

Branle Gay

Besard was a highly respected French lutenist who was also trained as a lawyer. His large collection of his own and other composers' music was published in Cologne in 1603. The branle was a lively country dance, often characterized by an unchanging or "drone" bass. Like the preceding piece, this dance depends for its effectiveness on a fast tempo, preferably about $\text{♩} = 144$.

- 1 The third finger is important here to release the second finger for the E bass.
- 2 Notice the small minus sign by the first finger indication. This means that the first finger travels from the G# to the A without losing contact with the string. It does not mean that the slide should be audible.

6th to D

Jean Baptiste Besard

The musical score is written for a lute in 3/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The piece is titled "Branle Gay" and is by Jean Baptiste Besard. The score is divided into four systems of music. The first system begins with a treble clef and a 3/4 time signature. The melody is written on a five-line staff, and the bass is indicated by a 6th to D drone, shown as a vertical line with a '6' and a 'D' below it. The melody starts with a quarter note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, and then a quarter note B4. The second system continues the melody, featuring a quarter note C5, a quarter note D5, and a quarter note E5. The third system shows the melody moving down to a quarter note D5, a quarter note C5, and a quarter note B4. The fourth system concludes the piece with a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a quarter note F4. The score includes various fingerings (1, 2, 3, 4) and articulations (accents, slurs). A small minus sign is placed below the first finger indication in the second system, indicating a slide from G# to A. The piece ends with a final cadence on F4.