Southwind

(A ghaoithe an ndeas - O southern breeze)

Traditional Irish Melody as published by Edward Bunting in 1809



History: After transcribing the tunes from the Harpers' Gathering of 1792, Edward Bunting became fascinated with Irish harp and spent his life collecting tunes from the rapidly diminishing ranks of traditional harp players. Southwind (a melody to which many lyrics, both Irish and English, have been set) appeared in his 1809 collection. Note that later arrangements of this tune did not include the "C part", and it is relatively unknown.

Technique: Melody notes, ornaments, and fermata are taken directly from Bunting's notation. Chord symbols are extracted from Bunting's bass staff arrangement. To avoid accidentals, play the chord in (). A "slash chord" such as C/G indicates a chord inversion (C over G) and a "slash note" such as /G indicates a single bass note.

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