

Portrait Of A Scottish Fiddler

A CHANCE MEETING ... While standing amidst an assortment of musical instruments in the busy Halifax International Airport, a young man carrying a fiddle case approached and engaged me in conversation. He mentioned that he was vacationing in Canada and was interested in meeting some of the fine Celtic musicians he had heard about in his travels. I introduced myself, advised him that I was en route to an engagement with the Cape Breton Symphony in Bridgewater, Nova Scotia, and invited him to join me as my guest. He accepted and later that evening in a small farmhouse by the sea, near Lunenburg, I had the pleasure of hearing him play his fiddle — a rare treat indeed! That was my first meeting with "ALASDAIR FRASER" and it was certainly not to be the last. Many times since then I have shared the stage with this talented musician and now I am delighted to be a part of this long — awaited album.

Alasdair was born in Clackmannan, Scotland, into a musical family. He began playing the fiddle at age eight and studied under the noted violinist, William Fernie. His credits in the field of Celtic music are extensive. He won the Scottish National Mod Fiddle Championship in 1973 and 1974, has appeared on such T.V. programmes as Songs of Scotland, Se Ur Beatha, and Sounds Gaelic, has toured the United States, Canada, Russia, Germany, Brittany, and has performed, as guest soloist, with Strathspey & Reel Societies and Fiddle & Accordion Clubs throughout Scotland.

On this, his first album, Alasdair has demonstrated his versatility and musical integrity in offering the listener a pot-pourri of traditional music marches, strathspeys & reels, pipe tunes, Gaelic laments, slow airs & pastorals ... all compiled and arranged to present a musical "PORTRAIT OF A SCOTTISH FIDDLER" — ALASDAIR FRASER.

Bobby Brown

SIDE 1

1. **STRATHSPEY & REEL MEDLEY** (2:50)
SANDS OF MURNESS F. JAMIESON
AULD WILLIE HUNTER R. COOPER
2. **HORNPIPE & REEL MEDLEY** (2:58)
THE ACROBAT TRAD.
THE SHELburne REEL A. (KING) GANAM (PRO)
3. **LAMENT, AIR & REEL MEDLEY** (3:10)
TOG ORM MO PHIOB ("LIFT TO ME MY PIPES")
PATRICK MOR MacCRIMMON
BRAIGH LOCH IALL ("THE BRAES OF LOCH EIL")
C. LAING
MISS BRADY TRAD.
4. **MARCH, STRATHSPEY & REEL MEDLEY** (3:46)
MRS. E.M. ROSS'S WELCOME TO KILTARLITY
COTTAGE J.S. SKINNER
THE KIRRIE KEBBUCK J.S. SKINNER
CULBURNIE COTTAGE A.B. FRASER
5. **SLOW AIR** (3:20)
THE WEEPING BIRCHES OF KILMORACK J.S. SKINNER
6. **SELECTION OF JIGS** (2:33)
MISS McPHERSON GRANT Wm. MARSHALL
LOCH OF LUMGAIR C. SHERRIT
7. **LAMENT** (3:09)
MacCRIMMON'S LAMENT DONALD BAN MacCRIMMON



SIDE 2

1. **MARCHING AIR** (1:50)
MISS WHARTON DUFF Wm. MARSHALL
2. **SLOW STRATHSPEY & REEL MEDLEY** (3:15)
J.F. DICKIE'S DELIGHT J.M. HENDERSON
J.F. DICKIE'S REEL J.M. HENDERSON
3. **REEL, JIG & REEL MEDLEY** (3:18)
ALLAN'S REEL W. ACHESON (CAPAC)
FIDDLER'S WHIM TRAD.
KILEY'S REEL TRAD.
4. **SLOW AIR** (1:59)
THE NAMELESS LASSIE TRAD.
5. **MARCH, STRATHSPEY & REEL MEDLEY** (4:09)
THE BRAES OF CASTLE GRANT D. MacDONALD
CAPTAIN HORNE TRAD.
THE APPLE TREE TRAD.
6. **PASTORAL** (4:23)
DOWN THE VALE F.L. MOIR
7. **HORNPIPE & REEL MEDLEY** (2:30)
THE MATHEMATICIAN J.S. SKINNER
SIR DAVID DAVIDSON OF CANTRAY J. LOWE