FROM THE SOUNDBOARD ARCHIVE

Rudolph Süss's Lyrische Suite no. 2, op. 24

The Guitarist's Album

MATANYA OPHEE (1989)

WE CONTINUE OUR INVESTIGATION of early twentieth-century German guitar music with a presentation of the *Second Lyrical Suite*, op. 24, by Rudolph Süss. As you perhaps recall, we opened the current series of "The Guitarist's Album" with his *First Lyrical Suite*, op. 23 (*Soundboard* 14, no. 3).

Rudolph Süss was born in 1873 in Vitis, a small town in Lower Austria. He was well known in his time as a singer, a teacher, and a composer of popular songs. As we pointed out in our comments about the *First Lyrische Suite*, Germany was a country of intense guitar activity in the years just after World War I, with three journals devoted to the guitar appearing in the German language. The first suite was published around 1921, and this second suite appeared shortly thereafter from the same publisher.

The *Zweite Lyrische Suite* is yet another example of the German guitarists' preoccupation with their past. Süss's work is very much in the Biedermeier style, but imbued with certain harmonic progressions that would have scandalized the likes of Wenzel Matiegka, Joseph Küffner, Leonhard von Call, and their contemporaries.

Just a reminder that it is not too late to take part in the first-ever *Soundboard* guitar quiz. The grand prize is a brand-new copy of *The New Harvard Dictionary of Music*, edited by Don Randel, a book that should be in every musician's library. To win this valuable prize, do the following:

1. Examine the "mystery piece" that appears in the spring *Soundboard*, beginning on page 75.
2. Attempt to identify the piece as completely as you can. Obviously, this is not a piece of standard repertoire, so feel free to enter even if you can't pin it down. Style, form, and harmonic vocabulary may provide valuable clues.
3. Identification might include the composer's name, dates, country of origin, and other biographical information. Other things to mention might include the title and publisher of the work in question. If the work is a transcription, you should so state.

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4 In the event no correct answer is received, the prize will go to the most imaginative answer as determined by the editor.
5 To be eligible, answers must be received no later than August 1, 1989. The winner will be announced as part of the GFA Festival in Lubbock, Texas, in October.
6 Send entries to: Peter Danner, GFA Contest, 604 Tennyson Ave., Palo Alto, CA 94301.

This column was first published in *Soundboard* 16, no. 2 (Summer 1989): 63–71. It is reproduced here as part of a collection, "From the *Soundboard* Archive," featuring selected notes by Matanya Ophee to the *Guitarist's Album* series. The text is unchanged except for typographical corrections and minor changes in house style.

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About the Guitar Foundation of America

THE GUITAR FOUNDATION OF AMERICA inspires artistry, builds community, and promotes the classical guitar internationally through excellence in performance, literature, education, and research. For more information, visit https://guitarfoundation.org.

Zweite Lyrische Suite

für Gitarre

von

Rudolf Süss

OP. 24.

1. PRÄLUDIUM
2. ADAGIO
3. MENUETT (Wachauer Ländler)
4. FINALE

Eigentum des Verlegers für alle Länder

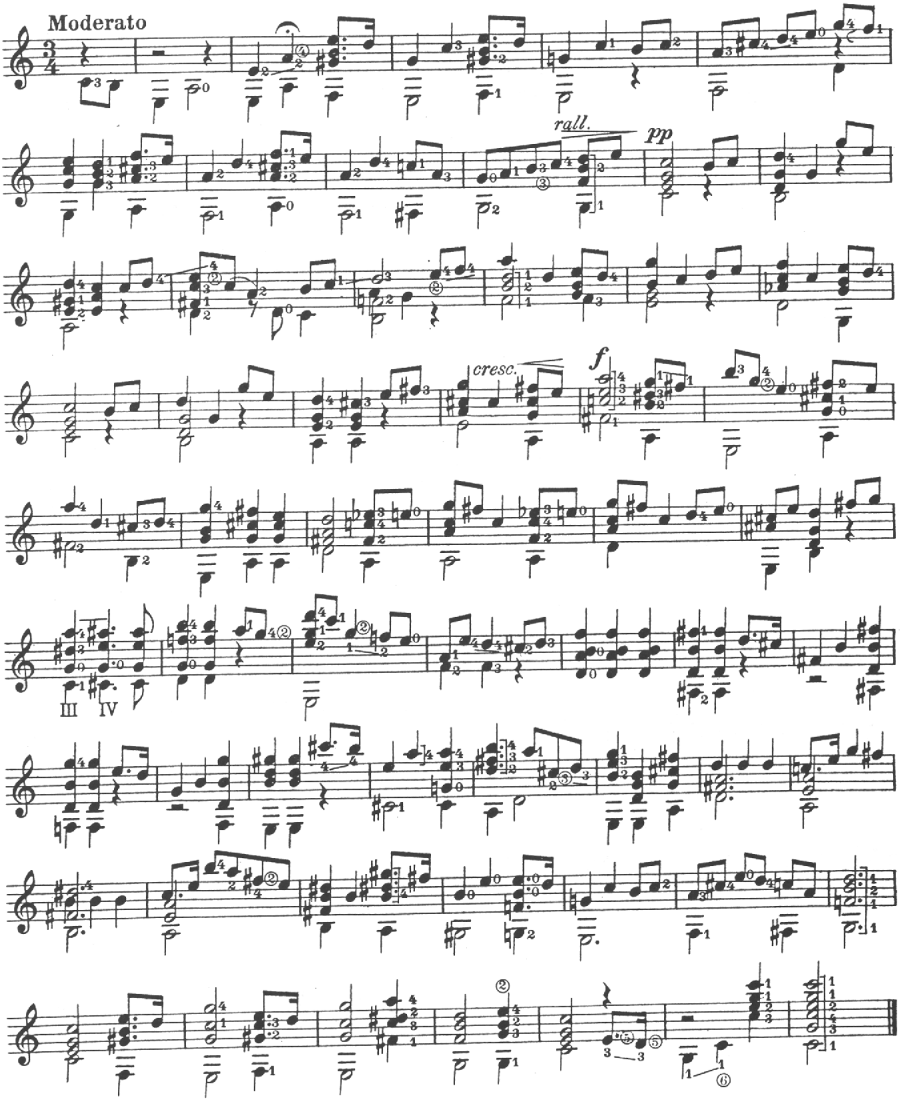
ANTON GOLL

WIEN I, Wollzeile 5. LEIPZIG, Karlstraße 10.

MADE IN GERMANY
IMPRIMÉ EN ALLEMAGNE

I. Praeludium

Rudolf Süss, Op. 24



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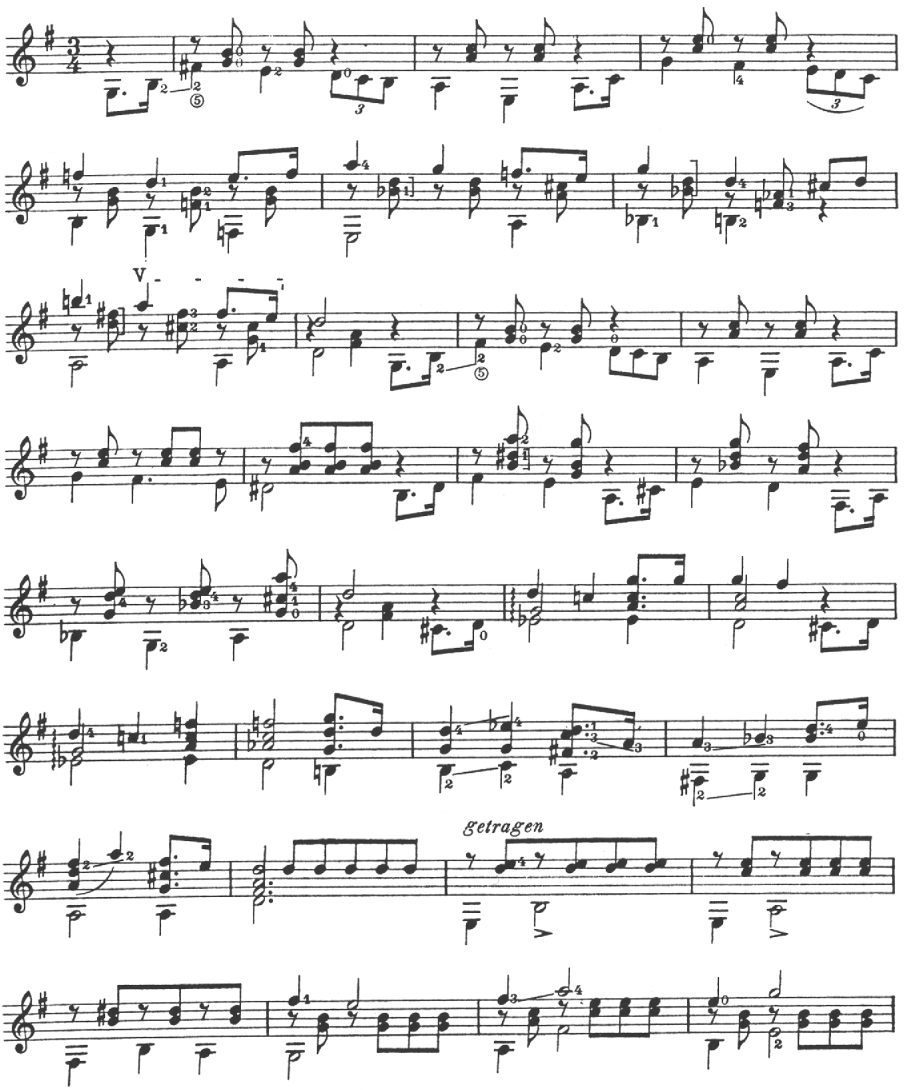
II. Adagio



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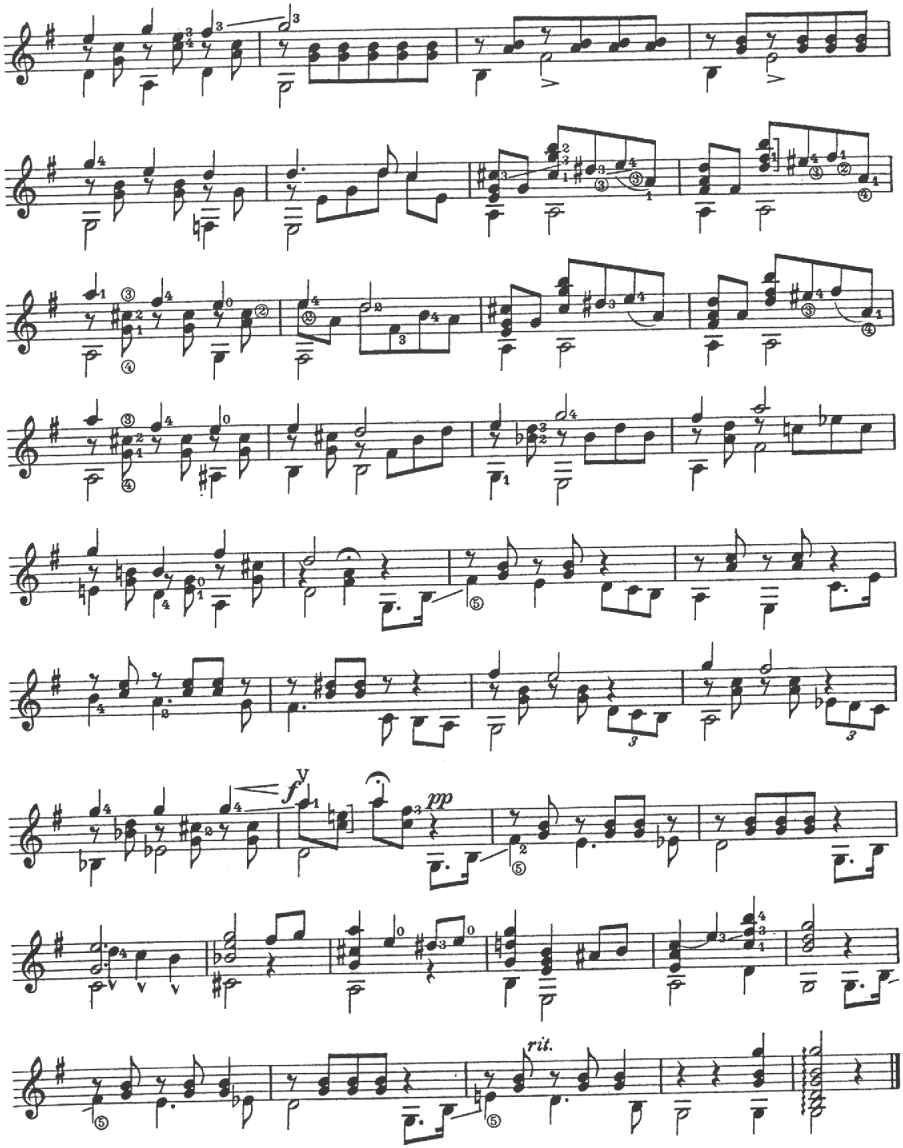

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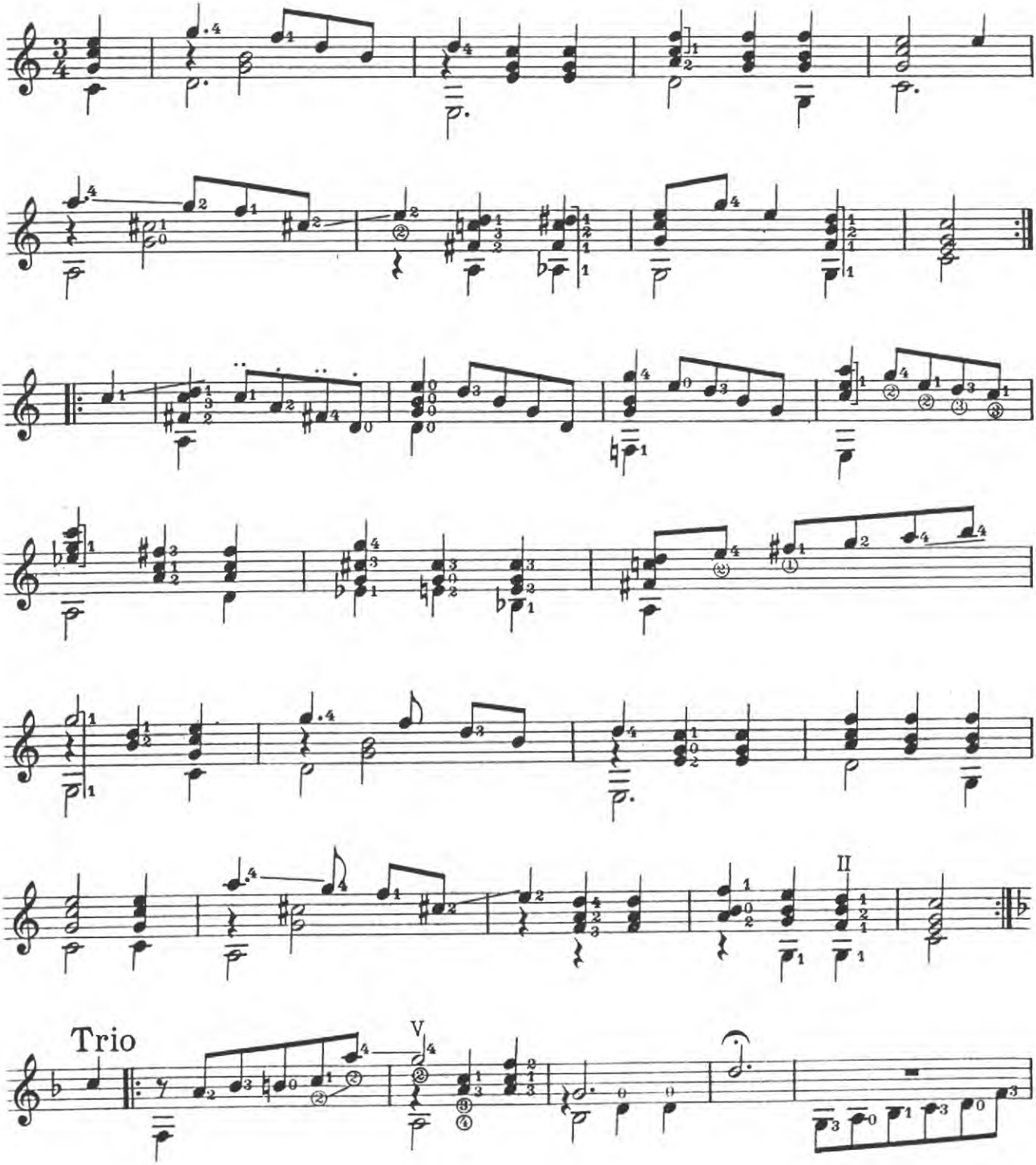
III. Menuett (Wachau-Ländler)



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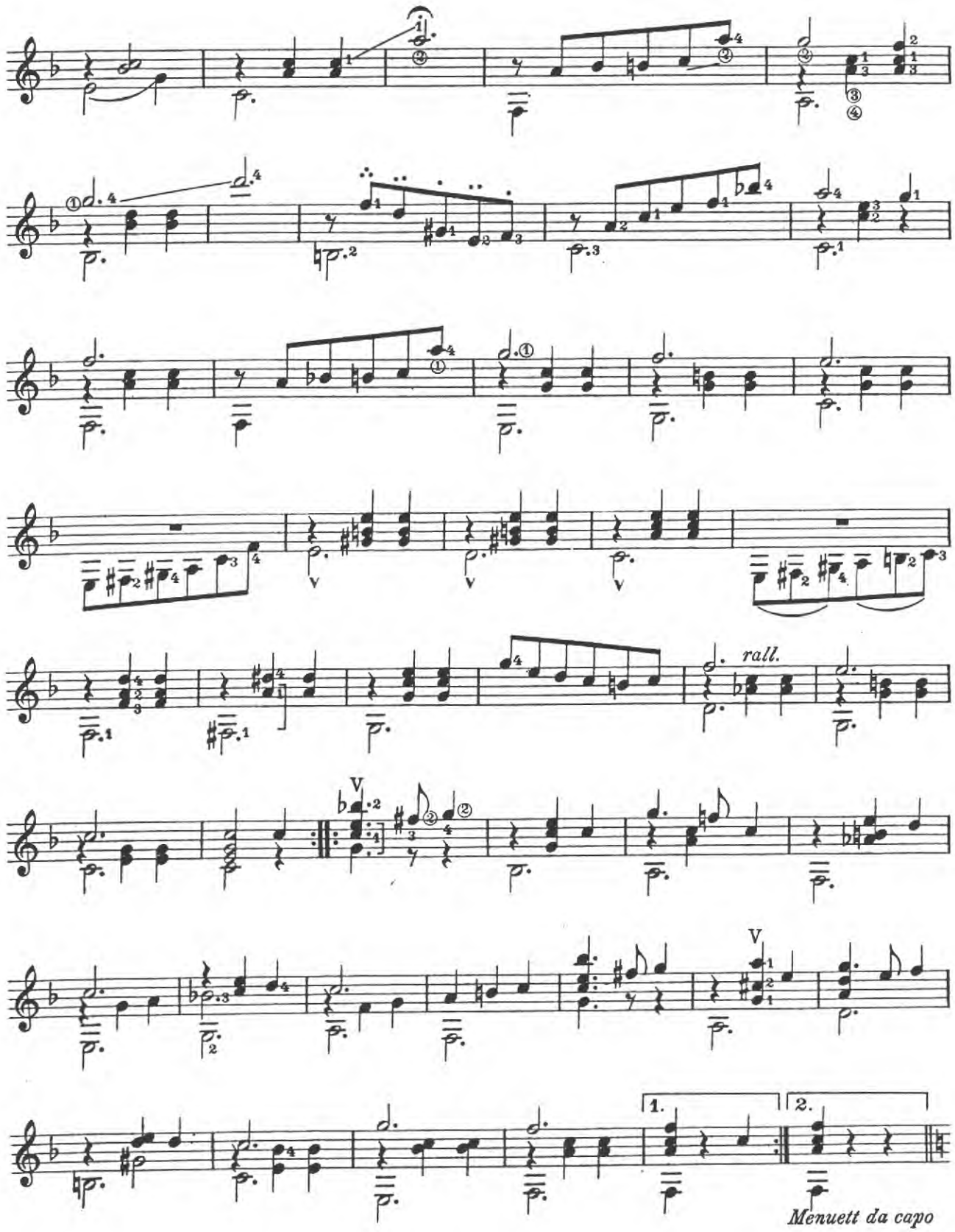

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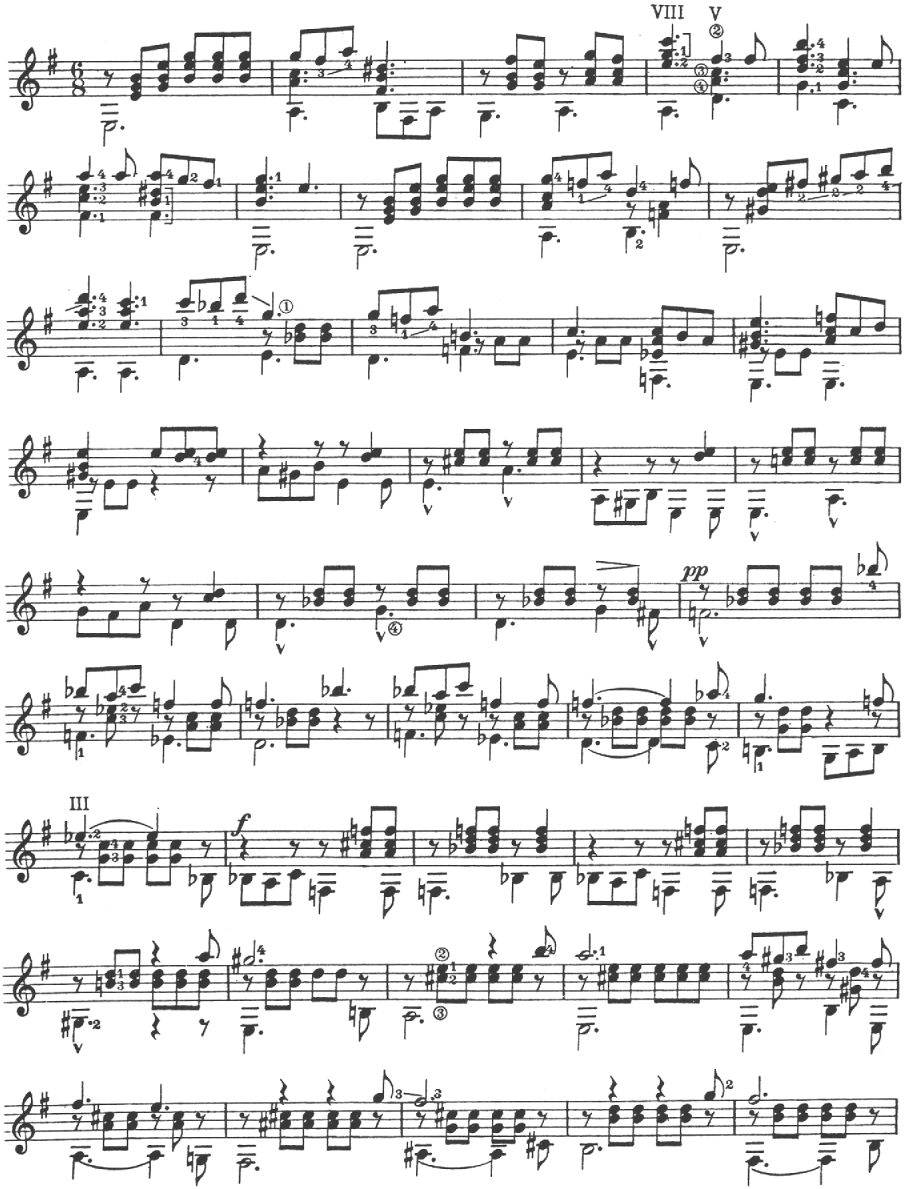
IV. Finale



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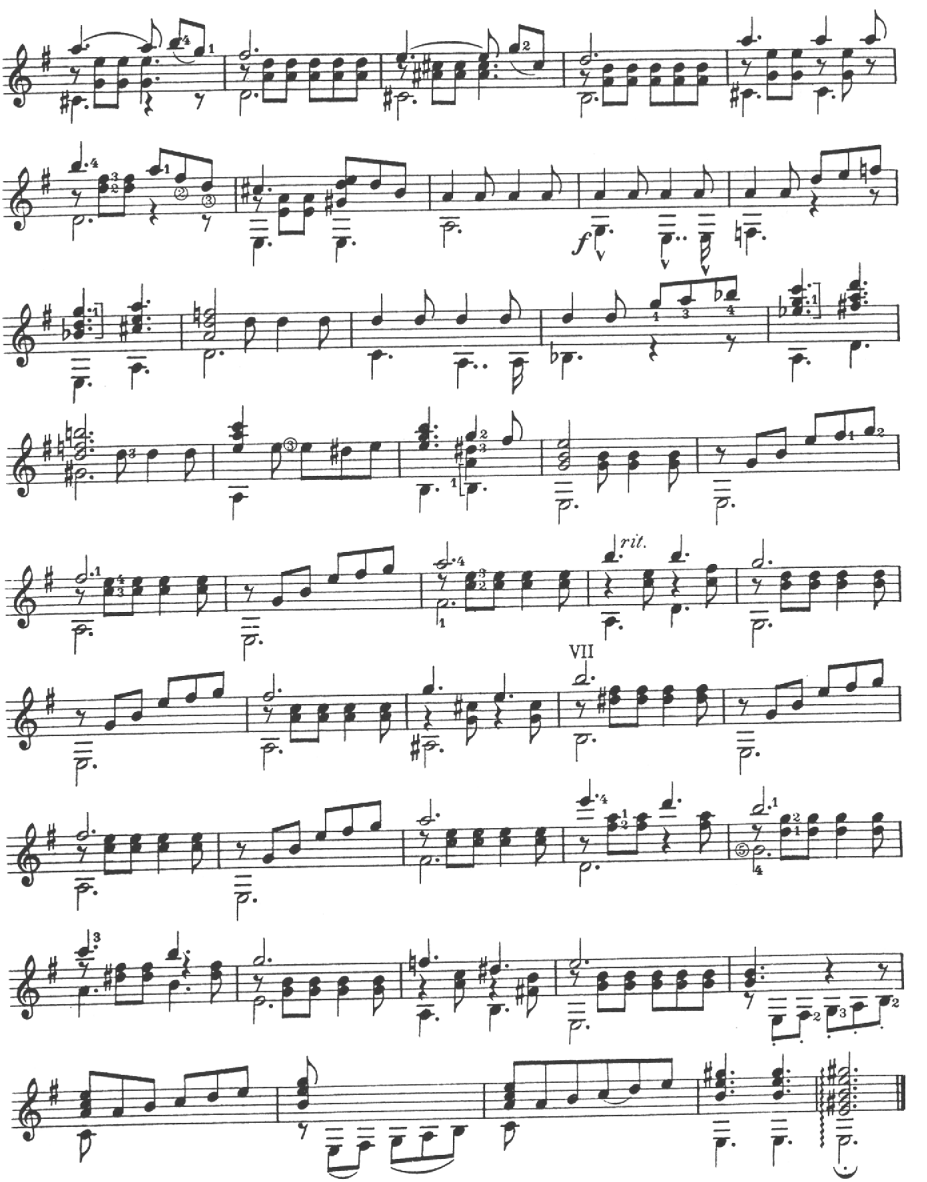

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Stich und Druck von C. G. Roder G.m.b.H., Leipzig.