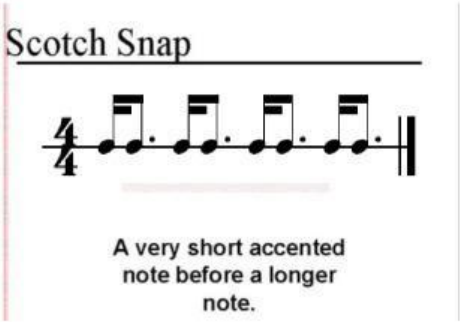
Scottish Music 2a – Dances

March

- Music with a strong, steady pulse that is suitable to march to
- 2 or 4 beats in a bar
- In Simple time
- A march is often heard in a set with a strathspey and reel

  - Extract 1
  - Extract 2

Strathspey



- 4 beats in the bar
- Moderate tempo
- SIMPLE time
- Features DOTTED RHYTHMS and SCOTS SNAPS
- Dance sounds quite 'jerky' because of the rhythm
- Often has TRIPLETS at the end of the phrase.
- Often followed by a reel

  - Extract 1
  - Extract 2

Waltz

- 3 beats in the bar
- SIMPLE time
- Fairly slow tempo but can have a 1 in a bar feel if it is a faster waltz

  - Extract 1
  - Extract 2

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Reel

- 4 beats in the bar
- Fast tempo
- Simple time – think 'Je-nny, Je-nny'
- Smooth rhythms – quavers and semiquavers
- Each beat is equally divided into groups of 2 or 4
- Often follows a Strathspey

- Extract 1
- Extract 2

Jig

- Fast tempo
- COMPOUND time – each beat divided into groups of 3 or 6 – think *'Je-nni'fer, Je-nni-fer'*
- *Usually in 6/8 time, though can be written in 9/8 or 12/8*

- Extract 1
- Extract 2

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Scottish Music 2b – Vocal music

Bothy Ballad

- Unaccompanied folk song from North East Scotland
- Sung by MEN
- Many repeating verses – STROPHIC
- Male labourers housed in bothies on the farm sang bothy ballads.
- Songs were about their living conditions, their work, boos, food served to them etc.

STROPHIC
Each verse of a vocal piece has the same music

- Extract 1
- Extract 2

Scots Ballad

- A Scottish folksong which tells a story
- Sung by MEN and WOMEN
- Many repeating verses – STROPHIC
- Sometimes A CAPPELLA and sometimes with instruments

- Extract 1
- Extract 2

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Mouth Music

- Unaccompanied songs with Gaelic or nonsense words
- Usually fast tempo, sung for ceilidh dances

  - Extract 1
  - Extract 2

Waulking Song

- A Gaelic work song with strong rhythmical rhythm
- Sung by WOMEN to keep the timing of the banging of the tweed on the table
- Call and response style – line sung by soloist and the rest of the women join in with the refrain – often 'hi-ri-I, ho ro hu o'

  - Extract 1
  - Extract 2

Gaelic Psalm

- Religious
- Slow, A CAPPELLA church tunes
- The solo leader, known as the Precentor sings the first line and congregation join in after him.

  - Extract 1
  - Extract 2

LIVEWORKSHEETS