

Jenny Lind's Favorite Polka

The musical score for "Jenny Lind's Favorite Polka" is written in treble clef, 2/4 time, and G major. It consists of four systems of music, each with first and second endings. The first system, labeled **A**, contains the first ending. The second system, labeled **B**, contains the second ending. The third system, labeled **C**, contains the first ending. The fourth system contains the second ending. Chords are indicated above the notes, and triplets are marked with a '3' below the notes.

System 1 (First Ending): G C G D7 G

System 2 (Second Ending): G C G D7

System 3 (First Ending): G D7 G

System 4 (Second Ending): D7 C D7 G

"Jenny Lind's Favorite Polka", also known as "Jenny Lind's Polka", "Breakdown *des fêtes*", "Da Bonnie Polka", "Reel *du pont*", "Reel *Lafrenière*", "Bridal Polka", "Heel and Toe Polka", "Hole in Her Stocking", "Sally with the Run-Down Shoes" or "The Tempest" is an American, Australian and English polka and Morris Dance tune in cut or 4/4 time and F Major (Trim), G Major (Bacon, Brody, Mallinson, Phillips), D Major (Kerr), D Major {'A' part} & G Major {'B' part} (Bacon, S. Johnson, Taylor, Wade), D Major {'A' and 'B' parts}, G Major {'C' and 'E' parts} & C Major {'D' part} (Ford).

It is played in standard or AEae fiddle tunings. AB (Brody): AABA (Trim): AABB (S. Johnson, Taylor, Wade): AA'BB (Kerr): AA'BB' (Phillips): ABCDE (Ford): ABB, x4 (Bacon, Mallinson).

This is a dance tune composed in 1846 and attributed to the composer Anton Wallerstein (1813-1892), commemorating the "Swedish Nightingale" Johanna Maria "Jenny" Lind (1820-1887), an operatic soprano. The melody was hugely popular and was published repeatedly, although Wallerstein's name as composer often does not appear.

The popular melody, with its memorable opening bars, entered a number of English-speaking folk traditions, although in America the melody usually appears in two parts rather than the multiple parts that were originally printed.

Jenny Lind toured Europe during 1844-48 and took London, then Dublin by storm in 1847 and 1848. P.T. Barnum promoted an American tour of the by then world-famous singer in 1851-52 and she played 150 concerts at \$1,000 a performance. She earned enough so that upon her return to Europe she retired from professional performing and became a philanthropist and singing teacher. She eventually settled in Malvern, Worcestershire, England, where she died and is buried.

The tune is almost universally known among older traditional fiddle and accordion players in England and morris dance versions have been collected from the Bampton area of England's Cotswolds (Mallinson), and North-West England (Wade) where it is used as a tune for a polka step.

It was printed in Adam's **Old Time Fiddlers' Favorite Barn Dance Tunes** (1928) (appears as "Hole in Her Stocking"), Bacon's **The Morris Ring** (1974) (two versions), Bayard's **Dance to the Fiddle** (1981), Breathnach's *Ceol Rince na hÉireann 5* (1999), Brody's **Fiddler's Fakebook** (1983), Ford's **Traditional Music in America** (1940), Jarman and Hansen's **Old Time Dance Tunes** (1951), S. Johnson's **Kitchen Musician No. 4: Fine Tunes** (1983) (revised 1991, 2001), Kerr's **Merry Melodies, vol. 3** (c. 1880's), Mallinson's **Mally's Cotswold Morris Book, vol. 2** (1988), Milliner & Koken's **Milliner-Koken Collection of American Fiddle Tunes** (2011), Phillips' **Traditional American Fiddle Tunes, vol. 2** (1995), Roche's **Collection of Traditional Irish Music, vol. 2** (1912) (appears as "Old Set Dance"), Taylor's **Music for the Sets: Yellow Book** (1995), Trim's **The Musical Heritage of Thomas Hardy** (1990) and Wade's **Mally's North West Morris Book** (1988).

It was recorded by Babe Spangler on **The Old Virginia Fiddlers: Rare Recordings**, Art Stamper on **Goodbye Girls I'm Going to Boston** (2000), John Summers on **Swope's Knobs** (1999), Hollow Rock String Band on **Hollow Rock**, Bill Monroe on **Uncle Pen** (appears as "Heel and Toe Polka"), Billy Cooper, Walter and Daisy Bulwer on **English Country Music** (2000. Originally rec. 1962), and on **Stepping Up** (2004), Rattle on the Stovepipe on **8 More Miles** (2005) and Phil and Vivian Williams on **Pioneer Dance Tunes of the Far West** (2007).