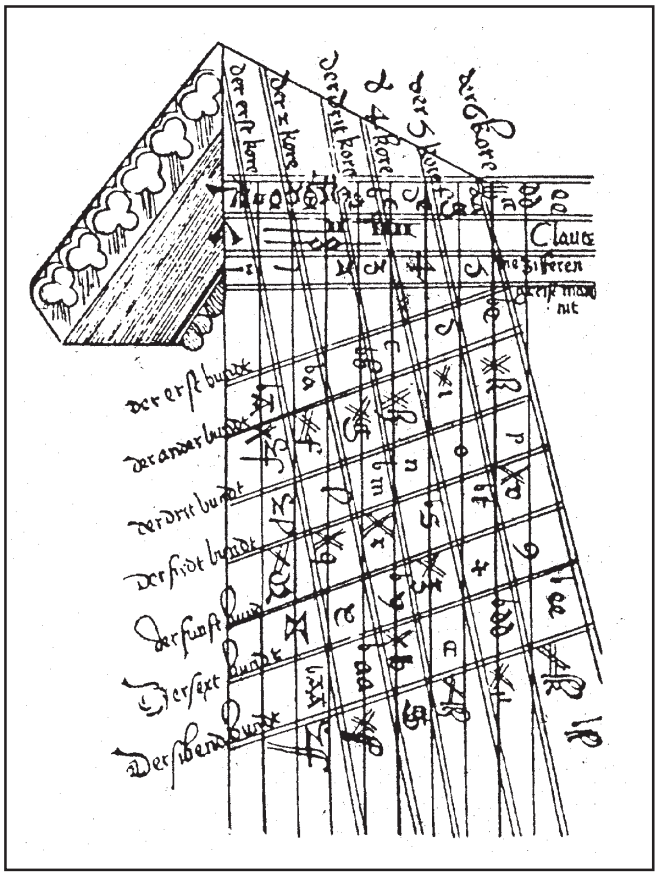
HANS GERLE

17 pieces
for
Renaissance Lute



edited
by
Richard Darsie

TREE EDITION

German Renaissance Lute Music
Volume I

17 pieces
by
HANS GERLE

Selected and transcribed
by
Richard Darsie

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TREE EDITION
Albert Reyerman

HANS GERLE
17 PIECES FOR RENAISSANCE LUTE

Selected and transcribed into French Tablature
by
Richard Darsie

This edition is one of a series of German Renaissance Lute Music published by TREE EDITION. German Renaissance Lute Music has long held a position of relative obscurity in relation to its English, French and Italian counterparts, largely because of the barrier of the German tablature system, which is rather less intuitive than French or Italian tablature. This series aims to remedy this by introducing lute music of some of the major composers of the German Renaissance, as well as anonymous works from some of the main manuscripts in German tablature, to a wider audience by presenting it in the better known French tablature.

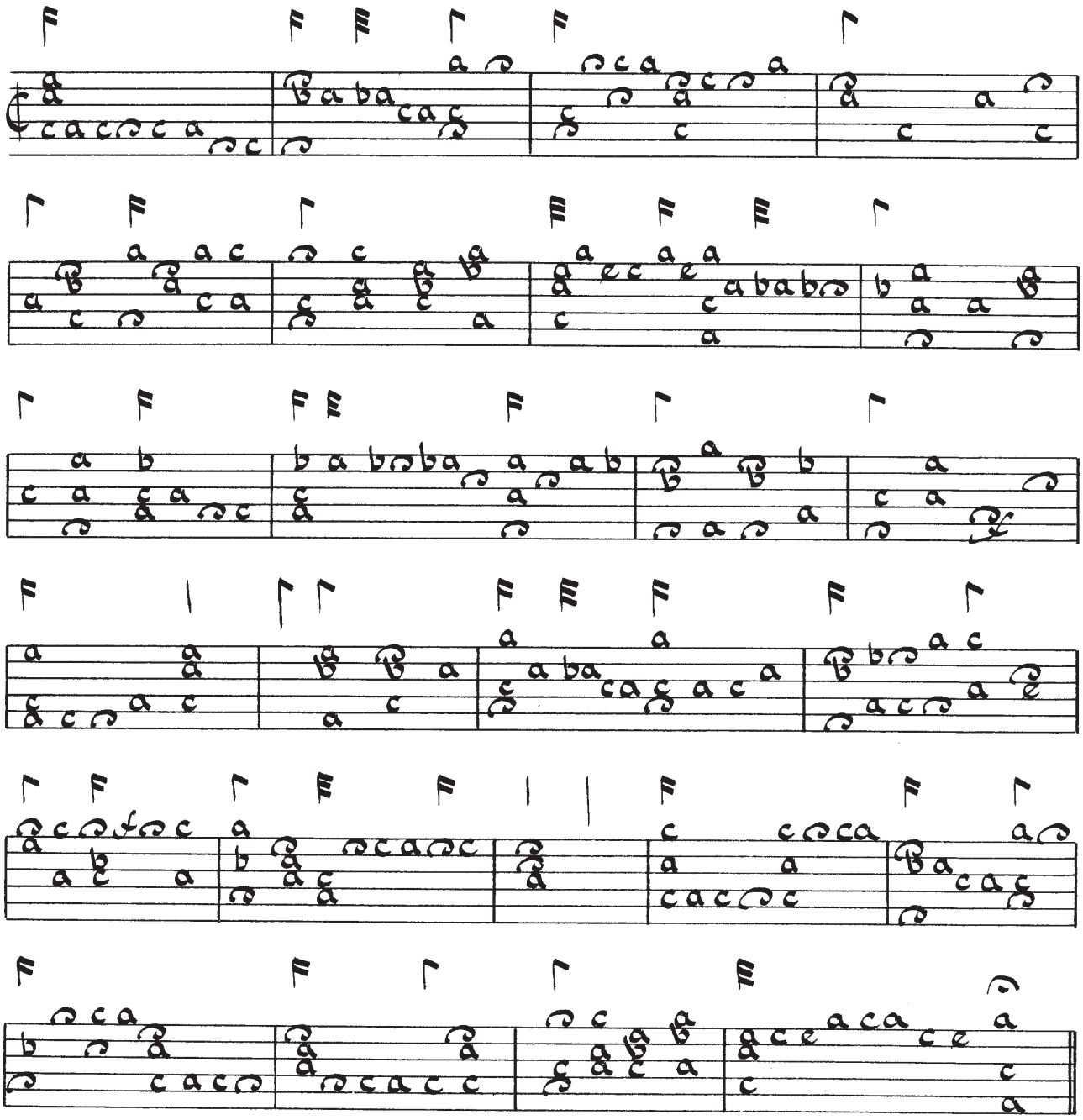
The present volume shows a selection of pieces by Hans Gerle, one of the earliest composers of published lute music in Germany. His works survives in three printed volumes : „Musica Teutsch, auf die Instrument der grossen und kleinen Geygen, auch Lautten“ (1532), „Tabulatur auff die Laudten“ (1533), and „Musica und Tabulatur,auff die Instrument der kleinen und grossen Geygen, auch Lautten“ (1546). The 1532 and 1546 volumes contain, in addition to solo lute music, a number of pieces arranged for four viols. The great majority of the solo lute music in 1546 is chanson intabulations. Most of these are not the popular ones (e.g., Doulce memoire, D’amour me plains) set by many Renaissance lutenist-composers; of 33 chanson in tabulations in this volume, 26 are not found in any other published collection of lute music. A rather nondescript saltarello in 1546 apparently is Gerle’s sole experiment with dance music. The pieces in the present edition are drawn from the 1533 and 1546 collections. They consist entirely of intabulations of vocal works, mostly french chansons but some German lieder as well.

It is worth noting that in addition to the above mentioned works, Gerle edited a huge volume, published in 1552 as „Ein Newes sehr Künstlichs Lautenbuch“, containing works by major Italian lute composers (Giovanni da Crema, Domenico Bianchini, Antonio Rotta, Francesco da Milano, and others) which he transcribed into the German tablature.

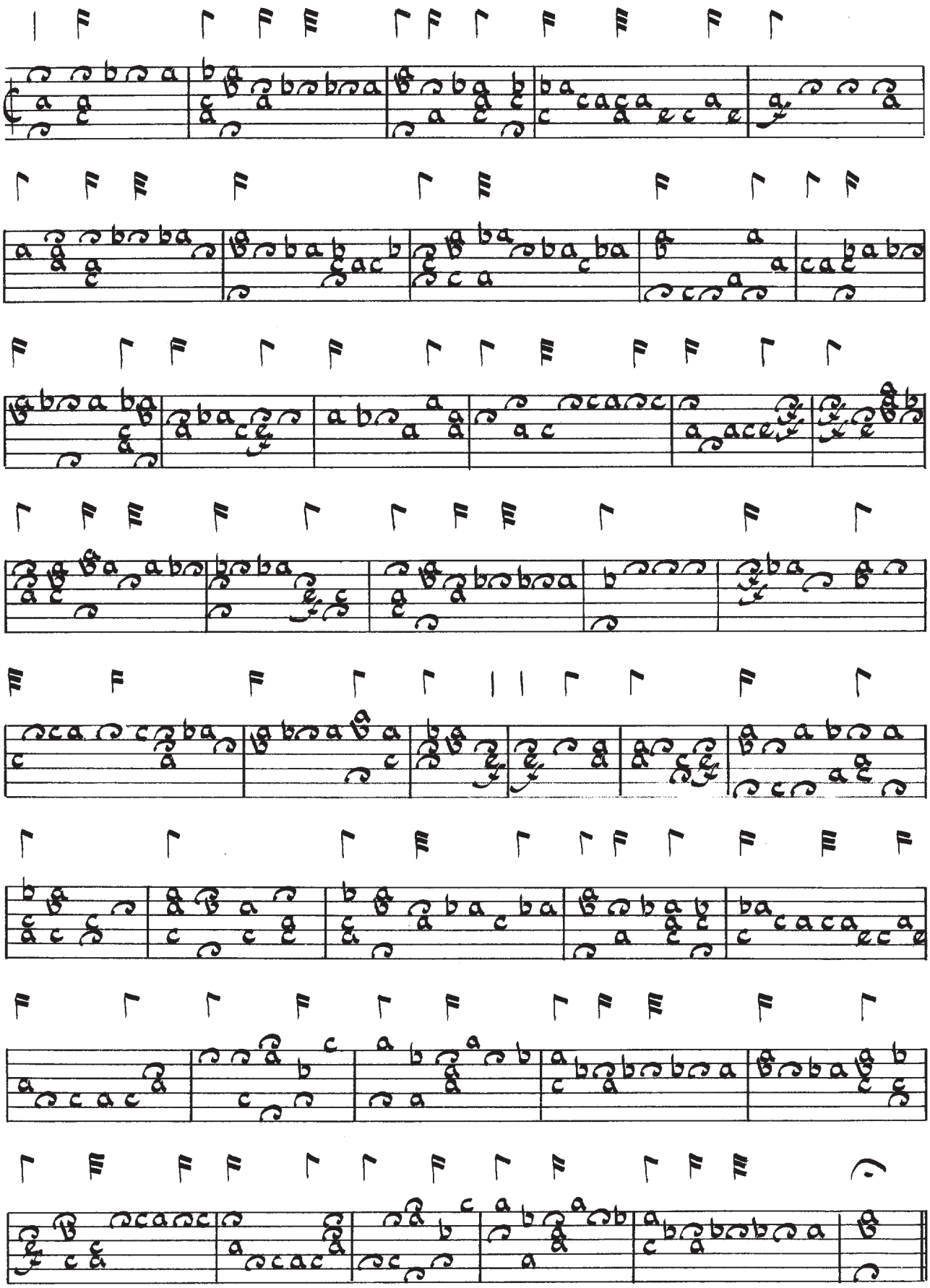
Richard Darsie, Davis, California July 1988

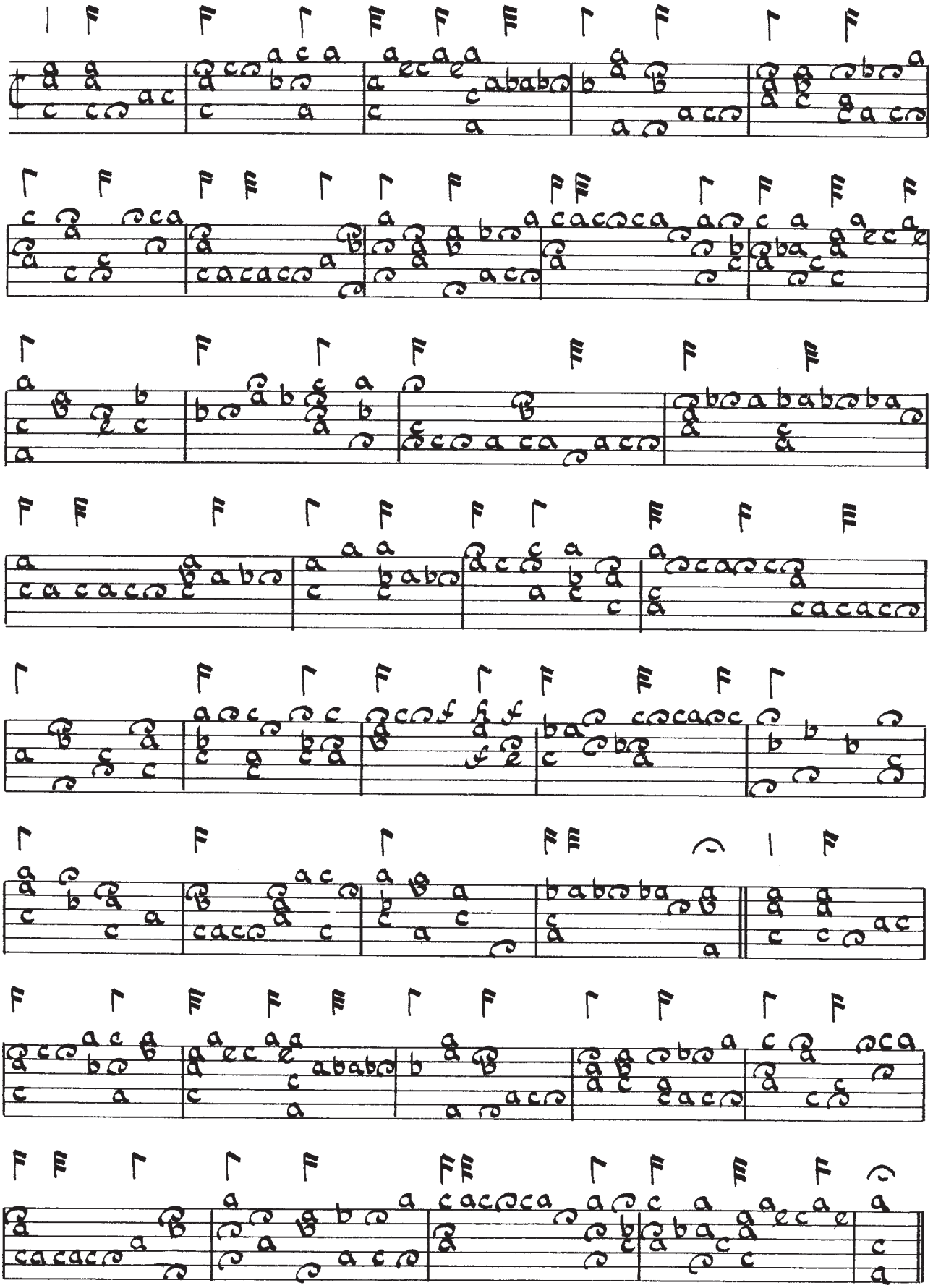
Index

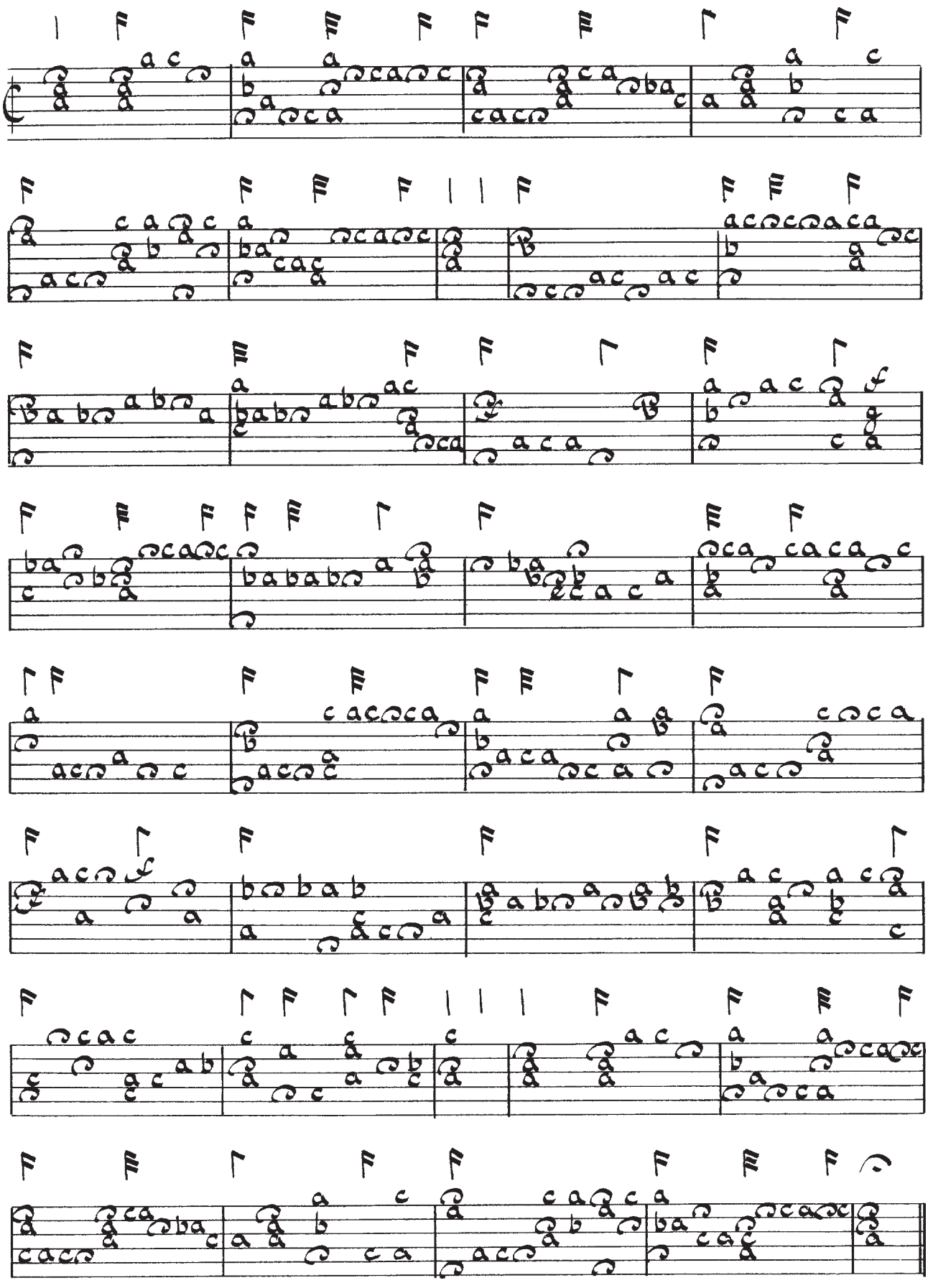
	Piece	Source	Page
1.	Hors de plaisir (Richafort)	Gerle 1546, fo.P2r	7
2.	0 felici pensier (Festa)	Gerle 1546, fo.02v	8
3.	Plus nay espoir (Certon)	Gerle 1546, fo.Q3v	9
4.	II est cellui (Cadeac)	Gerle 1546, fo.P4r	10
5.	Vostre beaulte(Gombert)	Gerle 1546, fo.Xlr	11
6.	Dung amy (Anon.)	Gerle 1546, fo.Slv	12
7.	Plus ie vois (Mittantier)	Gerle 1546, fo.R3v	14
8.	0 doulx reveoir (Godard)	Gerle 1546, fo.T1r	16
9.	Le vray amy (Sermisy)	Gerle 1546, fo.T4v	17
10.	Venons au poinct (Maillard)	Gerle 1546, fo.Q2v	18
11.	Herr thu uns hilf (Anon.)	Gerle 1533, fo.13v	19
12.	Es sout ein meskin holen win (Sampson)	Gerle 1546, fo.N3v	20
13.	Ellend du hast umbfangen mich (Anon.)	Gerle 1533, fo.17v	21
14.	Glück eer und gut (Anon.)	Gerle 1533, fo.25v	23
15.	Wie mag es in der karten sein (Breitengraser)	Gerle 1533, fo.26v	24
16.	0 herre Gott (Anon.)	Gerle 1533, fo.15v	26
17.	Ich schwing mein horn (Senfl)	Gerle 1546, fo.0lr	28

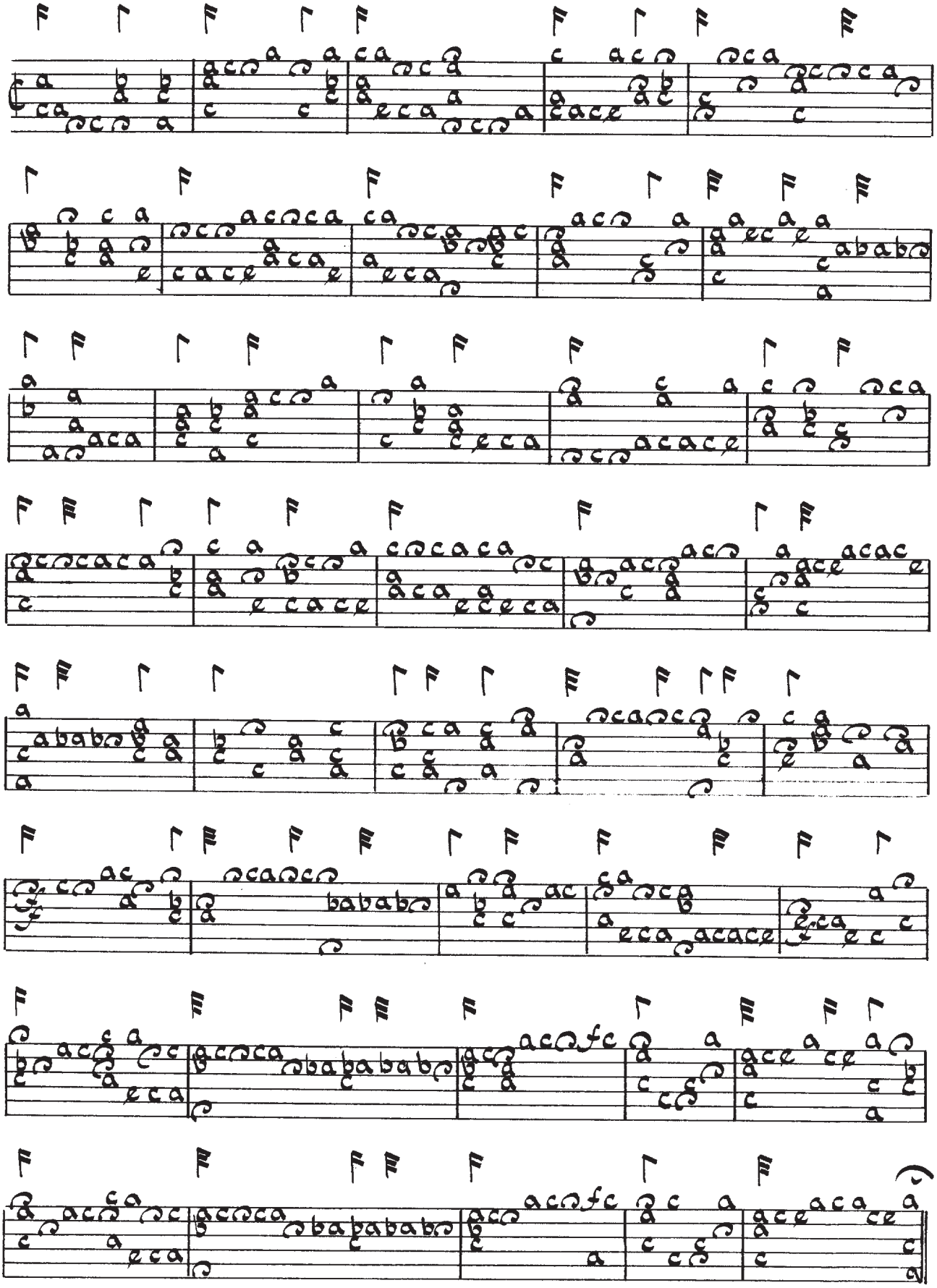


O felici pensier

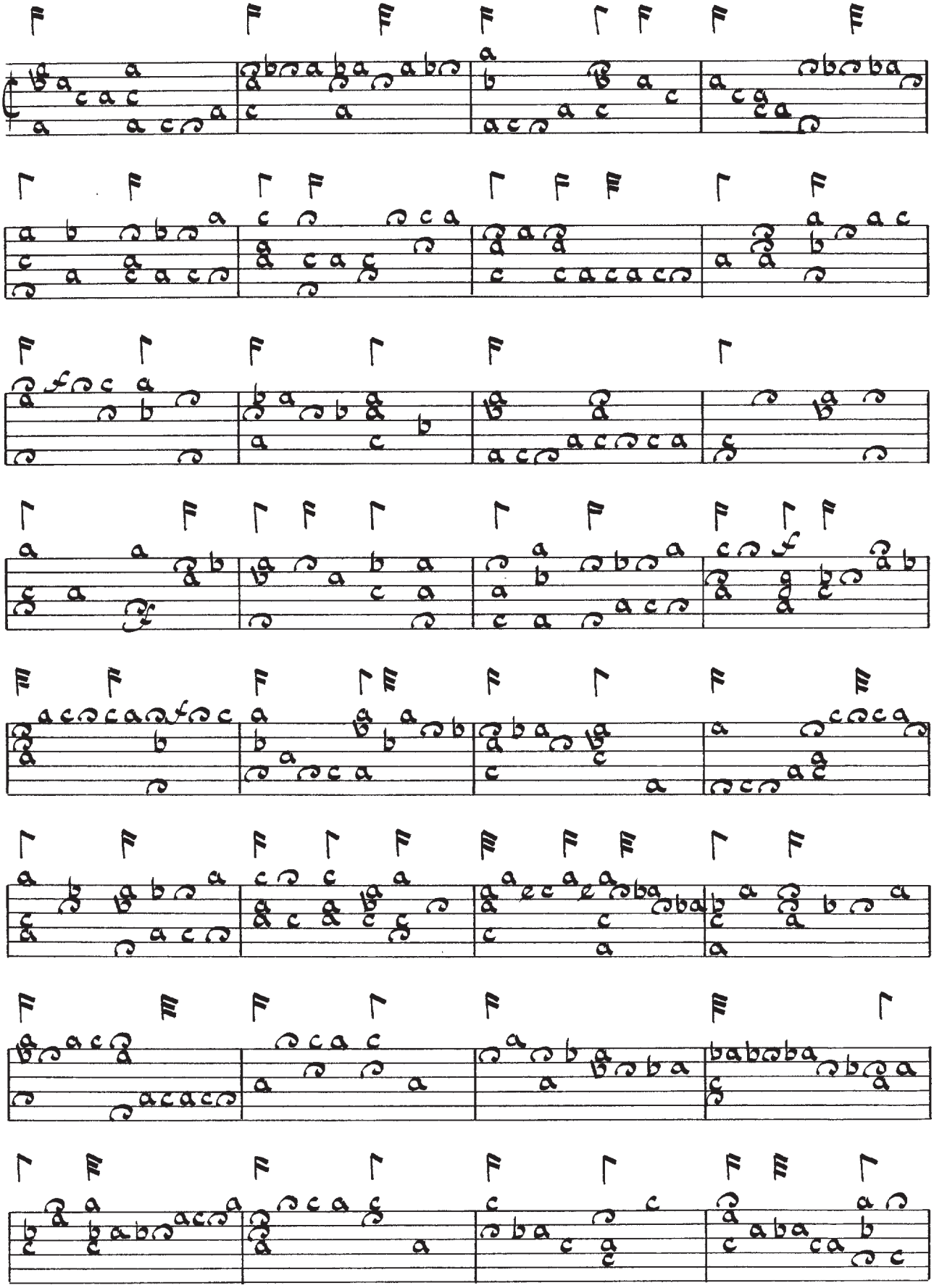


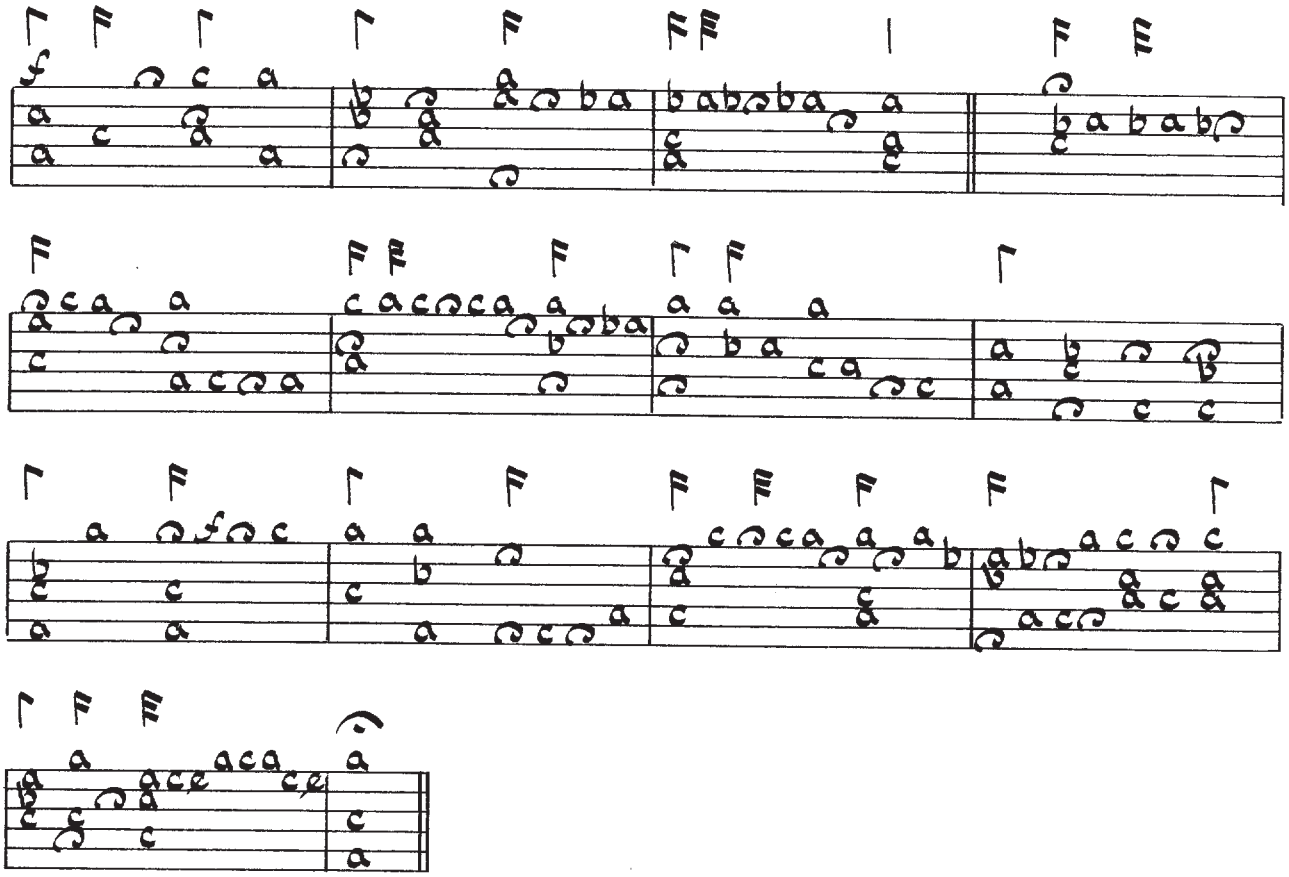






Dung amy





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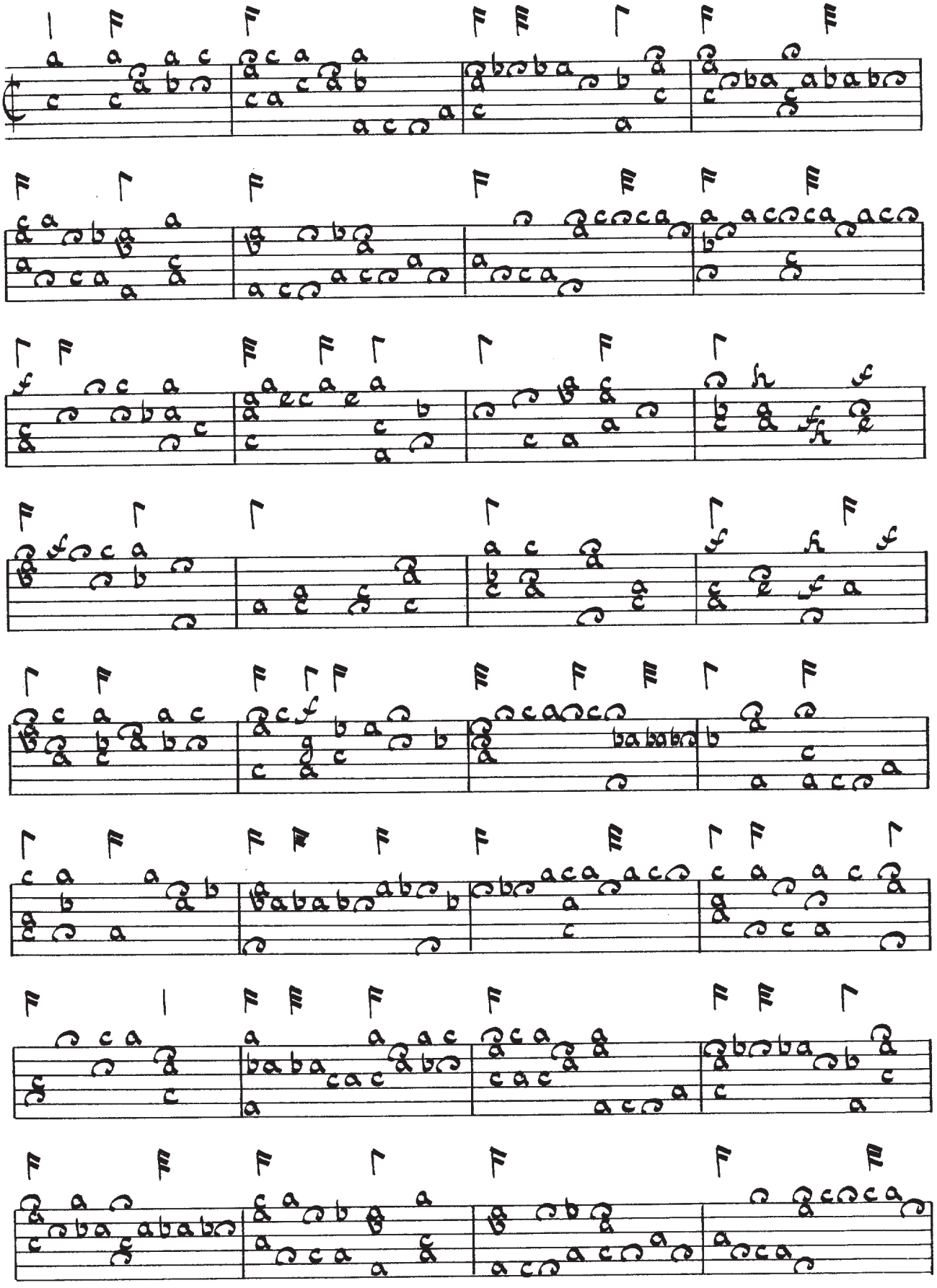
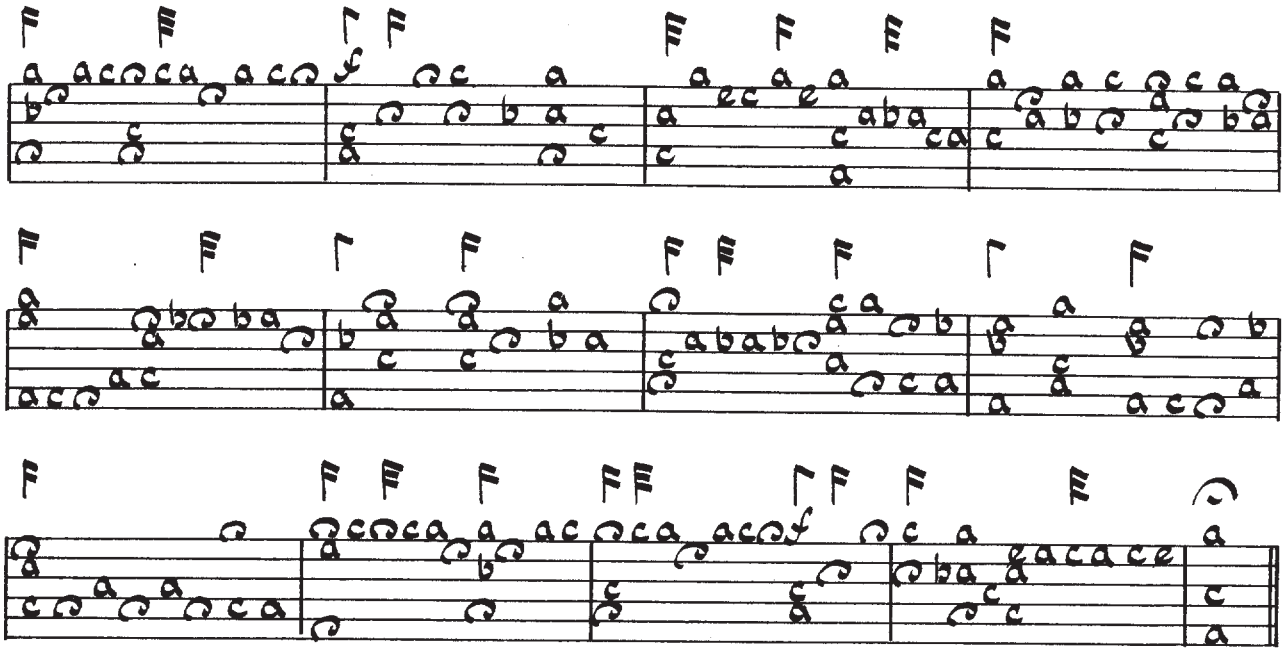
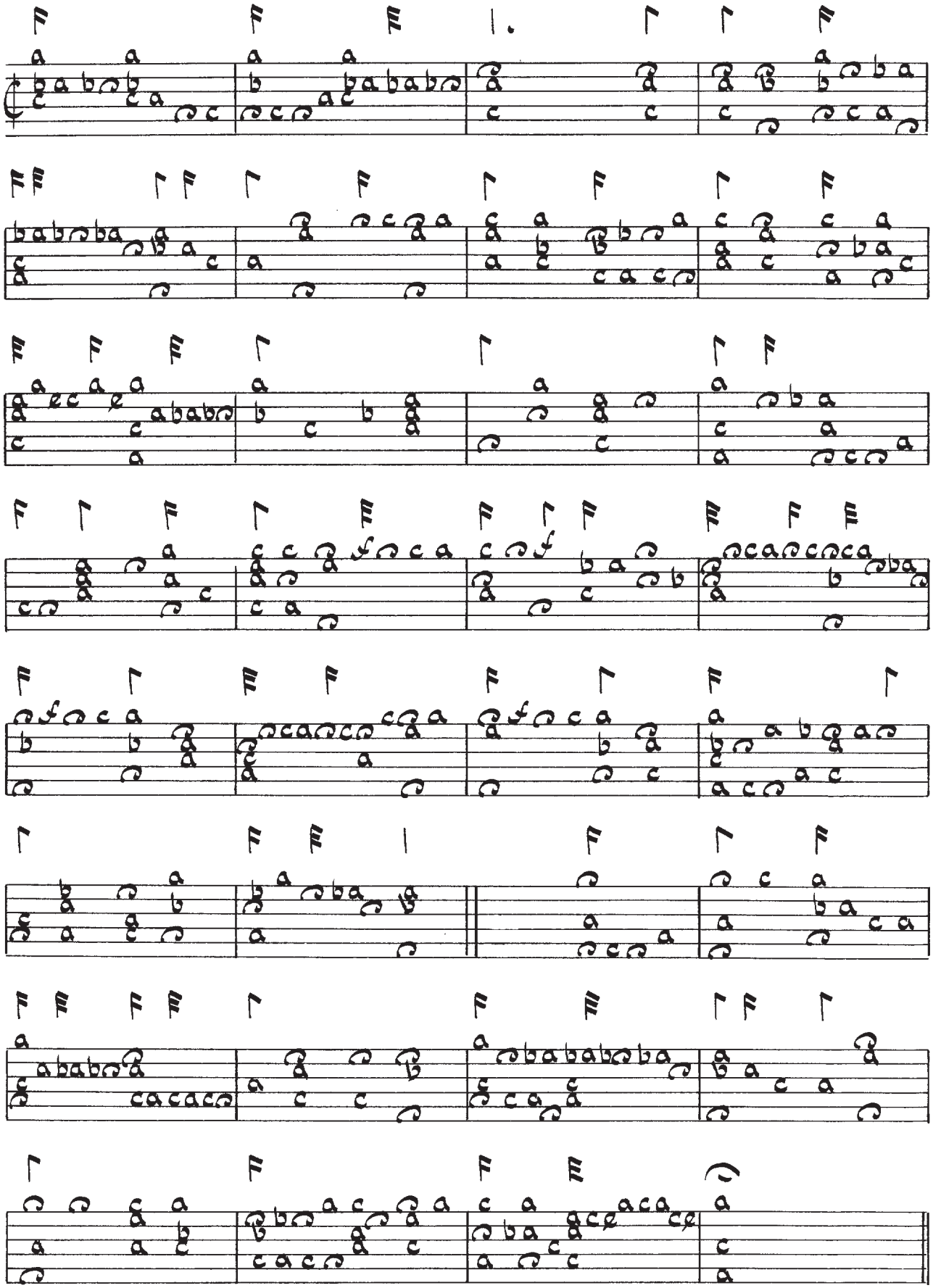
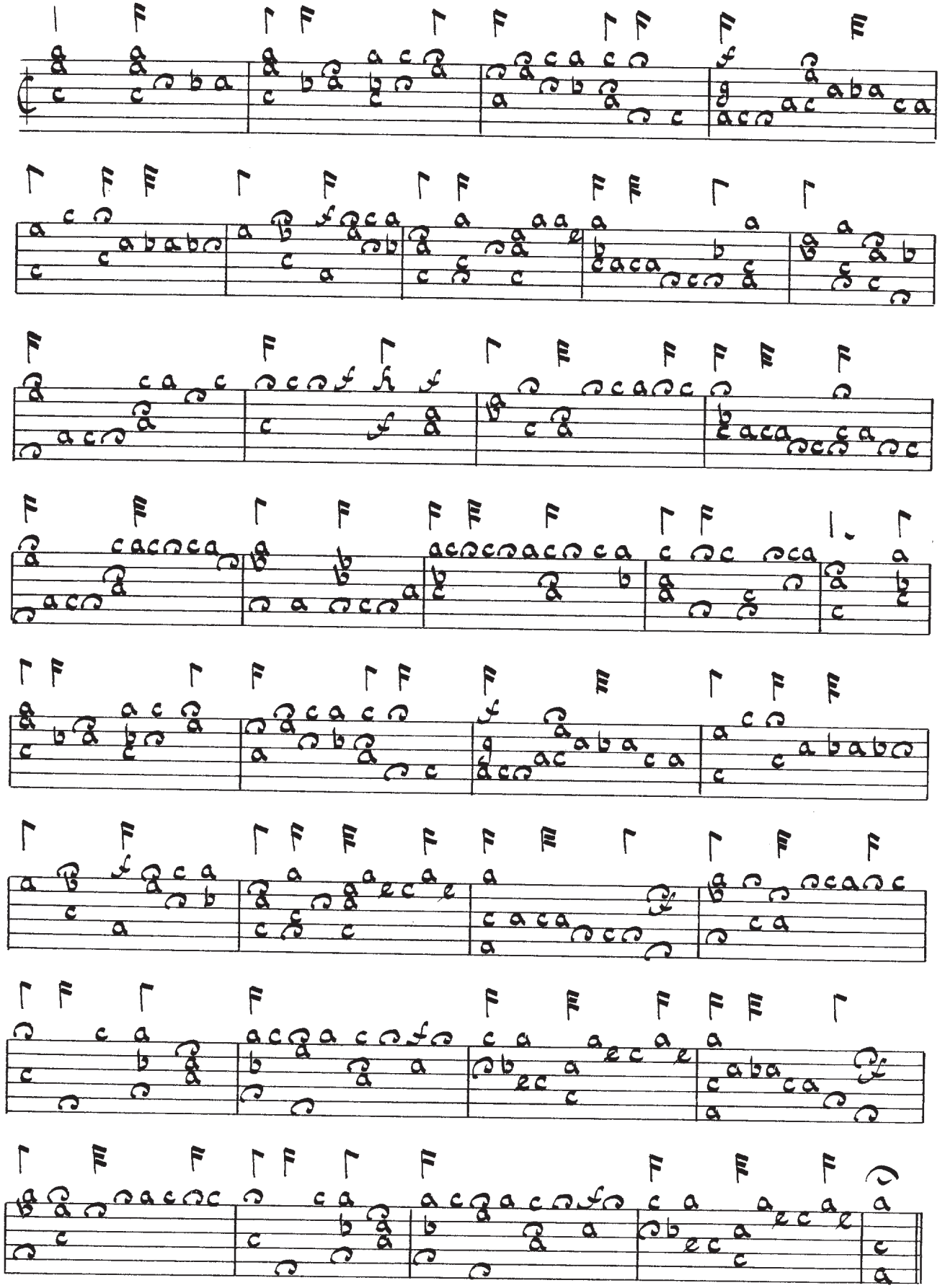


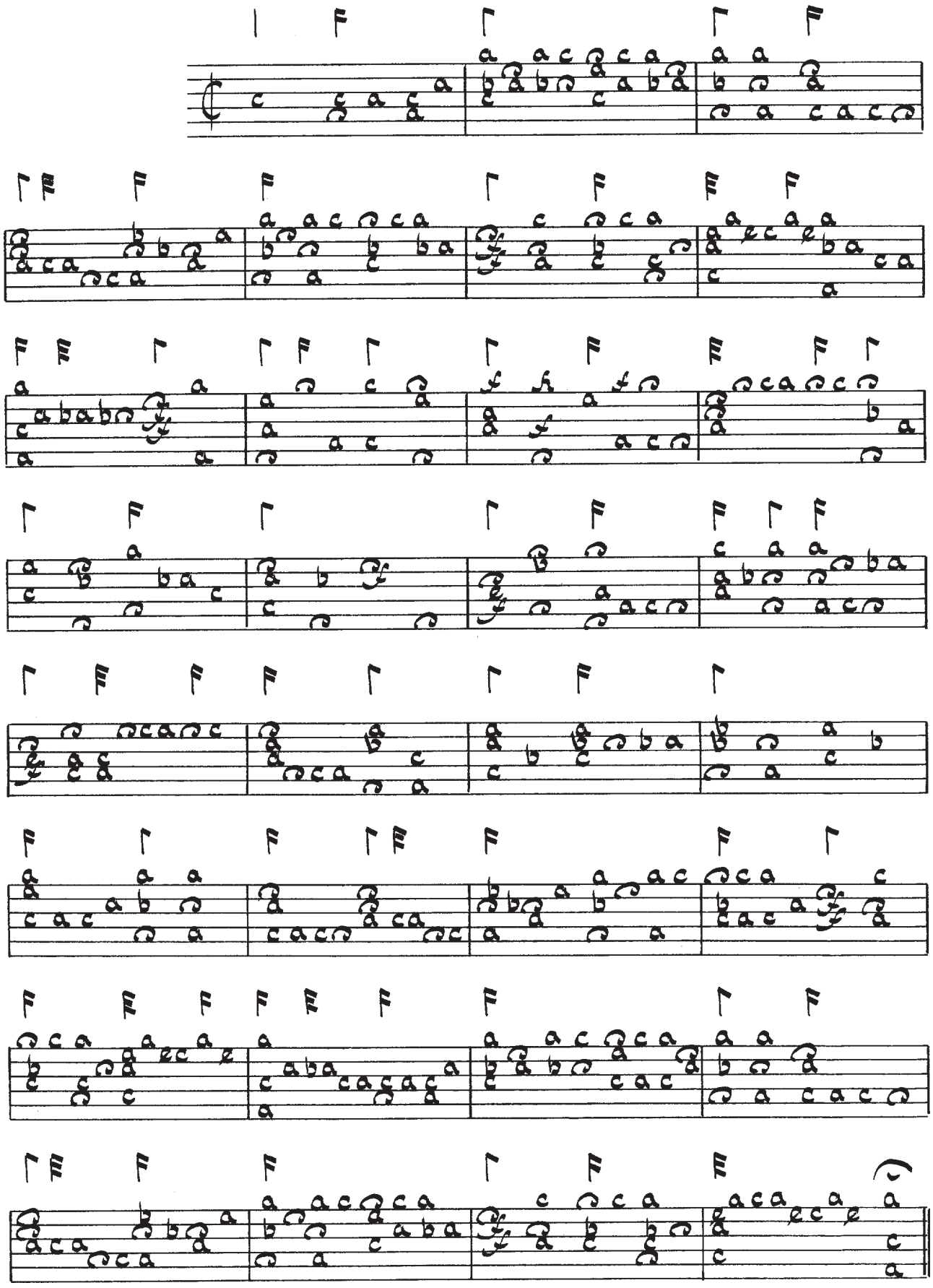


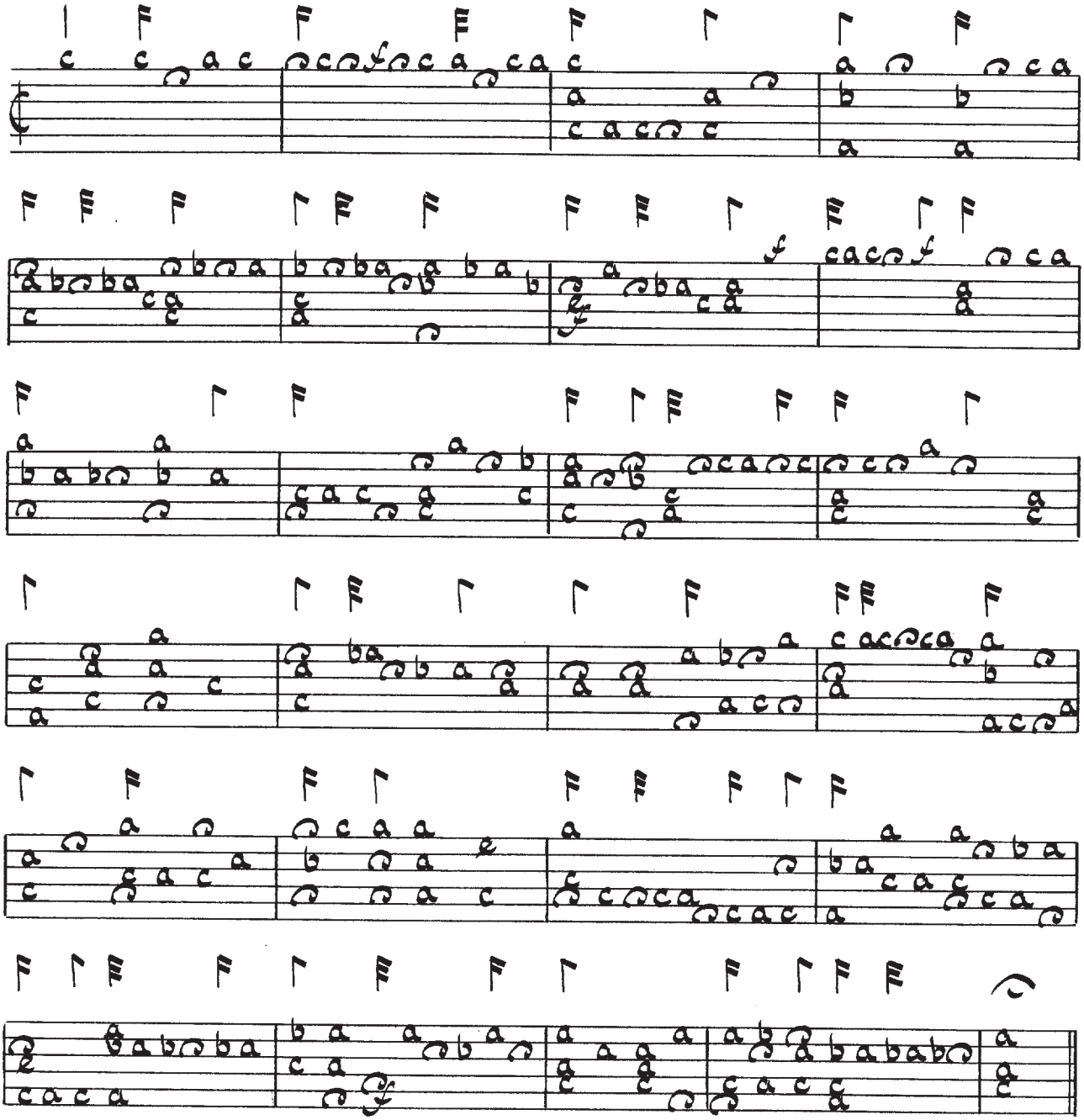
O doulx revoir





Venons au poinct





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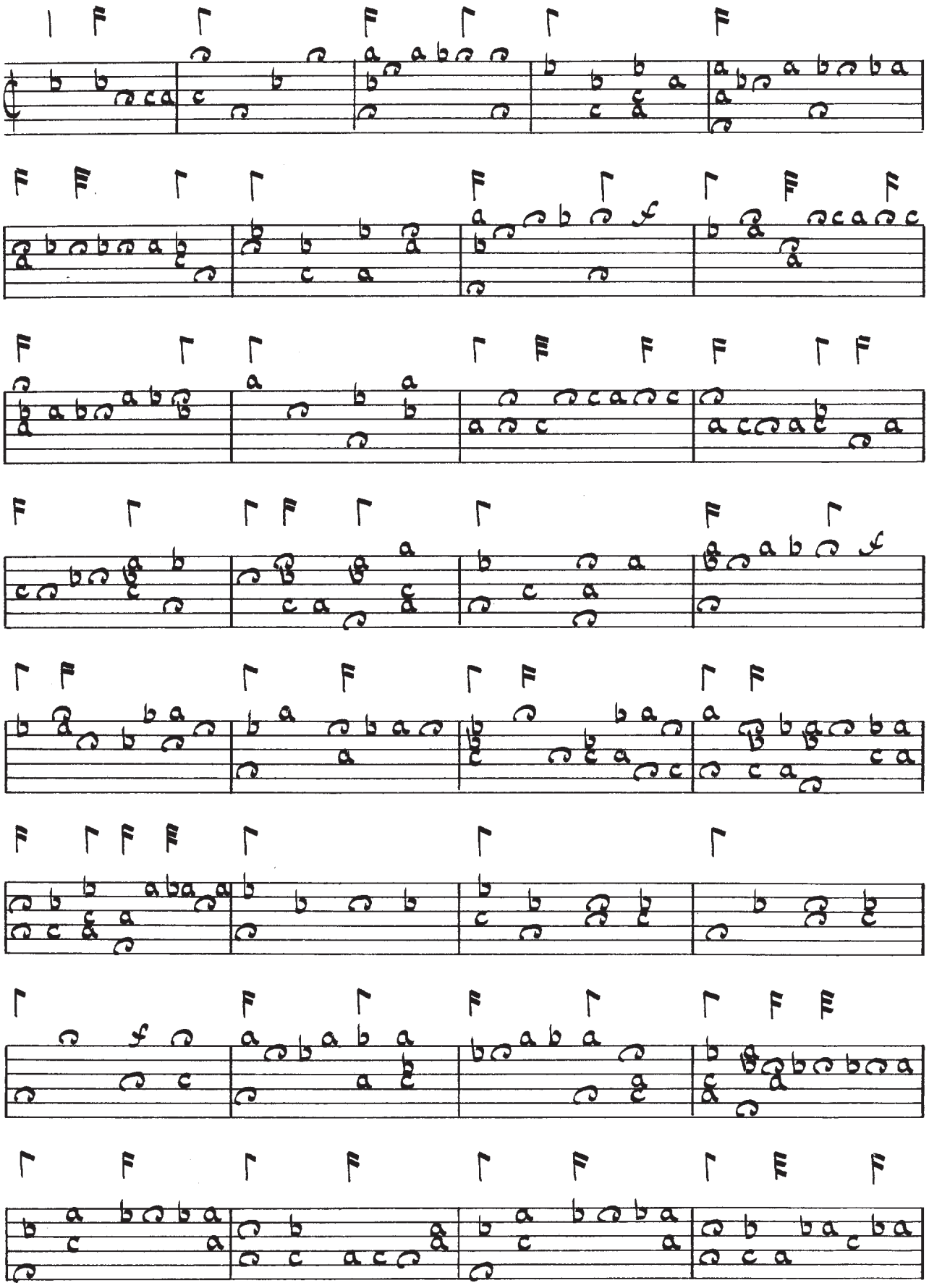
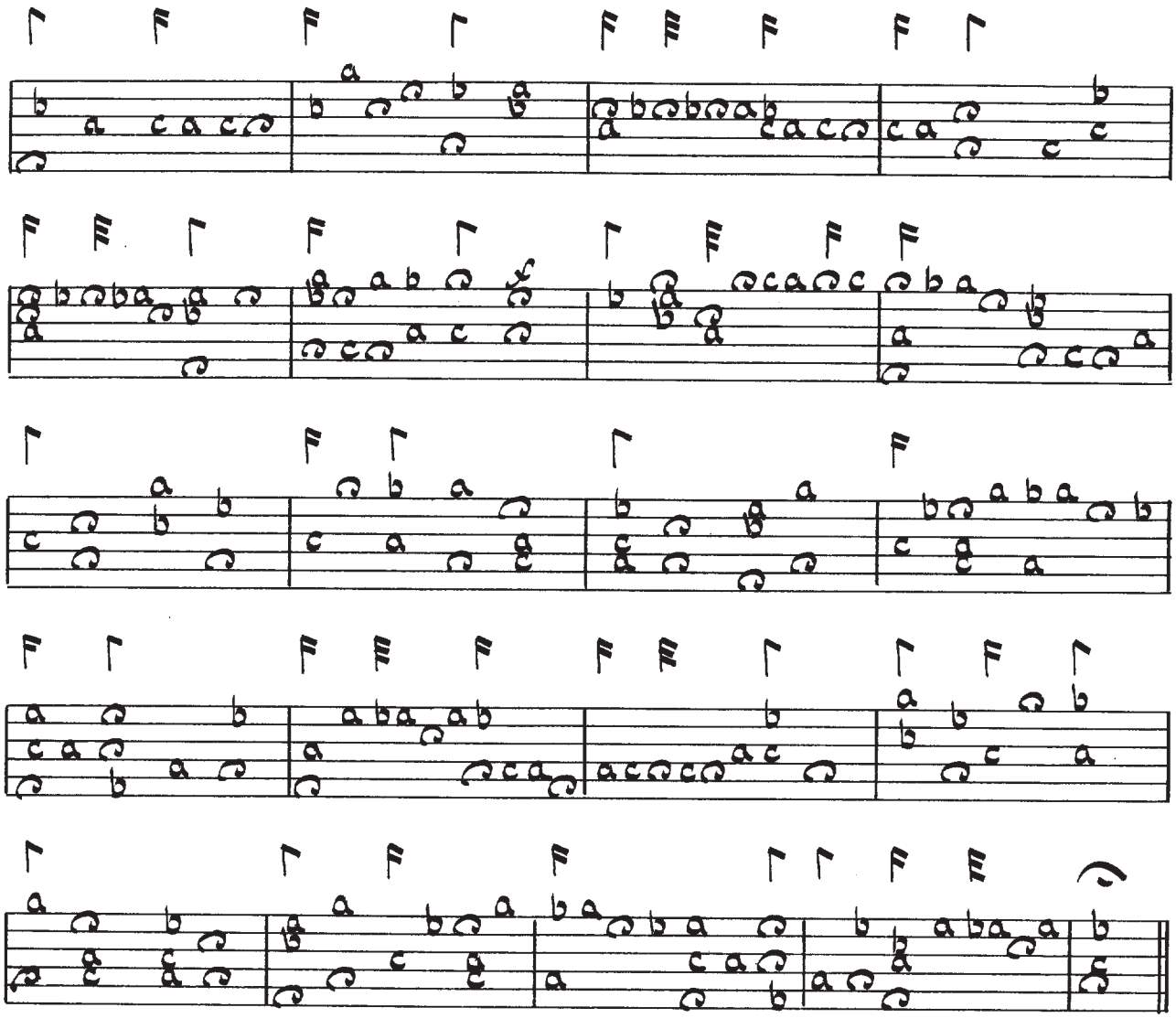
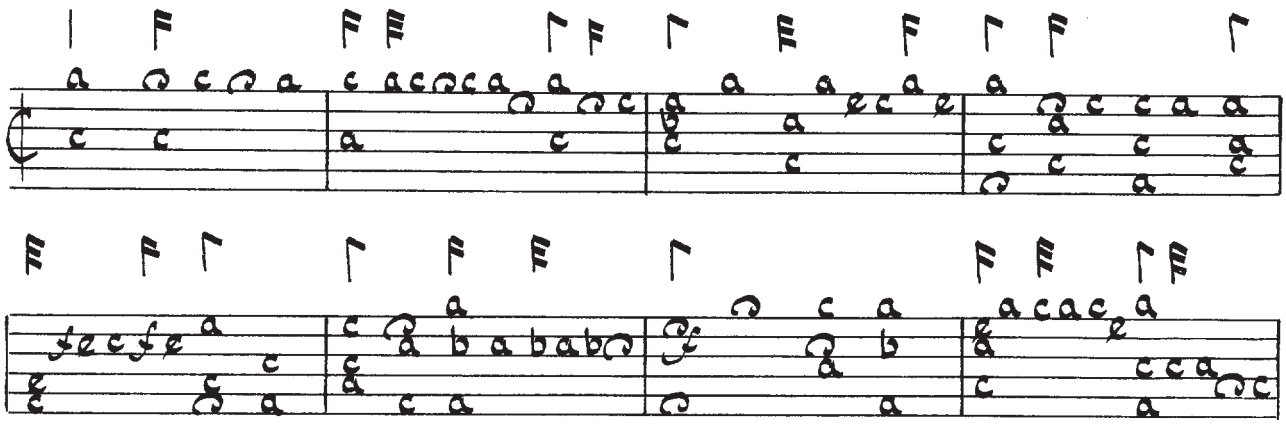
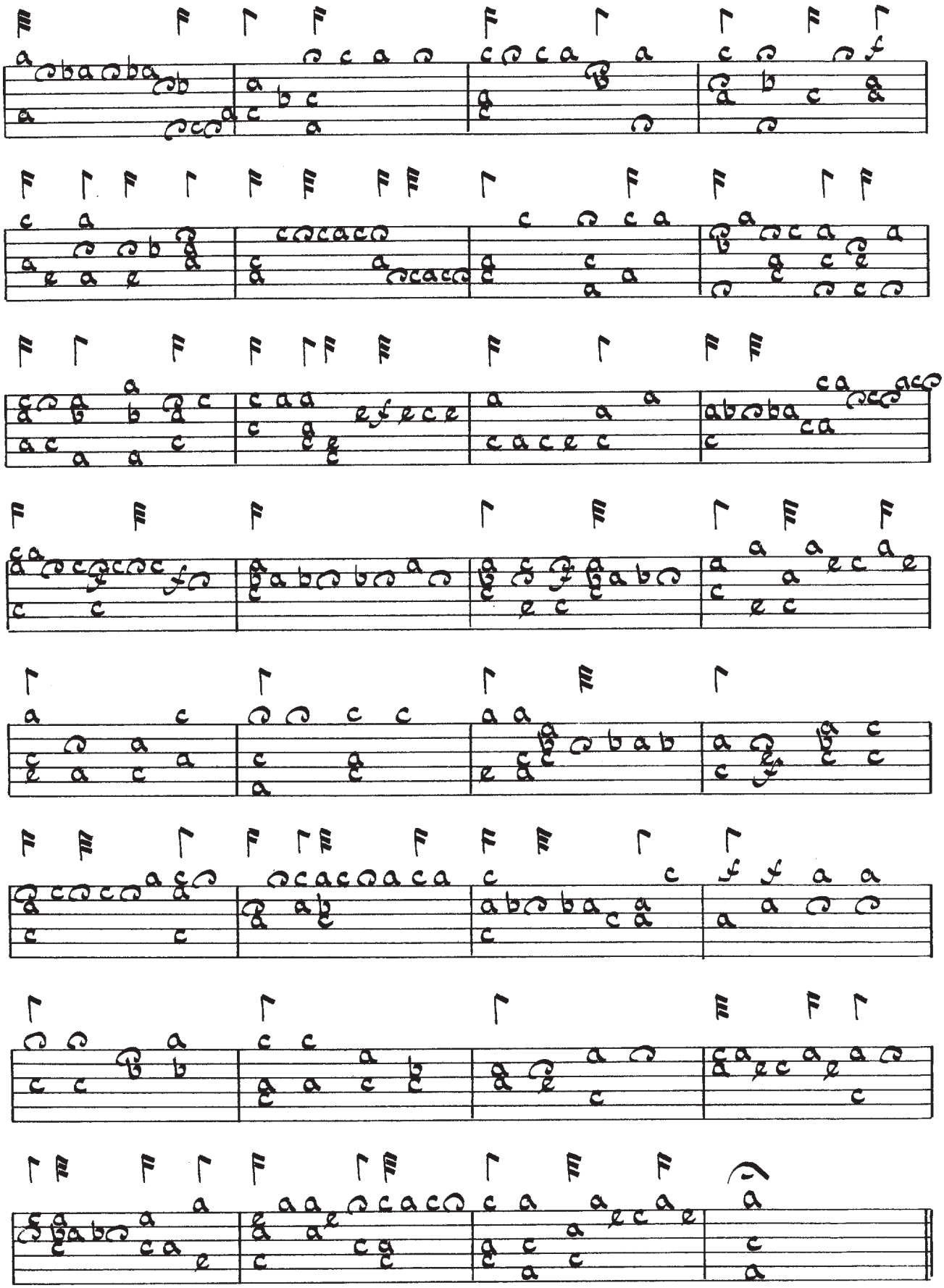
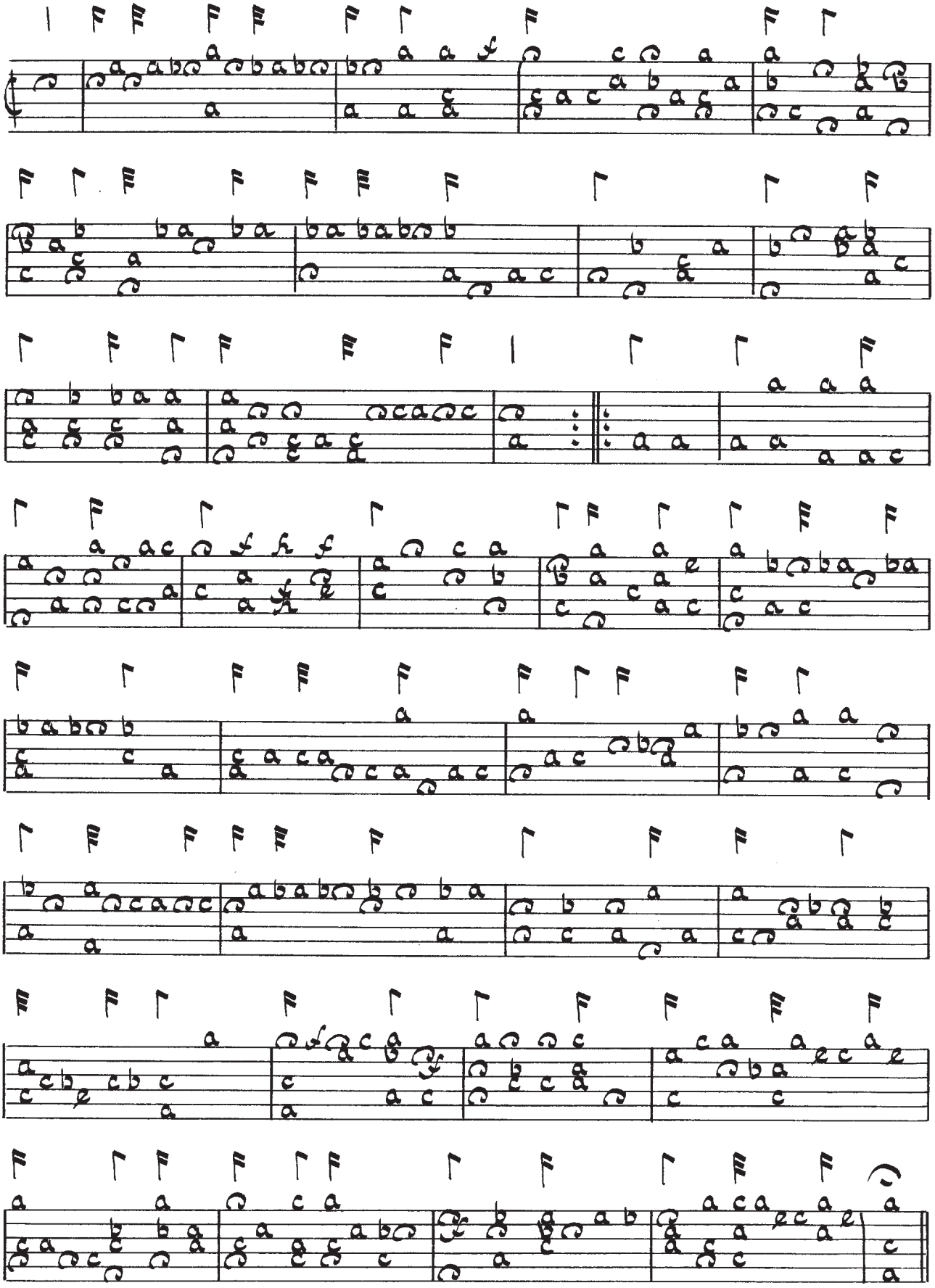




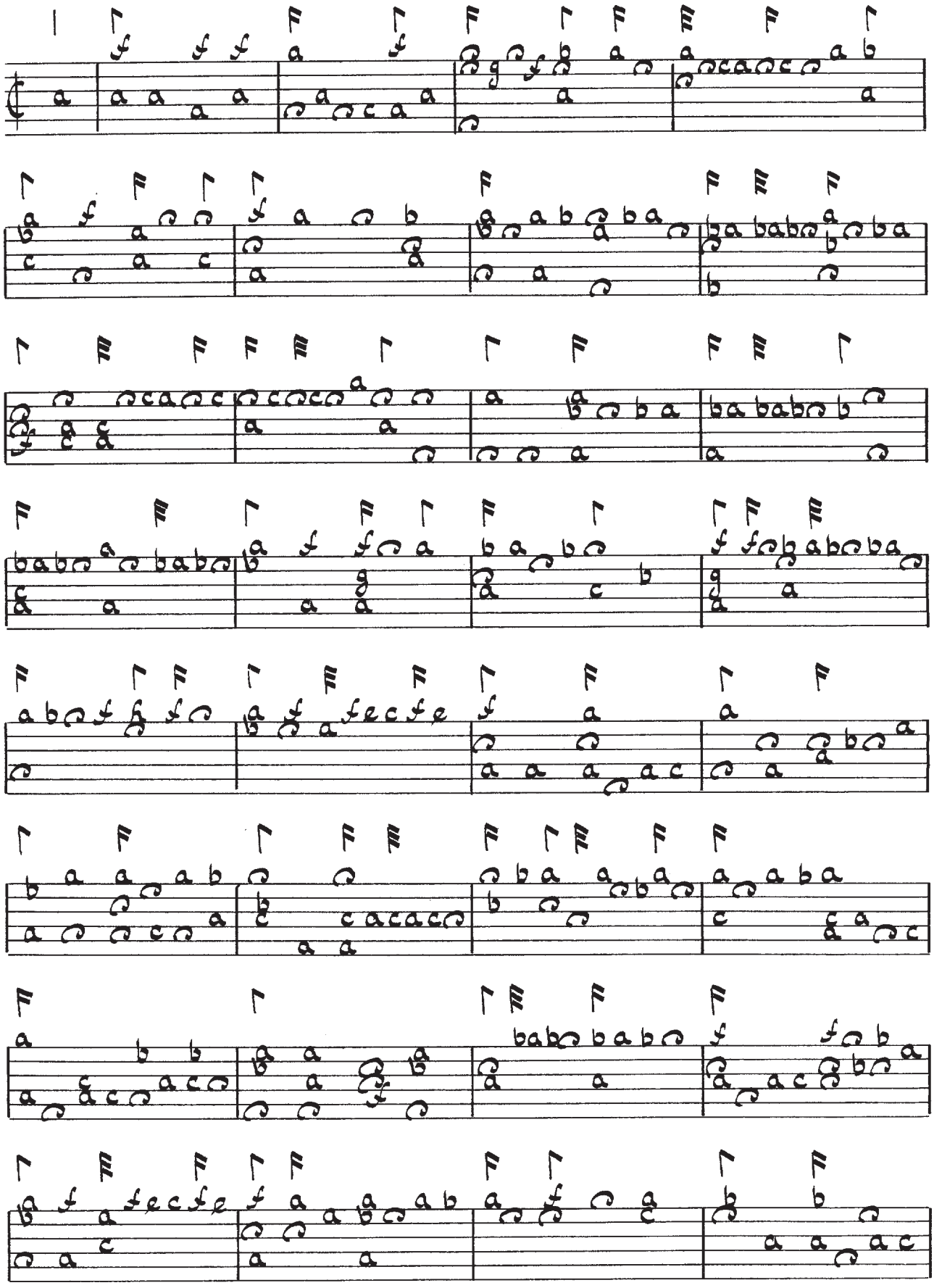
Ellend du hast umbfangen mich

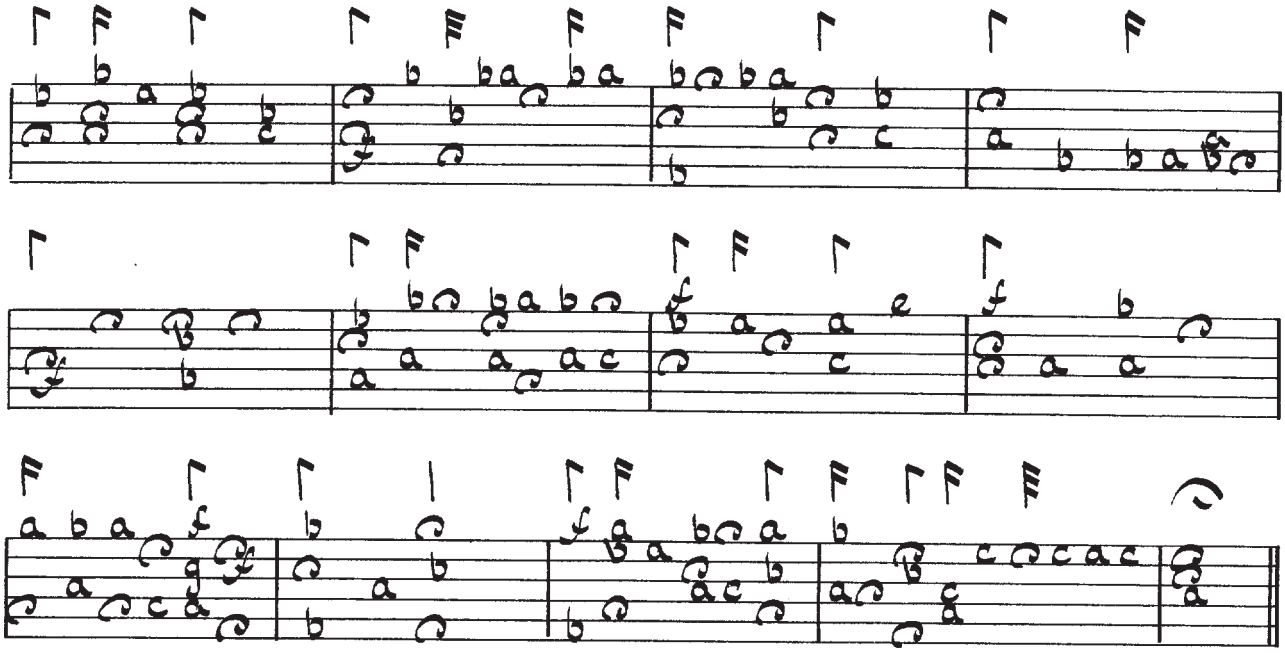




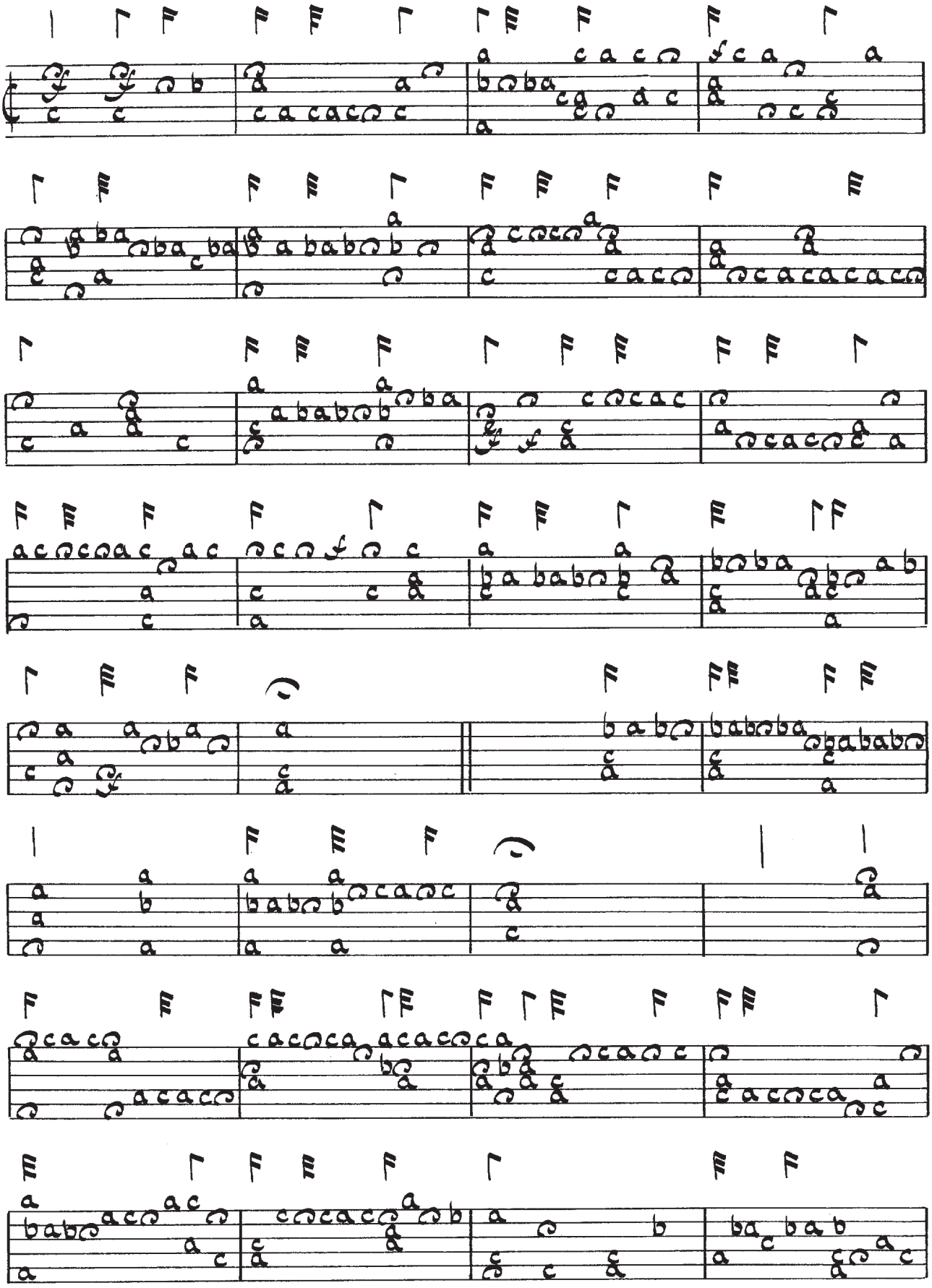


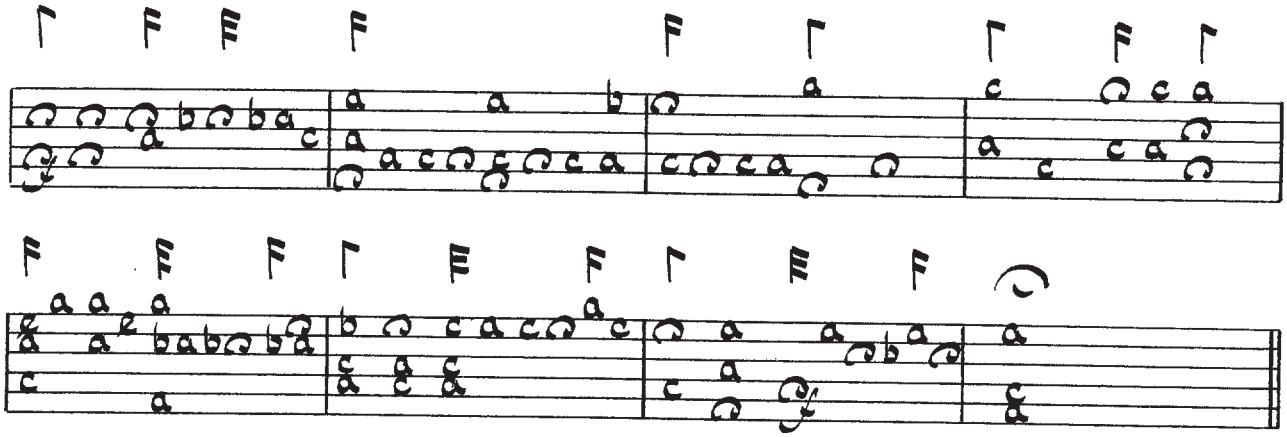
Wie mag es in der Karten sein



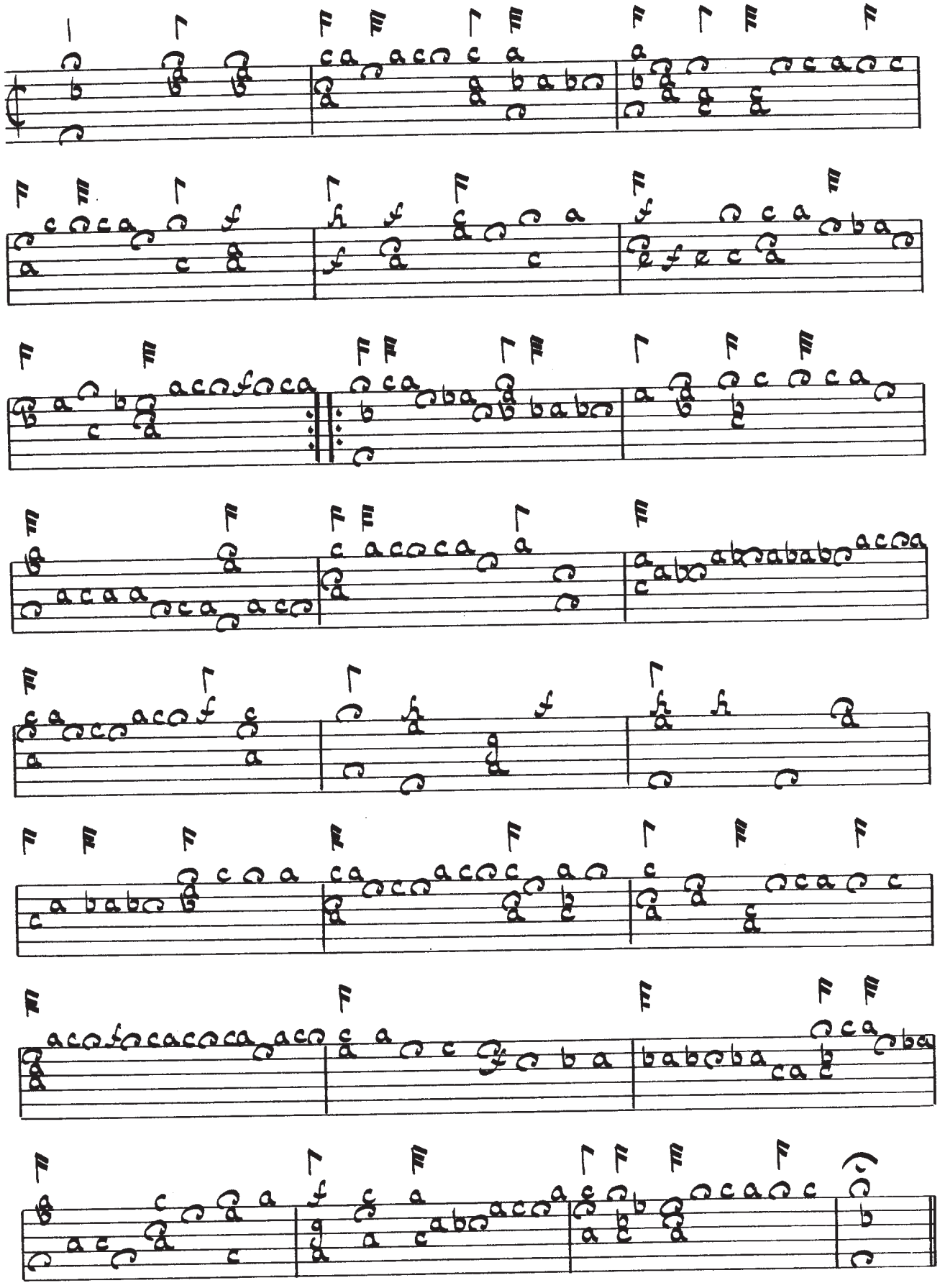


O herre Gott





Ich schwing mein horn



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