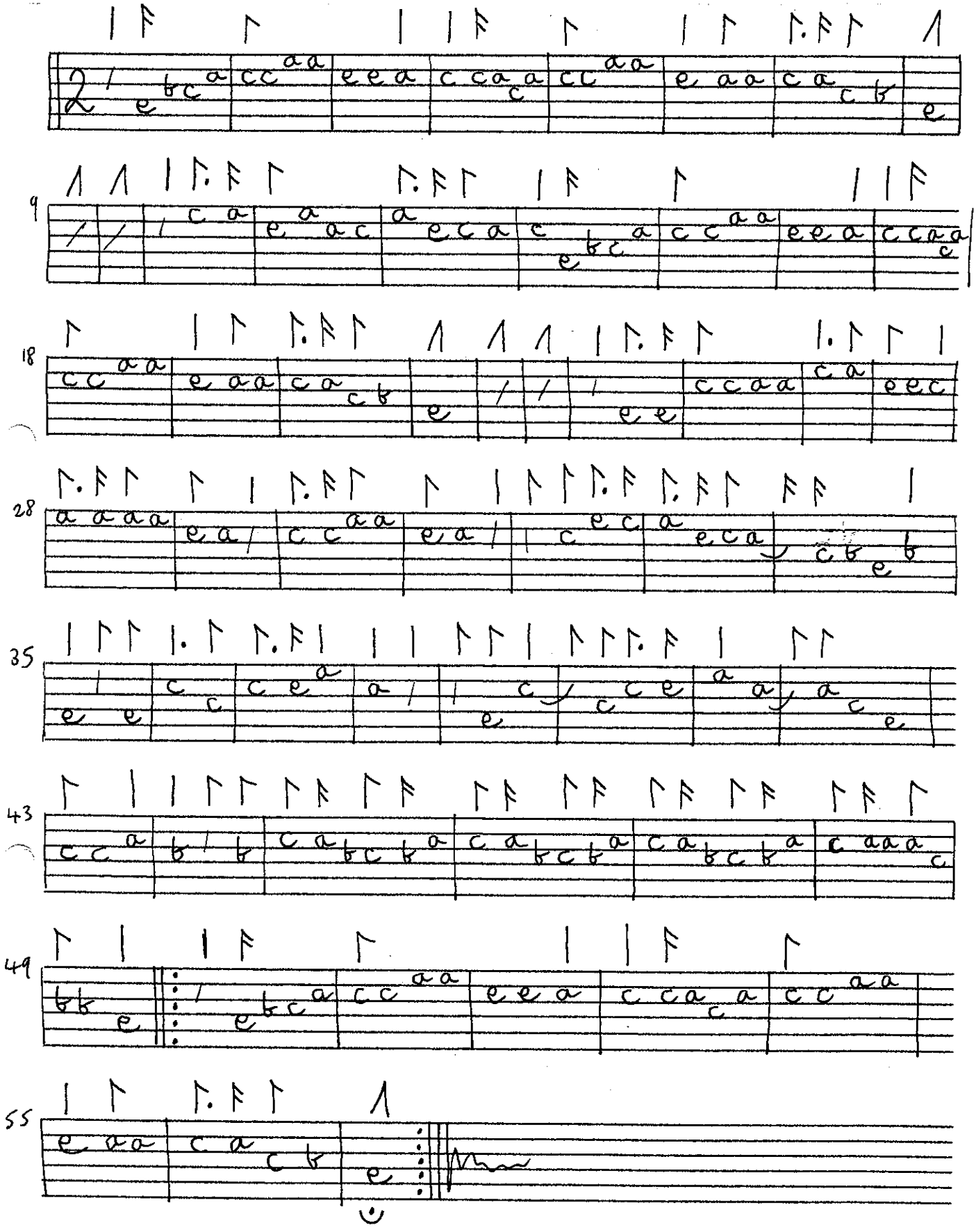
Maria Stabat

This is a wonderful and moving motet by Andrea Gabrieli, organist at St Mark's in Venice. Andrea was more subtle than his esteemed nephew Giovanni Gabrieli, and helped create the Venetian style in the generation before Monteverdi.

It helps to read the translation of the words before playing the piece and if possible to listen to a vocal recording.

Maria stabat ad monumentum foris,	Mary stood outside the tomb,
Plorans. Dum ergo fleret inclinavit se	As she was weeping, she bent down
Et prospexit in monumentum	and looked into the tomb
Et vidit duos angelos in albis sedentes	and saw two angels in white, sitting
Unum ad caput et unum ad pedes	one at the head and one at the foot
Ubipositum fuerat corpus Jesu	of where they had placed the body of Jesus
Dicunt e iilli: Mulier, quid ploras?	They said to her: "Woman, why do you weep?"
Dicit eis: Quia tulerunt	She said to them "Because they have taken away
Dominum meum, et nescio	the body of my Lord, and I do not know
Ubi posuerunt eum."	Where they have put him.

Il est bel et bon - Chanson by Pierre Passereau

Arranged for 4 lutes (A, G, G & bass D) by Mike Ashley

Two women gossip about the merits of their husbands including "feeding the chickens", whatever that really means. Bring out the sound of the clucking!