

The Surround (Viola Low Octave)

Hop Jig

Traditional Ireland

The musical score is written for Viola in the low octave, using a 3/8 time signature and a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a repeat sign and contains the first two measures. The second staff continues with the next two measures, ending with a repeat sign. The third staff begins with a repeat sign and contains the next two measures. The fourth staff continues with the final two measures, ending with a repeat sign. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 0, 1, 2, 3 above the notes. Slurs are used to group notes across measures. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Kevin Burke discovered this tune in the book "Tunes of the Munster Pipers" collected by James Goodman c.1828-1896. Goodman was a minister in the Protestant Church of Ireland and his parish was Creagh between the towns of Skibereen and Baltimore in West Cork. Many of the tunes he collected were from the playing of uilleann piper Tom Kennedy who travelled the Bheara peninsula. Goodman collected almost two thousand melodies and published them in four volumes under the title "Tunes of the Munster Pipers". The minister often played the uilleann pipes seated under a tree outside his rectory. With his housekeeper Lizzie, James Goodman distributed alms to the poor every Monday. He dies on 18th January 1896 and the Irish Times noted in his obituary that "The death of this popular, esteemed and well known clergyman will be received with feelings of deep and sincere regret far outside the limits of West Cork where he was well known and universally respected by all creeds and classes of society."