

The DARK SLENDER BOY

An Buachail Caol Dubh

Seán O Seanacháin (mid-18th c.)

Freely (mm ~ 40)

The musical score is written for piano and bass. It begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 3/4 time signature. The tempo is marked 'Freely (mm ~ 40)'. The first system shows the initial melody in the treble and a simple accompaniment in the bass. A dynamic marking of *mf* (mezzo-forte) is placed above the first measure of the second system. The piece consists of 10 measures, with first and second endings indicated by bracketed numbers 1 and 2. The first ending (measures 8-10) leads back to the beginning, while the second ending (measures 5-7) provides an alternative conclusion. The score concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

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The image shows a musical score for a piano piece. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass clef staff. The first system starts at measure 10. The second system starts at measure 12 and includes a *loco* marking in the bass staff. A dashed line labeled *8va* is positioned above the first staff of the second system, indicating an octave shift. The key signature is one sharp (F#).

This piece is from Donal O'Sullivan's *Songs of the Irish* collection, where he comments "In this song we have the attractive concept of the Spirit of Drink as a Dark Slender Boy who accompanies his protégé everywhere. The author of the conceit was a Munster poet of the mid-Eighteenth Century named Seán ó Seanacháin (John Shanahan), whose eccentric character and general irresponsibility earned for him the sobriquet of 'Seán Aerach' or 'Flighty Jack' ."