

Courantes, Voltes, Branles, Les Bouffon in the Wurstisen lute book (CH-Bu Ms. F.IX.70). Study of form and origin

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Abstract: Dance music emerges as a prominent part of the Wurstisen lute book. Its sixth, seventh and partly eight book are particularly dedicated to dance pieces. Certain types of them predominate – seventh book consists of galliards while the sixth mostly German dances. Separate pieces are copied between the homogenous groups, such like courante, volta, branle, les bouffon and matachin. This paper is focused on them and aims to explain their rather sporadic place in the manuscript in a time when courante, volta and branle became particularly popular among the lutenists of the early 17th century, to trace out their probable origin, concordances and sources in relation.

Keywords: *Renaissance music, lute, dance, manuscripts, instrumental music*

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