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Tracks 41 and 42 on the CD are Cuckoo Dear
and Song of the Falcon Chief, played as duos with guitar
(see notes about the Play-Along Recording).

Celtic Music for Violin

1. Carolan's Favorite Jig — Turlough O'Carolan • This lively tune is also known as Planxty Mary O'Neill.
2. Cremonea — Turlough O'Carolan • Because Carolan was not the technical wizard at the harp that some of his contemporaries were, he was encouraged by a kind patron to write music to supplement his talents. He sat down and wrote a knockout of a tune. You may know it; it's very popular today, and is called (with variations of spelling) Sheebag Sheemore. Cremonea is a very different sort of tune. I find it evocative.
3. Follow my Highland Soldier — Scotland • It must have been stirring for any young Highland woman to see the soldiers parading. "They march so neat and they dress so gay. The drums they do beat and the pipes they do play...."
4. When First my True Love I Seen — Isle of Man • This is a lovely song with an almost formal sound.
5. Song of the Falcon Chief — Isle of Man • Both the title and the music set my mind racing. It's amazing what can be carried through time and across oceans by only eight bars of music.
6. Suo Gan — Wales • Here is one of the simplest, sweetest tunes I have heard. The Welsh are known for their singing, and it isn't hard to imagine why when you hear this beautiful lullaby.
7. Er Ean Bashtey (John the Baptist) — Isle of Man • Here is another unique tune from the Manx.
8. Kitty Magennis — Turlough O'Carolan • This tune is a "hummer." See if it doesn't find its way to you when you aren't expecting it.
9. Manx Lullaby — Isle of Man • A friend called this lullaby "luscious".
10. The Cuckoo's Nest — Wales • Cuckoo is right, so have fun.
11. I Left Him on the Mountainside — Walsh • Sorrow and joy are often inextricably mixed.
12. MacPherson's Lament — James MacPherson • Played by violinist and composer MacPherson just prior to his execution at Banff, Aberdeenshire, in November of 1700, this tune was used by Robert Burns as a setting for his poem, "MacPherson's Lament."
13. A Scot's Tune — Jane Pickering's Lute Book (1615-1645) • This is an ancient and very haunting tune.
14. Drogh Vraane — Isle of Man • Many wonderful Manx carols and songs have been preserved by collectors.
15. Eleanor Plunkett — Turlough O'Carolan • What a lovely, wistful portrait this tune is. The last of her family and one of Carolan's patrons, Eleanor Plunkett was from County Meath, Ireland.
16. Glenshee — J. Mauchline • This is a Scottish march from David Glen's Collection of Highland Bagpipe Music.
17. Silent, O Moyle — Ireland • Thomas Moore's words to this melody include these lines: "When shall the

About the Music:

All of the melodies in this book can be played either by violin alone or with an accompanying instrument. Your musical partner doesn't have to play a "chord instrument." A cellist or bass player can also play the root note of the chord, or weave a beautiful duo based on the chord changes. If you can't find a musician to play with at all, don't worry; that's why the CD was recorded with separate channels for guitar and violin.

The metronome markings follow the tempos on the recording; were the tunes to be recorded again, they would most probably be different. One of my favorite quotes regarding tempo is what Johannes Brahms said when repeatedly pressed for a metronome marking: "Idiot! Do you think I want to hear my music always played at the same speed?"

About the Play-Along Recording:

The accompanying CD is recorded on two channels. Chris Baum and his violin are on the left channel, and Allan Alexander and his guitar are on the right. To hear both parts, adjust your stereo's balance to the middle. To play along with the guitar accompaniment only, switch your stereo's balance to the right channel. This will block the recorded violin out completely.

Allan plays a two-measure introduction for each tune. If the violin part begins in the middle of a measure, that measure counts as the second measure. In other words, there is always at least one full measure of introduction. When the violin part begins on the first beat of a measure, there will be two full measures of introduction played by the guitar.

Cuckoo Dear and Song of the Falcon Chief are recorded on tracks 41 and 42 as duos. To play along, follow the instructions above. The second violin part is on the right channel with the guitar (it consists of the variation and melody, played variation-first).

Chris Baum took time out of his busy summer to record the violin parts for this book; thank you, Chris.



Thank you, Allan, faithful friend, for recording the guitar parts!

Cuckoo Dear

Wales
Variation by
Jessica Walsh

♩ = 126

Dm Dm Gm A B \flat A Dm



Dm Dm Gm A B \flat A Dm



F C Dm E Am F C Dm E Am



Dm Dm Gm A B \flat A Dm



Variation

Dm Dm Gm A B \flat A Dm



Dm Dm Gm A B \flat A Dm

