

COINNEAL

Faclan agus fiosrachadh: Lyrics and Information

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O MIORBHAIL GRÀIS / AMAZING GRACE

O Miorbhail gràis! nach breagh' an ceòl;
'S e lorg mi 's mi air chall,
Air seachdran dorch', gun neart, gun treòir,
'S a dh'fhosgail sùilean dall.

'S e gràs thug eòlas dhomh air in' theum;
'S e gràs thug saors' is sìth;
'S cha cheannaicheadh òr a' chruinne-chè
Chiad-là bha fios nam chrìdh'.

Tro iomadh cunnart 's trioblaid chruaidh
Thug E gu sàbhailt mi.
An gràs a shaor bhon bhàs le buaidh
Chan fhàg 's cha tràig gu sìor.

San dachaigh bhuan gun uair gun tìm,
'S deich mìle bliadhn' mar là,
Cha sguir an ceòl chan fhàs iad sgìth
A'seinn a chaidh mun ghràs.

A fairly faithful translation of Amazing Grace.

Coinneal
Andrew McFayden

MU'N AM SEO DHE NA BHLIADHNA

Mu'n am seo dhe na bhliadhna
Tha 'Santa Claus' cho fialaidh
Is daoine 's iad fo fhiabhros
Ag iarraidh chun na craoibh.

About this time of the year
Santa Claus is so generous
And people are in a fever
Wanting to be at the tree

Bhith dèanamh 'time' do phàisdean,
Mar chleachadh anns an àite
Bi cluich, 'is ceol gàire
Ri fhaicinn air gach taobh.

Making parties for children
As is the custom of the district
Fun, music and laughter
To be seen everywhere

'S e bu choir bhith taingeil
Luchd sgoil na h-aibhne Fraingeach
Domhnall 's e na cheann orra
Cumail suas a chliu.

They ought to be thankful
The scholars of French River
Donald is leading them
Keeping up their fame

Bha Domhnall dhuibhse ag innse
Gu robh a chlann cho dileas
Air leubhadh agus agriobhadh
'S a h-uile ni air tus.

Donald was telling you
That the children were so faithful
At reading and writing
And everything important.

Is aithne dhuibh a chairdean
Nach eil sinn math air bardachd,
Cead soraidh dhuibh an-drasda
Agus bhliadhna mhath ur.

You know, friends,
That we aren't good at poetry,
Best wishes to you now
And Happy New Year.

Ho ro mo nighean donn bhoidheach
Hi ri mo nighean donn bhoidheach
Mo chaileach laghach bhoidheach
Cha phos mi ach thu.

(Traditional chorus to the
tune: "Ho ro mo nighean
donn bhoidheach")

A Cape Breton song telling what will be happening locally at Christmas. The melody is a traditional one that was often recycled for other songs, "Ho ro mo nighean donn bhoidheach". This is why I sang the chorus for that song at the very end.

ANN AM BAILE RIOGHAIL DHAIBHIDH

Ann am Naile Rioghail Dhaibhidh,
Ann am bàthaich ìosail thruaigh,
Chàraich màthair chaomh, a Leanabh
Anns a'phrasaich, 's e 'na shuain.
Moire ainm na màthar chaoimh,
Iosa Chrìosd a Leanabh gaoil.

Thùirling E bho nèamh gu thalamh
Ged bu Dhia nan uile E,
'B e an staball thug dha fasgadh,
Bi a chreathail prasach bhreun.
Leis a'bhochd is leis an truaghan
Thàthaich Slànaighear caomh neo-thruaillidh.

Is trì laithean àigh a leanabachd
Thug E urram agus spéis.
Umhlachd graidh do'n mhaighdinn ainnir
Dh'altraim E 'na uile fheum.
Sin mar dh'fheumas òigridh Chrìosda
Spèis is urran thoirt do dh'losa.

Oir is Esan ar eiseamplair,
Dh'fhàs E suas mar aon d'ar seòrs';
Bha E lag is maoth neo-lochdach,
Shil E deòir is chuich E spòrs.
'S tha cho-fhaireachdainn gun chaochladh
Ann am bròn 's an aoibhneas daonnan.

Once In Royal David's City. It is a faithful rendition of the original Carol!

Andrew McFayden

FADA CIAN ANN AN STABALL

Fada cian ann an stàball, gun leabaidh gun tàmh,
Tha losa na shìneadh gun tuar air an làr,
Tha na reultan sna Nèamhan a' sealltainn a-nuas
Air an leanabh bheag bhìodach cho dìblidh 's cho fuar.

Tha'n crodh len cuid geumraich ga dhùsgadh à suain,
Ach losa na èiginn, cha chaoin e's cha ghluais.
Mo ghaol ortsa, losa! O seall orm a-nuas,
Is fuirich rim thaobh gu'n tig madainn mun cuairt.

Te pido, Jesús, que me guardes a mí,
amándome siempre, como te amo a ti.
A todos los niños da tu bendición,
y haznos más dignos de tu gran mansión.

Beannaich clann bheag an t-saoghail fod chùram 's fod threòir,
Los gu meal sinn do naomhachd nad rioghachd sna neòil.

The straight up Gaelic version of Away In A Manger...with a twist of Spanish.

Coinneal
Andrew McFayden

DUAN NOLLAIG SET

(‘Strathspey’ Duan Nollaig; ‘Reels’ Ruidhle na Nollaig & Ruidhle Sneachd’)

Ruidhle na Nollaig © Andrew McFayden, SOCAN

Heire Bannag, hoire Bannag
Heire Bannag, air a bheo. (Repeat)

Mac na niula, Mac na neula,
Mac na runna, Mac na reula,

Mac na dile, Mac na deire,
Mac na spire, Mac na speura,

Mac na lasa, Mac na leusa,
Mac na cruinne, Mac na ce,

Mac nan dula, Mac nan neamha,
Mac na gile, Mac na greine,

Mac Moire na De-meine,
Is Mac De tus gach sgeula,

Coinnlean, stocainnean, ‘s a chota ruadh mor x3
Craobh na Nollaig àrd, ‘is a chota ruadh mor.

Tha loinnean air a’chraobh ‘is air a bhodach Nollaig ainmeal x3
Craobh na Nollaig àrd, ‘is a chota ruadh mor.

Tha i ‘cuir sneachda agus cuiridh sinn na coinneal x3
Anns na h-uinneagan is air a’bhord aig am a’shuiper

Tha a’chlann a’dol a-mach, a’cluich anns an t-sneachda x 3
Tha bodach, tha bodach sneachda anns a’gharadh!

Duan Nollaig is a celebratory song rejoicing in the birth of Jesus Christ. The first reel was written by me and set to a melody that I wrote several years ago and recorded on my first album, but with different lyrics. I re-wrote it with Christmas-y lyrics. The second reel was also written by me, but with a traditional melody.

TALADH CHRISDA

Mo ghaol, mo ghràdh is m'eudail Thu!
M'ionntas ùr is m'èibhneas Thu!
Mo mhacan àlainn, ceutach Thu!
Chan fhiù mi fhéin a bhith ad dhàil.

A-le-lùia.
A-le-lùia.
A-le-lùia.
A-le-lùia.

Ge mór an t-adhbhar cliù dhomh e,
'S mór an t-adhbhar cùraim e,
'S mór an t-adhbhar ùmhachd e -
Rìgh nan Dùl bhith am làimh.

Ged as leanabh dìblidh Thu,
Cinnteach 's Rìgh nan Rìghrean Thu;
'S Tu'n t-òighre dligheach, fìrinneach
Air rìoghachd Dhè nan gràs.

Ged as Rìgh na Glòrach Thu,
Dhiùlt iad an taigh-òsda dhut,
Ach chualas ainglean sòlasach
Toirt glòir don Tì as àird'.

Coinneal

Christ Child's Lullaby. One of the most famous of the Gaelic carols. The Virgin Mary has just given birth and is overwhelmed at just who this baby is that is in her arms. She marvels at who he is to become.

CIUIN AN OIHCHE

Ciùin an oidhch', naomh an oidhch',
Saoghal sèamh, balbh gun soills',
Moire is Iòsaph, a' chàraid gaoil,
Caithris an naoidhein bheannaichte, chaoimh
Suaint' ann am fois tha bho Nèamh
Suaint' ann am fois tha bho Nèamh

Ciùin an oidhch', naomh an oidhch',
Nochd an reul a b'aille soills'
Do na cìobairean shuas air a' bheinn
'S chualas ainglean le aoibhneas a' seinn;
Crìosd ar Fear-saoraidh a th' ann
Crìosd ar Fear-saoraidh a th' ann

Ciùin an oidhch', naomh an oidhch',
Aoin Mhic Dhè 's àille loinn,
Gràdh a' dòrtadh oirnn bho do ghnùis,
Aoibhneach an uair is Tu còmhnaidh rinn dlùth;
Fàilte dor Slànaighear caoin
Fàilte dor Slànaighear caoin

The English translation to this Gaelic version of Silent Night is very faithful to the English version that is so well-known.

Coinneal
Andrew McFayden

OH HOLY NIGHT

O holy night! The stars are brightly shining,
It is the night of our dear Saviour's birth.
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
'Til He appear'd and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.

Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices!
O night divine, O night when Christ was born;
O night divine, O night, O night Divine.

Led by the light of Faith serenely beaming,
With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand.
O'er the world a star is sweetly gleaming,
Now come the wise men from Orient land.
The King of Kings lay thus in lowly manger;
In all our trials born to be our friend.

He knows our need, to our weakness is no stranger,
Behold your King! Before Him lowly bend!
Behold your King, Before Him lowly bend!

I chose to sing a song in English to pay tribute to my whole ancestry. Gaelic is on my paternal side, whereas English is largely on my maternal side. This song is for my mother.

Coimneal
Andrew McFayden

ORAN NA BLIADHNA UIRE

Ò, gur toigh leam, è gur toigh leam,
Ò, gur toigh leam fios o m'chàirdean;
'S mòr an toileachadh dha m'inntinn,
A bhi cluinntinn gura slàn iad.

O'n tha bhliadhna so aig deireadh,
'S Bliadhn' Ùr eile nise làimh ruinn;
'S còir gun sgrìobh mi beagan fhacail
Do'n tè dh'altrum mi 'n a phàisde.

Thoir an t-soraidh seo thar chuaintean,
Gu tìr uaine nam beann àrda;
'S fàg aig a' Chladach-a-Tuath e
Ged nach ann a fhuair mi m'àrach.

Àit' as bòidhche feasgar sàmhraidh,
'S grian air chùl nam beann a' teàrnadh;
Ach 's e dh'fhàg mi'n diugh an geall air,
Gur ann a tha mo mhàthair.

Chan'eil ceòl an diugh no beadradh
Anns an nead 's an deachaidh m'àrach;
'N uair a chaidh na h-eòin air iteig,
Thug e misneach o'n am màthair.

Anns an tìm that tighinn 'n a m'chuimhne,
Gheibhte cruinn 's an aon làr sinn;
An diugh fo chis sinn fad o'r daoine,
'S fear mo ghaoil 'n a laighe sàmhach.

Coinneal
Andrew McFayden

A song for the New Year, always a particularly important celebration on the Gaelic calendar.

This song was written by a man whose mother moved to the North Shore of Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia. He pays homage to the people there though he did not grow up there.

LEANABH AN AIGH

Leanabh an àigh, an Leanabh aig Màiri
Rugadh san stàball, Rìgh nan Dùl;
Thàinig do'n fhàsach, dh'fhuiling 'n ar n-àite
Son' iad an àireamh bhitheas dhà dlùth!

Ged a bhios leanabain aig rìghrean na talmhainn
An greadhnachas garbh is anabarr mùirn,
'S geàrr gus am falbh iad, 's fasaìdh iad anfhann,
An àilleachd 's an dealbh a' searg san ùir.

Cha b'ionann 's an t-Uan thàinig gur fuasgladh
Iriosal, stuama ghluais e'n tùs;
E naomh gun truailleachd, Cruithfhear an t-sluaigh,
Dh'èirich e suas le buaidh o ùir.

Leanabh an àigh, mar dh'aithris na fàidhean;
'S na h-àinglean àrd', b'e miann an sùl;
'S E 's airidh air gràdh 's air urram thoirt dhà
Sona an àireamh bhitheas dhà dlùth.

Another famous Gaelic carol which was rewritten with new words under the name "Morning Has Broken". These lyrics are much, much older and praise the birth of Christ.

Coinneal
Andrew McFayden

CHRISTMAS PUIRT

(Strathspeys: A mhisg a chuir an Nollaig oirnn / Fear am Beinn an t-Slochdain-Duibh;
Reels: An Buachaille Dùbh Fionnghual / Gobha bh'ann a Hogha Gearraidh)

Strathspeys

A' mhisg a chuir an Nollaig oirnn
Cha robh dìth dollaidh oirnn
A' mhisg a chuir an Nollaig oirnn
Cha chuir i tuilleadh call oirnn (x2)

Shaoghail, a shaoghail duibh
Cò chuir an dollaich oirnn?
A shaoghail, a shaoghail duibh
Cò ghabhadh dall sinn? (x2)

Tha fear am beinn an t-Slochdain-Duibh
A bhios a' ruith nam boireannach
Tha fear am beinn an t-Slochdain-Duibh
A bhios a' ruith nan gruagach (x2)

Fireannach is boinnead air
A bhios a' ruith nam boireannach
Fireannach is boinnead air
A bhios a' ruith nan gruagach
Fireannach is boinnead air
A bhios a' ruith nam boireannach
Tha fear am beinn an t-Slochdain-Duibh
A bhios a' ruith nan gruagach

Reels

Tha am bùachaille dùbh Fionnghual
Air iorball an ràithe dhùibh
Tha am bùachaille dùbh Fionnghual
Air iorball an ràithe dhùibh
Tha am bùachaille dùbh Fionnghual
Air iorball an ràithe dhùibh
Tha am bùachaille dùbh Fionnghual
Air iorball an ràithe dhùibh

Air iorball air earball
Air iorball a' ràithe dhùibh
Air iorball air earball
Air iorball a' ràithe dhùibh
Air iorball air earball
Air iorball a' ràithe dhùibh
Tha am bùachaille dùbh Fionnghual
Air iorball an ràithe dhùibh

Gobha bh' ann a Hogha Gearraidh
B' fhoghainteach an sealgair e
Gobha bh' ann a Hogha Gearraidh
B' fhoghainteach an sealgair e (x2)

Mharbhadh e na feadagan
Is leagadh e na calmain
Mharbhadh e na feadagan
Is leagadh e na calmain (x2)

What Gaelic album is complete without a set of Mouth Tunes? This is a set of four tunes. The first one is about the misadventures that occurred at Christmas.