

The Girl Who Broke My Heart

"The Girl Who Broke My Heart", in Gaelic "*An Cailín a Bris Mo Croide*", also known as "The Girl That Broke My Heart" is an Irish reel. It is transcribed in various ways: G Aeolian and ('A' part) & G Major ('B' part) (Brody) or G Major with accidentals (O'Neill). There are also versions in G mixolydian and A mixolydian.

I have chosen the version from Krassen's **O'Neill's Music of Ireland** because it requires fewer accidentals.

Caoimhin Mac Aoidh (1994) relates that in County Donegal this tune was played after the marriage vows were exchanged for the bachelors in the congregation while the couple was in the sacristy signing papers.

The earliest sound recording appears to be Hugh Gillespie's Decca recording in 1939. Gillespie [1906 - 1986] was born in Ballybofey, Co. Donegal and emigrated to New York at the age of 22, where he was mentored by Sligo-style fiddler Michael Coleman.

It was printed in Brody's **Fiddler's Fakebook** (1983), Flaherty's **Trip to Sligo** (1994), Krassen's **O'Neill's Music of Ireland** (1976), O'Neill's **Music of Ireland: 1850 Melodies** (1903), **Dance Music of Ireland** (1907) and O'Neill's **Irish Music** (1915).

It was recorded by Cape Cod Fiddlers on **Concert Collection II** (1999), Jack Wade on **Ceili Music From Ireland** (1972), Kevin Burke on **Sweeney's Dream** (1972) and **If the Cap Fits** (1978), Sean Montgomery on *An Fhidil* (1978), Paddy Cronin on **Kerry's Own Paddy Cronin** (1977) and Joe Burke, Andy McGann, and Felix Dolan on **A Tribute to Michael Coleman** (c. 1965).