

harpa gathering 2024-11

2024-11-17 at Lydia's

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tune 1:

"Barsebäck", polska e. Per Munkberg fr. Barsebäck, Skåne
slängpolska, SvL Skåne nr 754 (where it's notated in Am)
Dm: A2 D2 A,2 |

youtube:

Erik Rydvall / Magnus Zetterlund
with Anna Öberg and Petra Eriksson dancing, performance in Gdansk
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nNjlm82tiqU>

transcribed:

<http://www.folkwiki.se/Musik/77>

NOTE: obligatory disclaimer about written music

this is an oral tradition. we are not too fond of learning tunes from sheet music ("dots"), because it turns out that what you learn by ear isn't quiiiiite the same thing. having the tune written down is most useful for reminding yourself of a thing you've already learned by listening. so i'm only providing dots here because american audience. you're better off with youtube.

tune 2:

Serra e. Andreas Höök (b. late 1600s. he started school 1689, university 1700)
this tune is great for practicing in lots of keys. turns out i first learned it in G.
C: E2 FE DC | G2

youtube / transcriptions:

i don't find any trace of this one, sorry.

more about the serra:

i'd love to give you a neat summary of what we learned in class from historian Magnus Gustafsson about the serra, but i'm afraid my notes are not up to the challenge. here are some snippets:

- back as far as the 1200s (pre-couple-dance) there were pairs of dance tunes, a slow tune and then a fast one. e.g. pavane and volta, padua and saltarello, branle and farandole.
- couple dancing began in the 15th century. still with slow and fast tunes, but now they're a single tune at two speeds and in two time signatures — first in 4/4, then in 3/4.
- in the second half of the 1600s, added a 3rd part: now we have slow, fast, and faster. the "serra" is the "faster."

you can read all about it in Magnus's doctoral dissertation, *The history of the Polska : A study in melodies and motifs with a starting point in Petter Dufva's notebook*.

the abstract is in English

<https://www.lu.se/lup/publication/d0325576-a399-475a-81d9-dae433afd5a6>

though the dissertation itself is of course in Swedish.