TRADITIONAL DANCE MUSIC OF SCOTLAND MARY ROSS-KLEKTAU

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This workshop is an introduction to Traditional Scottish Music and includes tunes suitable for Scottish Country dancing.

Many cultures have embraced the accordion as an instrument of choice for ethnic dancing.

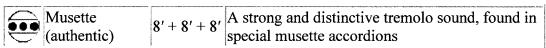
It is the only portable instrument that can simultaneously play melody, harmony, and rhythm.

It is the ultimate band in a box.

The three main dance forms of Scotland are the Jig, Strathspey and Reel.

Scottish Country Dance Band Instrumentation: Combination of Accordion, Fiddle, piano, bass, and snare drum. Often bands have two accordions. Lead accordion on melody and 2nd accordion on rhythm.

Part of the Scottish unique sound is due to the accordion tuning. The accordions have three middle sets of reeds on the right hand which have been musette tuned, so the left reed is slightly flat, middle in tune, right reed sharp. Electronic tuners are graduated in "Cents" with 100 cents = 1 semitone so there are many variant choices in tuning to musette. The range for Scottish accordions could be detuned up to 25 cents for the outer reeds.



Four tuning sample clips https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hIk XJskIFk

Technical tuning information <a href="http://www.cs.cmu.edu/afs/cs/user/phoebe/old-accordion/accordion-acc

tuning.html

My suggestion for an accordionist wishing to learn **any** style of music is to research and listen to musicians who are masters on the style. Notes on the music page do not indicate the **groove or style**, so **listening** is of prime importance. Link below is from the weekly BBC radio- Gary Innes on "Traditional Scottish Music Take the Floor." https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b07y72yv/episodes/player

Role of the Dance Musician

The musician is an accompanist to the dancer. "Music should tell the dancer what to do."

Select tunes that you can play well, executing clear phrasing, and a steady tempo. Tunes with familiar or catchy melodies can be winners. In regards to using ornamentation, "Less can be better".

Links for NotatedMusic

This is a great collection of traditional tunes from the British Isles compiled by Paul Hardy.

http://www.pghardy.net/concertina/tunebooks/ home page

http://pghardy.net/concertina/tunebooks/pgh session tunebook.pdf free downloads of notated music

Scottish Music -Specific to Scottish Country Dancing

Links below will guide you to excellent recordings of Scottish Country bands as well as sites to purchase notated music for Scottish Country Dancing.

<u>http://sound.tac-rscds.org/</u> TeachersAssociationCanada -Sound recordings and sheet music
<u>http://www.musicscotland.com/cd/Scottish-Country-Dance.html</u>
SCD music and beyond

The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society has branches all over the world.

Check out the website for information on clubs, music and history.

https://www.rscds.org/article/what-is-scd-2

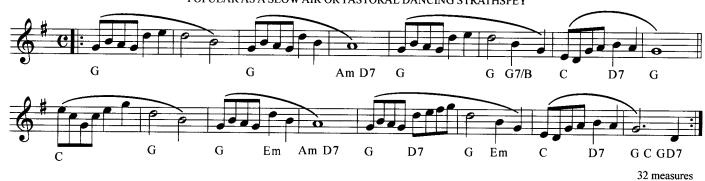
Scottish Country Dancing Demonstration links.

Enjoy many clips of dances and demonstrations from all over the world. They may inspire you to learn to dance as well as learn the music.

https://www.scottish-country-dancing-dictionary.com/scottish-dancing-youtube-videos.html

FORRES CRADLE SONG - J.S. Skinner





BANKS OF CLYDE STRATHSPEY Traditional

Suitable for a Strong Strath or a Schottische



Arranged by MARY ROSS 2018

