THE TOCCATAS OF JOHANNES HIERONYMUS KAPSBERGER’S *LIBRO PRIMO D’INTAVOLATURA DI LAUTO*: ANALYSIS, PERFORMANCE PRACTICE, AND TRANSCRIPTION FOR MODERN CLASSICAL GUITAR

by

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ABSTRACT

Johannes Kapsberger was an Italian composer of the early Baroque era. Known for his compositions for the lute and theorbo, Kapsberger was a talented composer who worked for great patrons like Francesco Barberini and Pope Clement IX. Kapsberger published his only surviving lute works in 1611, which contained eight lute toccatas. His lute works are written in Italian lute tablature and therefore present barriers to modern classical guitarists. This document transcribes and arranges Kapsberger’s eight surviving lute toccatas into modern notation while giving insight into interpretation and performance practices of Kapsberger’s era. This gives classical guitarists access to these essential works and lays the groundwork for future scholarship. Kapsberger’s 1611 lute toccatas pre-date Girolamo Frescobaldi’s keyboard toccatas. Since both composers were in the service of Francesco Barberini, further questions like, “how influential were Kapsberger’s lute toccatas on Frescobaldi’s compositions?” need to be answered. Now that this document provides the transcribed and arranged modern notation versions of Kapsberger’s eight lute toccatas, further questions and scholarship into the early baroque toccata can be researched.