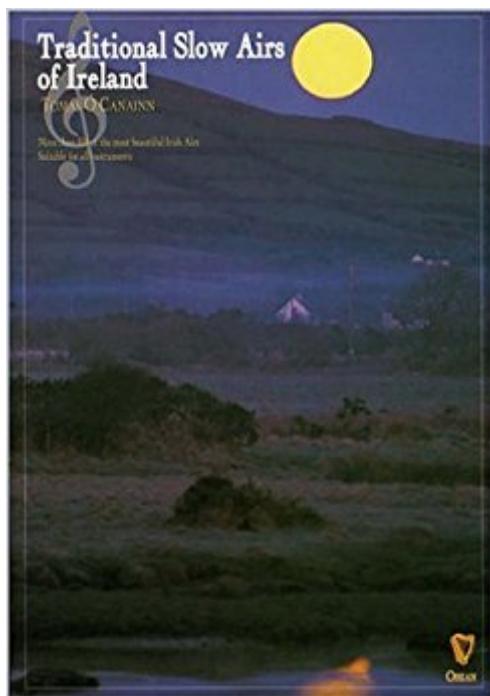


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# Traditional Slow Airs Of Ireland: For Pennywhistle (Penny & Tin Whistle)



## Synopsis

(Music Sales America). This book is a major collection of traditional Irish slow airs that captures the essence and beauty of Irish traditional music. Included in the 118 airs that make up this fabulous compilation, are some of the great sean-nos (old style) airs as well as tunes by Caloran and other favorite and well-known pieces. Author Tomas O'Canainn has a lifetime of experience both performing and teaching Irish music and his selection of beautiful, soaring and majestic slow airs is ideal for extending your repertoire for any melody instrument. These relatively easy pieces are also suitable for those approaching Irish slow airs for the first time.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

If you are looking for Irish slow airs to touch your heart and challenge your ability to capture their simple beauty, this is the book for you. Maybe the Italians created the Bel Canto tradition, but...as for me...I give equal praise to the Irish for their gift for supernal melody and incomparable beauty when performed they way they should be...from the heart and with simple mastery of the instrument. You will never appreciate the Irish soul by listening to raucous jigs alone. The slow airs are the other side of the coin...the spiritual/pensive side...not religious, spiritual. There is a world of difference. It takes a true musician to capture the beauty of these simple tunes. Buy this book and discover their beauty. Listen to Geraldine O'Grady and/or Eugene O'Donnell for examples. Also, Mary O'Hara's singing with harp is equally spellbinding.

I've had several collections of Irish/Celtic music. This is unique, and has some incredibly beautiful tunes. Easy to read, editorially correct, and comprehensive. I play them on accordion, and have just begun going through the book on whistle. Keep in mind that 99% of "Celtic" music you hear on CD is played too fast. Follow the guidelines for the tempos in this book, and enjoy Slow. This is one of the few books I've replaced following a wildfire that destroyed my hundreds of music collections.

This is a very nice, not too difficult book of lots of Irish airs, all to be played slowly. Some are familiar sounding to me, but most are not. This music sounds nice played acapella. I used it at an open house for a home showing and it was not too intrusive, just pleasant background music. All of it is in the key of D or G, and so can be played on an Irish D flute if desired.

Has tons of songs that use actually musical notation (I hate using tabs), so that's a big plus if you can read music. For new tinwhistle players (like myself) the fact that the songs are all meant to be played slowly gives us a lot of room to figure things out, and at times makes for some fun sight-reading sessions! Getting used to the way Irish music is structured is a neat challenge, and with so many songs to try (most are in D, some in G) it's sure to last you for a very long time!

This is a fantastic collection of slow airs (some of which you will recognize from having famous ballads set to them). It is also the only such collection in print that is easily available, as far as I know. Most collections don't include many slow airs, probably because they are musical prose compared to the musical poetry of jigs & reels, which tends to make a few airs go a long way (by this I mean they don't tend to have a repetitive theme or structure, or at least it is more subtle). Nonetheless they represent a wider emotional palette than the generally jaunty dance music, and thus are an important aspect of traditional Irish music. The accompanying CD (available from 'Sheet Music Plus') features all the airs played on a single instrument. The instruments used are: guitar, cittern (bouzouki), bagpipes, accordion, mandolin, tinwhistle, flute, fiddle, oboe, saxophone, piano, harp, concertina, and vocals. You will note that saxophone and oboe are not generally heard in traditional Celtic music. Aside from demonstrating the tunes, the cd's make great minimalist listening, helping you get back to musical basics and providing a solid foundation for understanding Celtic music.

With many of the tin whistle books stressing jigs and reels, this is a valuable resource for the

moodier airs like *Roisin Dubh*.

There is some very beautiful music within the pages of this book, but it would help if I could read the Irish titles in English. Otherwise it is a GREAT BOOK!!!ThanksDavid Donaldson

This is an awesome book of music - a must have for all musicians who enjoy playing traditional Irish music! Be sure that you order the book and CD together. I thought I did, and then had to go back and order the CD separately. It is extremely helpful to have the music on CD in which to immerse yourself.

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