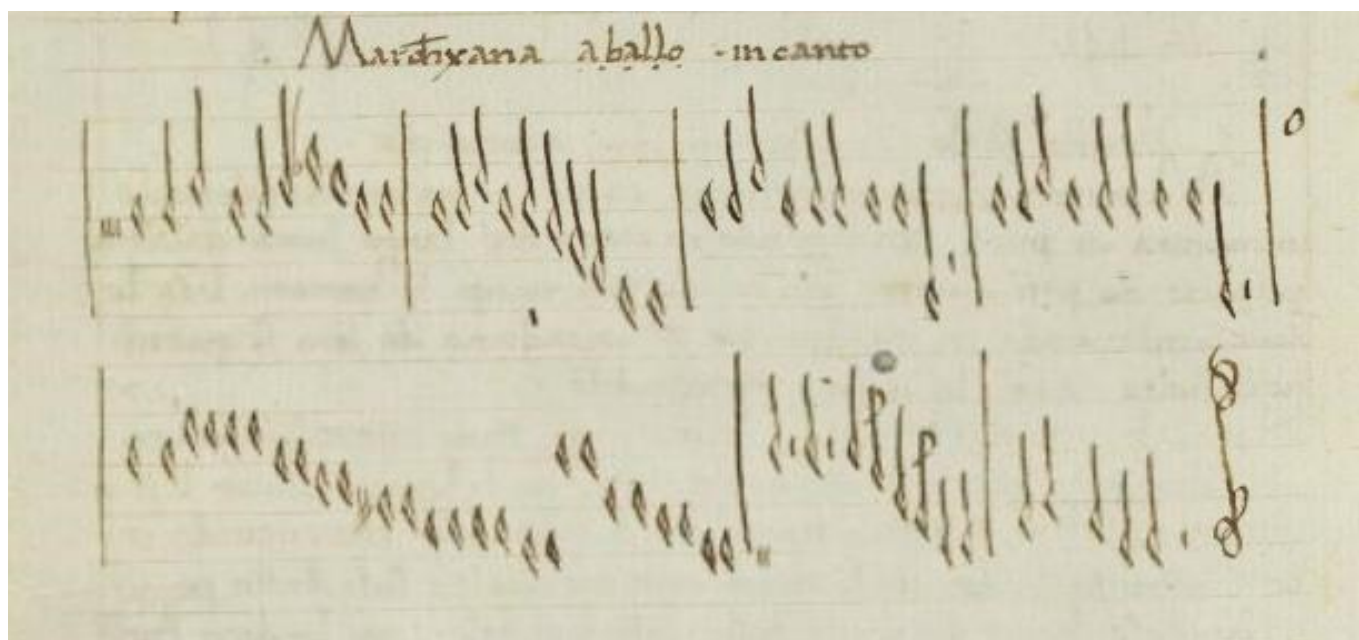





## Marchesana – A 15<sup>th</sup> century ballo by Domenico da Piacenza



### Notes on Marchesana

1. The original tune and choreography is by Domenico da Piacenza (c.1400-1470). A faxcsimile of the tune is shown above..
2. The original is in F and, like virtually all the tunes in the 15<sup>th</sup> century Italian balli repertoire, works ideally for a pipe in F. But a G pipe is fine – transpose up one tone, or read from D pipe transposition using a G pipe.
3. The opening sections – I, II and III – are in ‘Quadernaria misura’ at a tempo  between 64 and 70 bpm (minim beats):
4. Sections II and III are seven note phrases in the original, but these have been extended to 8 note phrases for ease of playing. But we might try the original 7 note phrases as well.
5. The tempo of section IV (a 13 note Bassa danza) is 48 to 50 bpm (dotted minims) and the tabor rhythm is standard basse dance rhythm: 
6. The tenor notes should be used as the basis for simple ornamentation: ‘diminutions and links’ as indicated in the ballo El Gioioso.
7. The choreography indicates a phrase point after bar 8 of the bassadanza (bar 14 in the score and marked with a double bar). The taborer should create a rhythmic cadence over bars 13 and 14 by taboring: 
8. Section V is back to Quadernaria tempo. The taborers must follow the dancers here as the moves are quite complicated and may need extra time.
9. In Section VI (Quadernaria) the dance ends without music – there is no final note as the dancers do ‘posada’.
10. Final comment: The whole tune should be played from memory as the dance moves are quite complicated and need to be followed by the accompanying musician – particularly for phrasing.

[F - original key]

# La Marchesana

Domenico da Piacenza  
(Sparti version)

The score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (F major) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of six sections:

- I quadernaria**: Measures 1-5. Measure 5 is repeated three times (x 3).
- II**: Measures 6-7.
- III**: Measures 8-9.
- IV bassadansa**: Measures 10-17. Measure 10 is repeated three times (x 3). The time signature changes to 6/4.
- V quadernaria**: Measures 18-19. Measure 19 is repeated three times (x 3). The time signature changes to 4/4.
- VI**: Measures 20-21. Measure 20 contains two triplet markings (3).

The piece concludes with the instruction "Da Capo".

[D pipe version]

# La Marchesana

Domenico da Piacenza  
(Sparti version)

The score is written in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (D major) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of six sections:

- I quadernaria**: Measures 1-5. Measure 5 is repeated three times (x 3).
- II**: Measures 6-7.
- III**: Measures 8-9.
- IV bassadansa**: Measures 10-17. Measure 10 is repeated three times (x 3). The time signature changes to 6/4.
- V quadernaria**: Measures 18-19. Measure 19 is repeated three times (x 3). The time signature changes to 4/4.
- VI**: Measures 20-21. Measure 20 contains two triplet markings (3).