

Mikhail Timofievich Vyssotsky (1791-1837) was one of the greatest Russian guitar virtuosos. A contemporary of Carulli, Giuliani and Sor, he may have met the latter during the Spaniard's famous visit to Russia in the 1820s. The present work was written for seven string guitar and has been arranged for six-string guitar; it was originally part of a set of 22 preludes, No. 2 in a collection of Vyssotsky's works published in Russia in the mid 19th century. For additional background and biographical material and other works by the same composer, see Matanya Ophee, ed., *The Russian Collection*, Vols. 1 and 7 (Columbus OH: Editions Orphée, 1986-1997), and also Oleg Timofeyev & Marco Bazzotti, "La chitarra eptacorde nella cultura russa dell'Ottocento," *Il Fronimo*, No. 103 (July, 1998), pp. 27-40.