

The Flowers Of The Forest



"Flowers of the Forest" (in Gaelic "*Blata Na G-Coll*"), also known as "I've Heard of Liltin'" is a Scottish air, march or reel, an Irish slow air in D Major (Neil, O'Farrell, O'Neill, Ross), D Mixolydian (Johnson), A Mixolydian (Neil). The parts are played: one part (Neil), AAB (Ross), AABB'C (O'Neill) or AABBC' (Johnson).

It is a lament usually played on the pipes. It was played at the funeral of Winston Churchill.

There are longer versions usually played as reels.

The tune was selected by Queen Victoria for widely acclaimed singer of Scottish songs John Wilson's recital during her visit to Taymouth Castle in 1842.

The melody appears in the music manuscript collections of multi-instrumentalist John Rook (1840, Waverton, Cumbria) and fiddler James Christie (1730-1760, Banff, Scotland).

It was printed in Johnson's **Scottish Fiddle Music in the 18th Century** (1984), McGibbon's **Scots Tunes, Book 1** (c. 1762), Neil's **The Scots Fiddle** (1991), O'Farrell's **Pocket Companion, vol. 1** (c. 1805), O'Neill's **Music of Ireland: 1850 Melodies** (1903) and William Ross's **Ross's Collection of Pipe Music** (1869).