

# 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

### Scotch Snap



A very short accented note before a longer note.

## 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

# 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

# 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

# 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