

THE 'TRAD' SAILS ON

Compositions
In The Irish Tradition
By Ríck Muir

Foreword

And the 'Trad' sails on, in fact, clear across the Atlantic Ocean to America, and beyond, as it continues to flourish and evolve.

After playing Celtic traditional music on the piano accordion for a number of years, plus teaching it, plus compiling music books of such tunes, the urge to create such tunes of my own eventually overtook me, and I soon realized what a pleasurable experience it can be. For the most part, I confined my efforts to the formats one commonly encounters for Irish reels, jigs, hornpipes, polkas, mazurkas, waltzes, marches and airs, while at the same time deviating from and enhancing these formats on occasion to keep the results interesting. I also turned out a few rags, since ragtime and Celtic dance tunes can be so uplifting and I am fond of them both. Some of my tunes even contain elements of both, yet another direction for 'Trad' to sail, perhaps?

I hope you will enjoy playing the creations in this collection as much as I enjoyed composing them, and that you will not hesitate to share them, which I have found is as much fun as creating them. Many of the tunes were inspired by wonderful people I have known, identified in the numerous dedications..

Rick Muir

Teacher of the Celtic Music Learning Seisiuns (2000 - 2010)
for the Tom Finucane Branch of
The Comhaltas Ceóltoiri Éireann
In Rochester, New York, USA

Compiler of:

"The Source Book of Irish Music", Volumes I & II;

"The Song Book of Irish Music", Volumes I & II;

"Turlough's Tunes, A Carolan Sampler";

"The Walker Collection"

(Tunes favored by brothers George and Sean Walker,
CCE Hall of Fame fiddlers residing in Rochester,
New York, USA, and born and raised in Ireland.)

"A Taste of Orkney"

(A few traditional Orcadian tunes to whet the appetite
- one of my grandfathers was from the Orkney Islands
north of Scotland, and one of my cousins is a farmer/fiddler there.)

Composer (from 1999 through the present) of several hundred Irish traditional type tunes, which are contained in this collection "The 'Trad' Sails On".

Inducted into the CCE Hall of Fame, American Northeast Region, 2018.

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*Here's to the steady evolution of
Irish Traditional Music.*

*May it never stagnate
for lack of
wind in its sails.*

USER MANUAL

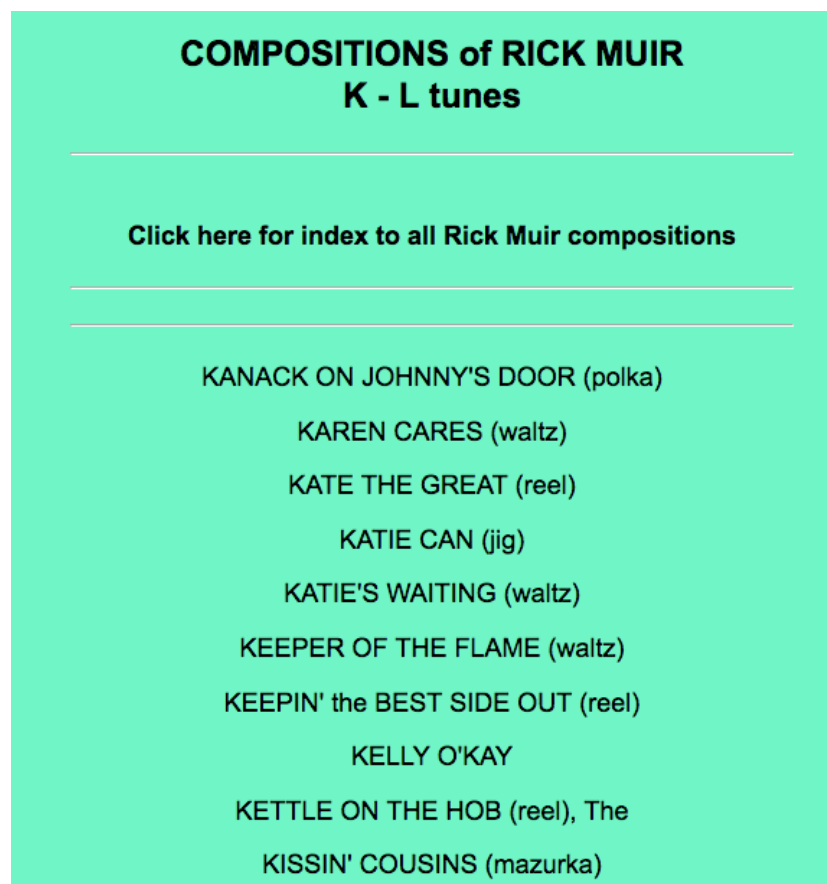
INDEX TO TUNES

HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

The files in this book were created using the ABC Transcription Tools web app developed by Michael Eskin:

<https://michaeeskin.com/abc>

This screenshot is a sample of a typical webpage in this book:



USER MANUAL

When clicked, each tune link will open a Player that looks like this:

KEEPER OF THE FLAME (waltz)

RM 10/13/24

G Em Am Am

D7 D7 G C D7

G G7 Am Am

G Am D7 G

C G D7 G

0:00 100%

Start Tune Trainer Enable Metronome Export Audio, Image, or PDF Settings

Close

To hear the tune (and have the cursor follow the notes as it plays), just click the left arrow in the play bar.

You can control playback speed by adjusting the percentage in the right hand box at the end of the play bar.

You can also practice the tune slowly with increasing speed each time by clicking the “Start Tune Trainer” button.

USER MANUAL

You can make a copy of the tune by clicking the *Export Audio Image or PDF* box and following the prompts. You'll eventually wind up with a copy that you can download to a designated place on your hard drive (I always suggest having a folder ready for the purpose).

Also note that the sound file links will "follow the tune" so you'll have them on your downloaded copy as well. Just click on the tune title to call up the app Play window.

If you're familiar with the ABC protocol and want to have your own copies of the ABCs used to create the PDFs, you can click on the right/left arrows in the upper right hand side of the Play page. The ABCs are formatted specifically to work with the ABC Transcription Tools, but they'll work in any ABC translator like EasyABC. The results just might not look the same but the basic information will be there.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

YOU'RE WORKING WITH FILES THAT EXIST ON A WEBSITE, WHICH MEANS YOU CAN'T AFFECT THE ORIGINALS IN ANY WAY. But once the file is downloaded, you can use any PDF program (Adobe, Preview, etc.) to add your own information.

You can print out your copy of the file, but of course the sound file link will be lost. But it's easy enough to go back to Rick's page, open the tune you're working on, and save the sound file (preferably into the same folder that the PDF is in). Not quite as elegant as having the sound file embedded, but it works.

The ABC Transcription Tools are a great web app that provides many more capabilities than can be listed here. For more information, click [this link](#) and then "User Guide" at the top of the editor page.

For any additional assistance with regards to the pages, ABCs, etc., please feel free to [email Bill Black](#) and I'll do my best to assist. Have fun!