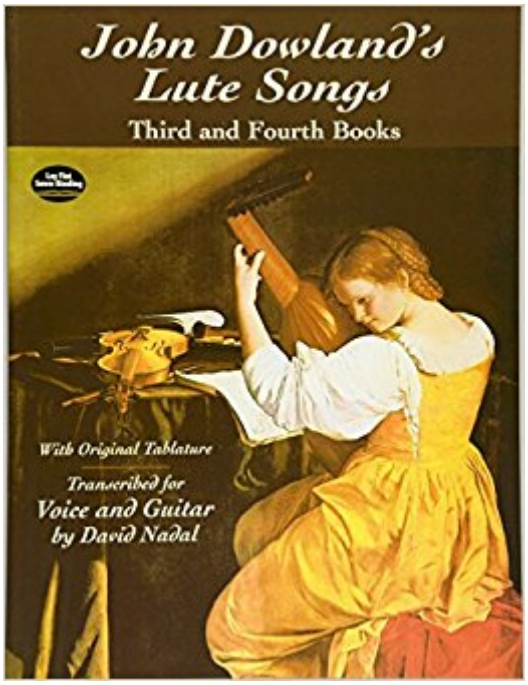
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John Dowland's Lute Songs: Third And Fourth Books With Original Tablature (Dover Song Collections)



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Synopsis

One of the few English musicians whose fame as a composer spread throughout Europe during his lifetime, John Dowland (1563Ã¢â ¬â œ1626) was also unsurpassed in his day as a lute virtuoso. The composer of 88 lute songs, Dowland had twice applied for the position of lutenist at the court of Elizabeth I and was rejected both times Ã¢â ¬â • for religious reasons, it was thought. (He had converted to Catholicism during a Protestant reign.) His talents, however, were welcomed at courts in Germany, Venice, Florence, and Denmark. Since the early 20th century, Dowland's excellence as a song writer has been well established; and many of his compositions for lute Ã¢â ¬â • long shrouded in obscurity Ã¢â ¬â • have become well known.This collection of 45 songs includes all the works in his original Third Booke of Songs or Aires; in A Pilgrime's Solace (his fourth collection); three contributions to his son Robert's A Musicall Banquet; plus a lovely galliard Ã¢â ¬â • a dance for solo guitar.Together with Nadal's Lute Songs of John Dowland (First and Second Books), published in 1997, this compilation completes Dover's newly edited and engraved editions of Dowland's lute songs Ã¢â ¬â • a rich oeuvre sure to be studied and enjoyed by singers, guitarists, and music lovers alike.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This review applies to both the first volume (which contains Dowland's books 1 and 2) and the second volume (Dowland's books 3, 4 and some odds & ends).These book can be used in a couple

different ways. It’s written in systems of 3 clefs - lute tablature, the same notes written in standard musical notation for classical guitar, and a vocal melody. The material can be performed on a 7-course lute, or a modern guitar, or a modern guitar tuned like a lute.Dowland’s works require intermediate to advanced skill level to perform. To play them on classical guitar you’ll need a couple years experience. To play them on lute you’ll need to have mastered a good portion of Poulton’s "Tutor for Renaissance Lute".These books are a great idea, unfortunately the lute tablature is simply too small to read at arms length (i.e. on a music stand). This is a pretty serious shortcoming. In order to read the tab I had to scan the pages and enlarge it.However, I still have to recommend it. Between the 2 volumes you get Dowland’s complete works, along with modern transcriptions. At the price it’s really hard to go wrong.

After purchasing these books (1/2 & 3/4) I immediately got use of the convenience of its page lay-out. Playing both Lute and Guitar this book is easy to understand with the Guitar notations. My favorite thing about this book is that it’s printed with a few extra pages to guarantee that a two-page song is always on two adjacent pages instead of back-to-back. The only thing I didn’t like was in comparison to the Stainer & Bell edition. Having Voice on top, Grand Staff realization, and then Lute; the grand staff let’s you see exactly where your lower courses are tuned to. Not that its hard to figure out with standard tunings but Dowland did use a few kinds of Lutes through-out the compositions in these books. I definately recommend them for anybody studying Guitar, Lute, or Voice.

Very good book, the symbols for lute tablature are very clear, and of course the music of John Dowland is the most delightful.It is very easy to read the melody aswell. The guitar musical staff on top of the lute tablature helps a lot when trying to understand the rhythm.

I absolutely love John Dowland and was so excited to find this book and it’s accompanying book as my dad plays the guitar so it just works!It comes w/the vocal line, guitar and original lute tablature.

Good edition of these lesser known songs of this outstanding composer. The Pilgrim’s Solace section is particularly fine.

Nice guitar arrangements of the original lute music. Some fingering indications to indicate which voices to sustain would be helpful as in many cases it is impossible to sustain full note values

indicated in the standard notation.

These Dowland books are ideal: complete, accurate, and inexpensive.The only problem is a random editorial decison by which a few of the songs are notated "at pitch", which means the editor has arranged the music for guitar rather than writing it as it would lie on lute. This means a guitarist interested in maintaining Dowland’s fingerings would have to redo the transcriptions. Still, a very valuable resource to own!!!

THE THIRD AND LAST BOOKEI. Farewell too fairII. Time stands stillIII. Behold a wonder hereIV. Daphne was not so chasteV. "Me, me and none but me"VI. When Phoebus first did Daphne loveVII. Say Love if ever thou didst findVIII. Flow not so fast ye fountainsIX. What if I never speed?X. Love stood amaz’dXI. Lend your ears to my sorrowXII. By a fountain where I layXIII. Oh what hath overwroughtXIV. Farewell unkind farewellXV. "Weep you no more, sad fountains"XVI. Fie on this feigningXVII. I must complainXVIII It was a time when silly bees could speakXIX. The lowest trees have topsXX. What poor astronomers are theyXXI. Come when I call (for two voices and two lutes)A PILGRIMES SOLACEI. Disdain me stillII. Sweet stay awhileIII. To ask for all thy loveIV. Love those beamsV. "Shall I strive with words to move" ("Mignarda, a galliard" is Dowland’s title for the solo lute version of the lyre "Shall I strive with words to move.")VI. Were every thought an eyeVII. Stay Time awhile thy flyingVIII. Tell me true Love (with chorus)The next three with treble and bass viols for violin and cello:IX. Go nightly caresX. From silent nightXI. Lasso vita miaXII. In this trembling shadowXIII. If that a sinner’s sighsA three-part work:XIV. Thou mighty GodXV. When David’s lifeXVI. When the poor crippleXVII. Where sin sore woundingXVIII. My heart and tongue were twinsThe next with chorus:XIX. Up merry matesXX. Welcome black nightXXI. Cease these false sports"THREE AYRES FROM "A MUSICALL BANQUET"Far from triumphing CourtLady if you so spite meIn darkness let me dwellGALLIART TO LACHRIMAE"A lute solo from A Pilgrimes Solace, transcribed for guitar"

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