

HOEDOWNER

Tune of the Month

Special Thanks to
David Altman
of District 7
for providing
Tune of the Month
for March

This tune is categorized in traditional Irish music as an air. Airs are a traditional tune genre which confuse many fiddlers not as familiar with this oldtime tradition because the time signature can be 3/4 time, but also 6/8, 2/4, or even something else. The Chieftains popularized this tune for a wider audience, and it can be found on several YouTube videos, such as this one: [Click here](#). Besides most often being played in the key of G, other versions are in D or C. This wonderful air dates back to the 1700s, and the composer is not definitively known. However, often South Wind (or another title for the melody) is attributed to the great Irish harpist, O'Carolan. Lyrics do exist which also date to the same period, and one often cited composer is Freckled Donal Macnamara from County Mayo.

The South Wind

The musical score for "The South Wind" is written in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It consists of five staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 3/4 time signature. The melody is written in eighth and quarter notes. Above the staff are the chords G, D, and G. The second staff features a repeat sign with two endings. The first ending is marked with a '1' and the chord G, and the second ending is marked with a '2' and the chord G. A triplet of eighth notes is indicated with a '3' below the staff. The third staff continues the melody with chords D, C, D, G, A, and D above it. The fourth staff has chords G, A, D, G, D, C, and D above it, with a triplet of eighth notes marked with a '3' below. The fifth and final staff has chords G, A, D, G, D, G, C, and G above it.