

Ed Pearlman and Beth Robinson



Boston Hospitality

Scottish Fiddle and Piano

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Scottish fiddle music is remarkable for its range of expression—from the lilting to the exuberant, from lamentation to celebration, from the gaily to the refined. Tunes invented at the croft may find their way to many a castle, and music written at the castle can rev up a barnstorm as easily as a ballroom.

Here is a sampling of this tradition, played with warmth and spirit by Ed Pearlman and Beth Robinson, two musicians well known in New England and elsewhere for their lively dance music and expressive concert performances in the Scottish idiom. They are joined in portions of this record by four other fine Boston area musicians: Ruthie Dorfield on fiddle, Gary McGrath on drum, Barbara Russell on harp and bass, and Douglas Scott on hammer dulcimer. More information about these performers is included in the record insert.

Side One is a concert featuring some well known and some rarely heard tunes by the Gows, William Marshall, J.S. Skinner, and the Highland composer Simon Fraser, as well as traditional tunes, a bagpipe reel, and several originals written by Ed. Just for fun—and as a reminder of Boston's hospitality for all folk music—Side One concludes with a lively Danish dance tune learned from Ruthie.

Side Two is for Scottish country dancing, but is geared towards the listener as well as the dancer; the main difference from Side One being that the tempos are kept constant for dancing, with chords at beginning and end (for the bow and curtsy).

Side Two introduces four dances written by Boston area teachers, and a fifth written by a Scot and dedicated to Pinewoods dance camp near Plymouth, where the Boston Branch of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society (RSCDS) hosts its summer haven for dancers and musicians each July. Instructions for all five dances are enclosed.

The program finishes, like most dances, with a waltz; the music for this one was written by Beth and Ed.

Ed Pearlman, fiddle (all tracks)

Beth Robinson, piano (all tracks)

Ruthie Dorfield, fiddle (Rumie Quadrille, Pinewoods Reel)

Gary McGrath, drum and woodblocks (Lewi McAulit, Pinewoods Reel)

Barbara Russell, harp (Lachlan Duth, Waltz) and **bass** (Rumie Quadrille, Pinewoods Reel)

Douglas Scott, hammer dulcimer and woodblocks (Slow Alert)

Side One: CONCERT*

- **Huntington Fling** 1:54
Lord Huntly's Cave (march by J.S. Skinner)
The Rocket Hornpipe
Mackin Street (hornpipe by E. Pearlman)
- **The Mill Mill O** (song/strathspey) 5:38
New Caret (1919 jig)
Loch Earn (reel by Ruthie Gow)
Earl of Breadalbane's Hermitage (reel by Neil Gow)
Bob Johnson's Reel
- **Laura's Slow Reel** (E. Pearlman) 2:10
- **Mostly William Marshall** 5:18
Mrs. Maj. L. Stewart of the Island of Java (air)
Banks of Spey (strathspey)
Lady Madeline Sinclair (trad. strathspey)
Lord John Scott (reel)
Mrs. Gordon's Reel
- **Lachlan Duth** (air) 0:03
As a Thistlebush—Keep It Up (reel by Capt. S. Fraser)
Lewi McAulit (bagpipe reel by Dr. J. MacKintosh)
- **Rumie Quadrille** (trad. Danish) 2:24

Side Two: DANCE*

- **Boston Hospitality** (32"x3 round-the-room jig by Marianne Saylor) 3:01
Boston Hospitality (E. Pearlman)
Farewell to the Greeks (Pipe Maj. J. Robertson)
Pipe Major Sam Scott (Pipe Maj. P. R. MacLeod)
- **Slow Alert** (40"x4 reel by Jeanette McCall) 2:56
Giblin's Reel (P. Milne)
The Kil is My Deight
Battle of the Boyne
Giblin's Reel (P. Milne)
- **Ms. Gillian McMullen of Cambridge** (32"x4 strathspey by Barbara Russell) 4:08
Ms. Gillian McMullen of Cambridge (E. Pearlman)
The Forth Bridge (W. Blyth)
Sailor Scotty (E. Pearlman)
Ms. Gillian McMullen of Cambridge (E. Pearlman)
- **Boston Scottish Fiddle Club Jig** (32"x8 jig by Evelyn M.E. Murray, also suitable for Last of the Larks) 4:26
Stroll of Repentance (Neil Gow?)
Swain's phosadh—Nuptial Knot (Capt. S. Fraser)
The Sailor's Wife
My Wife's a Worton Was Thing
Mr. Charles Graham's Welcome Home (Wm. Gow)
Earl of Morton's Jig (Wm. Gow)
The Lassies of Dunse
Stroll of Repentance (Neil Gow?)
- **Pinewoods Reel** (32"x8 reel by John Bowie Jackson) 4:43
Da Tushier (R. Cooper)
Da Groce (T. Anderson)
Miltirae (R. Cooper)
Same Her When da Snow Comes (trad. Shetland)
Calum Donaldson (R. Cooper)
Sleep Sound da Moar (trad. Shetland)
Da Tushier (R. Cooper)
- **Waltz** 4:34
Man on the Couch (B. Robinson)
Lady Lopley (E. Pearlman)
Man on the Couch (B. Robinson)



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All music arranged by Ed Pearlman.
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*Dance instructions, program notes and acknowledgments are enclosed.

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