

The Growling Old Man, Grumbling Old Woman

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). It consists of five staves of music. The first staff has a key signature change to two sharps (F# and C#) and a common time signature. The second staff has a key signature change to one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. The third staff has a key signature change to two sharps (F# and C#) and a common time signature. The fourth staff has a key signature change to one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. The fifth staff has a key signature change to two sharps (F# and C#) and a common time signature. The score includes various chords (Am, G, A, Em) and a triplet in the fourth staff. The piece is divided into two parts: a first part (1.) and a second part (2.), each with its own key signature and time signature.

"The Growling Old Man, Grumbling Old Woman", also known as "The Old Man and the Old Woman", "Growling Old Man and Cackling Old Woman", "*La Marmotteuse*", "*La Chicaneuse*", "The Disputant" and "*La Disputeuse*" is a French Canadian (originally) and New England reel in A Dorian ('A' part) & A Mixolydian ('B' part) or A Mixolydian (Phillips). The parts are played AB (Silberberg), AABB (most versions) or AA'BB' (Perlman).

It is a Québec reel popularized by Maritime radio and TV fiddler Don Messer. It was taken up by "revival" fiddlers in the early 1970's and became a staple of New England contra dance repertoire and has since become widely disseminated. "*La Disputeuse*" is a 'crooked' version of the tune".

It was printed in Brody's **Fiddler's Fakebook** (1983), Carlin's **Master Collection** (1984), **Fiddler Magazine**, vol. 3, No. 1, Spring 1966, Hinds/Hébert's **Grumbling Old Woman** (1981), Miller & Perron's **New England Fiddler's Repertoire** (1983), Perlman's **The Fiddle Music of Prince Edward Island** (1996) (appears as "*La Marmotteuse*"), Phillips' **Traditional American Fiddle Tunes, vol. 1** (1994), Silberberg's **Fiddle Tunes I Learned at the Tractor Tavern** (2002), Spadaro's **10 Cents a Dance** (1980) and Welling's **Welling's Hartford Tunebook** (1976).

It was recorded by Delaware Water Gap on **String Band Music**, Don Messer (1950), Ebenezer on **Fox Hollow String Band Festival**, Donna Hébert on **Chanterelle, French in America**, The Riendeau Family on **Old-Time Fiddling**, Yankee Ingenuity on **Kitchen Junket** (1977), The Correct Tone String Band on **Visits** (1981), Jerry Holland on **Jerry Holland** (appears as "The Old Man and the Old Woman") and Ron West on *Mademoiselle, voulez-vous danser?* (1999).