

**TWO PART SPECIES
COUNTERPOINT
GUITAR
COMPOSITIONS**

Gilbert Isbin

TWO PART SPECIES COUNTERPOINT GUITAR COMPOSITIONS

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Foreword

Counterpoint is the combination of two or more melodic lines working together.

In this book I will concentrate on counterpoint into two voices.

The compositions in this book are written in the 5 species

Species 1 : 1 note against 1

Species 2 : 2 or 3 notes against

Species 3 : 4 or 6 notes against 1

Species 4 : also known as syncopation, based on 2 or 3 notes to 1 note proportion but the upbeat is tied to the next downbeat.

Species 5 (or floridus) : Uses all the proportions (species)

In the composition 'Nacon' I use in the A section the canon technique. In a canon the melody in one voice is repeated a bit later in another voice while the first line continues.

Metronome marks and fingerings are optional. Just play the pieces at the tempo that you feel comfortable with.

Enjoy !

Gilbert Isbin

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Listen to the compositions at
<https://gilbertisbin.com/compositions/guitar/>

CONFLUENCE

First Species

1:1

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$\text{♩} = 80$

1 2 0 2 3 2 0 1 2 3 1

3 0 0 2 3 2 2 2 0

1 1 0 3 3 2 1 0 1 1 2

3 4 2 2 1 0 3 1 3 1

1 3 2 3 1 2 0 3 4 0 1

1 3 2 3 1 2 0 3 4 0 1

20

23

26

30

34

38

rit. .

Detailed description: This is a musical score for guitar, consisting of six systems of music. Each system is written on a single staff in treble clef. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The time signature is 4/4. Measure numbers 20, 23, 26, 30, 34, and 38 are indicated at the start of their respective systems. The notation includes various note values (quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes), rests, and accidentals. Fingering numbers (0-4) are placed above or below notes. Bar lines and repeat signs are used to structure the piece. A first and second ending bracket spans measures 23-25. A double bar line with repeat dots appears at the end of measure 25. A 3/4 time signature change occurs at the beginning of measure 26. A 4/4 time signature change occurs at the beginning of measure 38. The piece concludes with a 'rit.' (ritardando) marking and a final double bar line.

CROSSING YOUR PATH

2nd Species
2:1

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♩ = 90

1

5

9

14

19

23

28

34

40

rit.

$\text{♩} = 90$

46

50

54

25

1. 2.

Fingering: 1, 3, 0, 3, 2, 0, 2, 1, 2, 4

29

Fingering: 1, 3, 2, 4, 3, 4, 2, 3, 4

34

Fingering: 3, 0, 0, 1, 2, 4, 1, 2, 4, 1, 2, 4, 1, 0, 3

39

Fingering: 0, 2, 3, 2, 3, 2, 1, 0, 1, 3, 2, 1, 2, 0

43

h7

Fingering: 4, 1, 4, 1, 4, 2

BLUE SKY DREAM

3rd Species

4:1, 6:1

♩ = 80

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The musical score is written for guitar and bass. It consists of six systems of music, each with a treble clef (guitar) and a bass clef (bass). The piece is in 3/4 time and features a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked as quarter note = 80. The score includes various musical notations such as triplets, slurs, and dynamic markings. Fingering numbers (1-4) are provided for both hands. The piece is divided into sections, with measures 1-8, 9-12, 13-16, 17-21, and 22-25. A double bar line with repeat dots is used at the end of the first section (measure 8) and the second section (measure 16). A section marked '2.v' begins at measure 13. The piece concludes with a final double bar line at measure 25.

28

0 3 1 4 3 1 4 1 2 0 1

33

4 1 2 0 4 1 2 0 4 1 3 3 2 3

38

3 4 3 3 2 4 2 1 1 3 1 2

42

0 1 3 1 3 2 4 1 3 1 4

molto rall.

46

1 3 1 3 1 1

50

3 4 2 2 4 2 3

CONTEMPLATION

Fourth Species
Syncopation

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$\text{♩} = 60$

1

2 1 2 0

3 3 4

5

4 3

9

1. 4 1 4 0 4 4

2 3 3 1 2

15

2. 4 4 4 4 0 4 4

0 0 3 1 2

$\text{♩} = 120$

23

4 4 2 4

2 1 3 1 2

Musical notation for measures 29-36. Measure 29 starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first ending (1.) spans measures 29-30 and the second ending (2.) spans measures 31-36. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-4 above notes. A '0' indicates an open string. The bass line consists of chords and single notes.

♩ = 60

Musical notation for measures 37-42. Measure 37 starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-4 above notes. A '0' indicates an open string. The bass line consists of chords and single notes.

Musical notation for measures 43-48. Measure 43 starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first ending (1.) spans measures 43-48. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-4 above notes. A '0' indicates an open string. The bass line consists of chords and single notes, with circled numbers 4 and 5 below notes in measures 44 and 47.

Musical notation for measures 49-54. Measure 49 starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The second ending (2.) spans measures 49-54. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-4 above notes. A '0' indicates an open string. The bass line consists of chords and single notes, with circled numbers 3, 2, and 6 below notes in measures 49, 51, and 52.

FLOWER THOUGHT

Fifth Species or Florid Species

uses all proportions 1:1, 2:1, 3:1, 4:1, 6,1 and syncopation

$\text{♩} = 52$

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1

Musical notation for measures 1-4. Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 1 has a circled 4 above it. Fingerings: 3 0 4 1 4. Measure 4 has a 2 above it.

5

Musical notation for measures 5-10. Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Fingerings: 1 4 4, 1 0 1 0, 0 2, 4 3 0, 2 3, 4 2.

11

Musical notation for measures 11-16. Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Fingerings: 3 1 2, 4 3.

17

To Coda

Musical notation for measures 17-23. Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 17 has a circled 1 above it. Measure 23 has a circled 5 above it. The section ends with a Coda symbol.

24

$\text{♩} = 160$

Musical notation for measures 24-29. Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 24 has a circled 1 above it. Measure 29 has a circled 5 above it.

29

34

$\text{♩} = 42$

38

42

46

50

Musical notation for measures 50-53. Measure 50: Treble clef, quarter notes G4, A4, B4, C5. Bass clef: quarter note G2. Measure 51: Treble clef: eighth notes G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5. Bass clef: quarter note G2. Measure 52: Treble clef: eighth notes G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5. Bass clef: quarter note G2. Measure 53: Treble clef: eighth notes G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5. Bass clef: quarter note G2.

54

Musical notation for measures 54-57. Measure 54: Treble clef: quarter notes G4, A4, B4, C5. Bass clef: quarter note G2. Measure 55: Treble clef: quarter notes G4, A4, B4, C5. Bass clef: quarter note G2. Measure 56: Treble clef: quarter notes G4, A4, B4, C5. Bass clef: quarter note G2. Measure 57: Treble clef: quarter notes G4, A4, B4, C5. Bass clef: quarter note G2.

58

D.C. al Coda

Musical notation for measures 58-59. Measure 58: Treble clef: quarter notes G4, A4, B4, C5. Bass clef: quarter note G2. Measure 59: Treble clef: quarter notes G4, A4, B4, C5. Bass clef: quarter note G2.

Coda

Musical notation for the Coda section. Treble clef: quarter notes G4, A4, B4, C5. Bass clef: quarter note G2.

62

Musical notation for measures 62-65. Measure 62: Treble clef: quarter notes G4, A4, B4, C5. Bass clef: quarter note G2. Measure 63: Treble clef: quarter notes G4, A4, B4, C5. Bass clef: quarter note G2. Measure 64: Treble clef: quarter notes G4, A4, B4, C5. Bass clef: quarter note G2. Measure 65: Treble clef: quarter notes G4, A4, B4, C5. Bass clef: quarter note G2.

FROM DAY TO DAY

Florid Species

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$\text{♩} = 100$

1

4

7

11

14

17

Musical notation for measures 17-19. Measure 17 starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). It contains a triplet of eighth notes (G4, A4, B4) with a '3' below, followed by a quarter note (C5) with a '0' above, a quarter note (B4) with a '2' above, and a quarter note (A4) with a '0' above. Measure 18 has a quarter note (G4) with a '1' above, a quarter note (F#4) with a '2' below, a quarter note (E4) with a '2' below, and a quarter note (D4) with a '2' below. Measure 19 has a quarter note (C4) with a '2' below, a quarter note (B3) with a '4' below, a quarter note (A3) with a '2' below, and a quarter note (G3) with a '2' below.

20

Musical notation for measures 20-22. Measure 20 has a quarter note (G4) with a '2' below, a quarter note (A4) with a '#' above, a quarter note (B4) with a '#' above, a quarter note (C5) with a '#' above, a quarter note (B4) with a '#' above, and a quarter note (A4) with a '#' above. Measure 21 has a quarter note (G4) with a '4' above, a quarter note (F#4) with a '2' below, a quarter note (E4) with a '0' below, a quarter note (D4) with a '1' below, a quarter note (C4) with a '2' below, and a quarter note (B3) with a '2' below. Measure 22 has a quarter note (A3) with a '2' below, a quarter note (G3) with a '2' below, a quarter note (F3) with a '2' below, and a quarter note (E3) with a '2' below.

23

Musical notation for measures 23-25. Measure 23 has a quarter note (G4) with a '2' below, a quarter note (A4) with a '#' above, a quarter note (B4) with a '#' above, a quarter note (C5) with a '#' above, a quarter note (B4) with a '#' above, and a quarter note (A4) with a '#' above. Measure 24 has a quarter note (G4) with a '4' above, a quarter note (F#4) with a '1' above, a quarter note (E4) with a '4' above, and a quarter note (D4) with a '4' above. Measure 25 has a quarter note (C4) with a '3' below, a quarter note (B3) with a '2' below, a quarter note (A3) with a '1' below, a quarter note (G3) with a '3' below, a quarter note (F3) with a '1' below, a quarter note (E3) with a '3' below, a quarter note (D3) with a '1' below, a quarter note (C3) with a '2' below, a quarter note (B2) with a '3' below, and a quarter note (A2) with a '4' below.

26

Musical notation for measures 26-28. Measure 26 has a quarter note (G4) with a '3' above, a quarter note (A4) with a '0' above, a quarter note (B4) with a '1' above, a quarter note (C5) with a '4' above, a quarter note (B4) with a '2' above, a quarter note (A4) with a '1' above, and a quarter note (G4) with a '4' above. Measure 27 has a quarter note (F#4) with a '1' above, a quarter note (E4) with a '4' above, a quarter note (D4) with a '1' above, and a quarter note (C4) with a '4' above. Measure 28 has a quarter note (B3) with a '1' below, a quarter note (A3) with a '1' below, a quarter note (G3) with a '1' below, and a quarter note (F3) with a '1' below.

NACON

Florid Species

♩ = 88

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1

6

10

13

15

17

1 3 2

♩ = 76

20

rit. 1 1 4 3 1 2 2 3

25

1. 2. rit. 4 3 4 4 2 0 2 4 0 0 2 4 0 2 3 3

♩ = 88

30

1 0 2 4 1 1 2 1 0 0 1 1 1 2 3 3 3 3 3

34

1 1 1 4 4 1 3 3 3 1 3

37

1 0 2

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