


SECTION 1.8

PIECE: HELAS MADAME

Helas Madam was composed by Henry VIII (1491-1547), King of England. Before Henry VIII became King in 1509, part of his education included training in music. Music played a prominent role in his court, and for entertainment, he played numerous instruments and composed music. The piece *Helas Madame* is found in a collection of secular music used at King Henry's court. Some scholars have noted that the melody may have originated elsewhere in continental Europe, with King Henry adding the harmony.¹¹ The musical form of this piece is a song with a homophonic texture and minor harmony.

TECHNIQUE TIPS: Use a lively tempo to play the melody of this piece. You may want to use slurs for some of the notes. A slur is a curved line grouping notes together, and is indicated by the sign . Notes included in the slur should be played in the same bow.

SECTION 1.9

PIECE: KEMP'S JIGG

“Kemp's Jigg” is a popular dance tune from the 16th century. The composer is unknown, but this piece is said to have been composed in honor of Will Kemp, a famous Elizabethan actor who wagered he could dance 80 miles from London to Norwich in nine days (he supposedly won the bet). During this period, the musical form of jig meant a vigorous, up and down dance. The term jig was also used to define a popular form of entertainment: a short burlesque comedy combining music, drama and dance, performed by two to five characters who sang their lines to popular tunes, interspersed with lively dancing. Professional comedians such as Kemp participated in these jig performances, and Kemp's Jigg is one of the well-known jig tunes from this period.^{12 13}

TECHNIQUE TIPS: This piece has a strong, two beat pulse in each measure. Use a rollicking dance tempo throughout the piece. Dotted quarters, slurs, and short crisp bows with slight separations between the notes are just a few of the effects you could use to help maintain the momentum of this high-spirited dance.