

Liberty

Part A
D G

D A7 D

Part B
D

A7 D A7

D D

"Liberty", also known as "New Liberty", "Reel de Tí-Jean" (Canadian), "Topsy Parson", "Spanish Polka", "Liberty Dance", "Liberty Two-Step" and "Liberty Hornpipe" is an old-time and bluegrass breakdown in D Major. The parts are played AB (Silberberg) or AABB (most versions).

The first recording of the tune was by Texas fiddler Bob Wills in 1947 for Columbia records and although there is no information on where he may have obtained the tune. Early 78 RPM recordings of tunes called "Liberty" by Georgia's Fiddlin' John Carson (1925), Gid Tanner & His Skillet Lickers (1928, "Liberty off a Corn Liquor Still"), the Tweedy Brothers and Herschel Brown (1928) are different melodies.

It was printed in Beisswenger & McCann's **Ozarks Fiddle Music** (2008), Brody's **Fiddler's Fakebook** (1983), Carlin's **English Concertina** (1977), Christeson's **Old Time Fiddler's Repertory, vol. 1** (1973), **Frets Magazine**, "Byron Berline: The Fiddle", December 1986, S. Johnson's **Kitchen Musician No. 4: Fine Tunes** (1983) (revised 1991, 2001), Milliner & Koken's **Milliner-Koken Collection of American Fiddle Tunes** (2011), Phillips' **Fiddle Case Tunebook: Old Time Southern** (1989), Phillips' **Traditional American Fiddle Tunes, vol. 1** (1994), Reiner's **Anthology of Fiddle Styles** (1979), Sanella's **Balance and Swing** (1982), Silberberg's **Fiddle Tunes I Learned at the Tractor Tavern** (2002) and Welling's **Hartford Tunebook** (1976).

It was recorded by Don Messer and his Islanders on **The Best of Don Messer and his Islanders, Vol. 6** (1953. Appears as "Liberty Two-Step"), Tommy Jackson on **Tommy Jackson: The Legendary Session Fiddler**, Bob Wills and his Texas Playboys (1947), Fennigs All Stars on **The Hammered Dulcimer Strikes Again** (1977), **Mountain Music by the Kimbles**, Art Rosenbaum on **Five String Banjo** (1973), Pete McMahan on **Ozark Mountain Waltz** (1987) and Vasser Clements on **Crossing the Catskills** (1973).