

Duan Nollaig

Ronald MacDonald

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Hoire! hoire! beannaicht e! beannaicht e!
 Hoire! hoire! beannaicht e! beannaicht e!
 Hoire! hoire! beannaicht e'n Rìgh dh'am bi sinn a' seinn,
 Ho! ro! biodh aoibh!

Hail King! hail King! blessed is He! blessed is He!
 Hail King! hail King! blessed is He! blessed is He!
 Hail King! hail King! blessed is He, the King of whom we sing,
 All hail! let there be joy!

Nochd oidhche Nollaige mòire,
 Rugadh Mac na Moir Oighe,
 Rainig a bhonnaibh an làr,
 Mac nam buadh a nuas o'n àrd,
 Dhealraich neàmh is cruinne dha,
 Ho! ro! biodh aoibh!

This night is the eve of the great Nativity,
 Born is the Son of Mary the Virgin,
 The soles of His feet have reached the Earth,
 The Son of glory down from on high,
 Heaven and Earth glowed to Him,
 All hail! let there be joy!

Sèimh saoghal dha, sona nèamh dha,
 Faic ràinig a bhonn an làr,
 Fodhail Rìgh dha, fàilt Uain dha,
 Rìgh nam buadh, Uan nan àgh,
 Shoillsich cluan agus cuanta dha,
 Ho! ro! biodh aoibh!

The peace of Earth to Him, the joy of heaven to Him,
 Behold His feet have reached the world;
 The homage of a King be His, the welcome of a Lamb be His,
 King all victorious, Lamb all glorious,
 Earth and ocean illumed to Him,
 All hail! let there be joy!

Shoillsich frith dha, shoillsich fonn dha,
 Nuall nan tonn le fonn nan tràgh,
 Ag innse dhuinne gun d' rugadh Criosda,
 Mac Rìgh nan rìgh a tìr na slàint;
 Shoillsich grian nam beannaibh àrd dha,
 Ho! ro! biodh aoibh!

The mountains glowed to Him, the plains glowed to Him,
 The voice of the waves with the song of the strand,
 Announcing to us that Christ is born,
 Son of the King of kings from the land of salvation;
 Shone the sun on the mountains high to Him,
 All hail! let there be joy!

Shoillsich cè dha is cruinne còmhlà,
 Dh' fhosgail Dè an Dòmhnach Dorus;
 A Mhic Mhuir Oighe greas ga'm chòmhnadh,
 A Chrìosd an dòchais, a Chòmhlà 'n t-sonais,
 Oradh Ghrèine shlèibh is mhonaidh,
 Ho! ro! biodh aoibh!

Shone to Him the Earth and sphere together,
 God the Lord has opened a Door,
 Son of the Mary Virgin, hasten thou to help me,
 Thou Christ of hope, Thou Door of joy,
 Golden Sun of Hill and mountain,
 All hail! let there be joy!

"Christmas chants were numerous and their recital common throughout Scotland. On Christmas Eve, bands of young men went about from house to house and from townland to townland chanting Christmas songs. The bands were called 'goiseran,' guisers, 'firduan,' song men, 'Gillean Nollaig,' Christmas lads, 'nuillairean,' rejoicers, and other names.

"The 'rejoicers' wore long white shirts for surplices, and very tall white hats for mitres, in which they made a picturesque appearance as they moved along singing their loudest. When they entered a dwelling they took possession of a child, if there was one in the house. The child was called 'Crist, Cristean' - Christ, Little Christ. The assumed Christ was placed on a skin, and carried three times round the fire, sunwise, by the 'ceannsnadh' - head of the band, while the song men sang the Christmas Hail.

"The skin on which the symbolic Christ was carried was that of a white male lamb without spot or blemish and consecrated to this service. Homage and offerings and much rejoicing were made to the symbolic Christ. The people of the house gave the guisers bread, butter, crowdie, and other eatables, on which they afterwards feasted."

Adapted from Carmina Gadelica, © Alexander Carmichael, 1900.

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Chamber Choir and Instrumentalists.*

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Tempo: ♩ = 66

Soprano: *f* Hoi-re! Hoi-re! Beann-aicht e! Beann-aicht e! — Hoi-re! Hoi-re! Beann-aicht e! Beann-aicht e! Hoi-re! Hoi-re *f*

Alto: *f* Hoi-re! Hoi-re! Beann-aicht e! Beann-aicht e! — Hoi-re! Hoi-re! Beann-aicht e! Beann-aicht e! Hoi-re! *mp*

Tenor: *mp* Hoi-re!

Bass: *f* Hoi-re! Hoi-re

Violin: *f* *mp*

Viola: *p*

Violoncello: *p* *sfz*

Violoncello: *p*



S.: *f* Beann-aicht e'n Rìgh dh'am bi sinn a' seinn, Ho! Ro! biodh aiobh! *mf* Nochdoidh-che Noll-aig-e mòir - e, Rug-adh Mac na *f*

A.: — Beann-aicht e'n Rìgh! — Ho! Ro! biodh aiobh!

T.: — Beann-aicht e'n Rìgh! — Ho! Ro! biodh aiobh! *mf* Nochdoidh-che Noll-aig-e mòir - e, Rug-adh Mac na *f*

B.: Beann-aicht e'n Rìgh dh'am bi sinn a' seinn, Ho! Ro! biodh aiobh!

Vln.: *f*

Vla.: *f* *pesante*

Vla.: *f*

Vc.: *f*

Vc.: *p* *f* *sp*

Section Markers: **A**



15

S. Moir Oig - he, Rain - ig a bhon-nabh an làr, Mac nam buadh a nuas o'n àrd Dheal-rich neàmh is cruin-ne dha, Ho! ro!

A. Dheal-rich neàmh is cruin-ne dha, Ho! ro!

T. Moir Oig - he, Rain - ig a bhon-nabh an làr, Mac nam buadh a nuas o'n àrd Dheal-rich neàmh is cruin-ne dha, Ho! ro!

B. Dheal-rich neàmh is cruin-ne dha, Ho! ro!

Vln. *f*

Vla. *mf* *pesante*

Vla. *f*

Vc. *mp*

Vc. *f* *mf* *mp*

23

S. biodh aiobh! Sèimh saoghal dha, so-na neàmh dha, Faic_ ràin-ig a bhonn an làr,

A. biodh aiobh!

T. biodh aiobh! Sèimh saoghal dha, so - na neàmh dha,

B. biodh aiobh! so - na

Vln. *p*

Vla. *p*

Vla. *mf*

Vc. *f* *p*

Vc. *p* *f* *mp* *p* *mf*

31

S. Fod-hail Rìgh dha, fàì - It Uain dha, Rìgh nam buadh, Uan nan àgh, Shoill-sich cluan 's cuan-ta dha, Ho! Ro! biodh aoibh!

A. Ho! Ro! biodh aoibh!

T. Faic— ràin-ig a bhonn an làr, Fod-hail Rìgh dha, fàì - It Uain dha, Shoill-sich cluan 's cuan-ta dha, Ho! Ro! biodh aoibh!

B. nèamh dha! so-na nèamh dha! Shoill-sich cluan 's cuan-ta dha, Ho! Ro! biodh aoibh!

Vln. *mf*

Vla. *sp*

Vla. *f*

Vc. *f* *pizz.* *p* *arco* *f*

Vc. *mf* *p* *mf* *f*

39

S. Shoill-sich frith dha, shoill-sich fonn dha, Nuall nan tonn le fonn nan tràgh, Ag inn-se dhuin-ne gun d'ru-gadh Crìos-da

A. *f* Shoill-sich frith dha, shoill-sich fonn dha— Shoill-sich fonn dha *p* *mp* Mac

T. Shoill-sich frith dha, shoill-sich fonn dha, Nuall nan tonn le fonn nan tràgh, *f* *p* *f* *mp*

B. Shoill-sich frith dha, shoill-sich fonn dha— Shoill-sich fonn dha Ag inn-se dhuin-ne gun d'ru-gadh Crìos-da Mac *f* *p* *f* *mp*

Vln. *f*

Vla. *f*

Vla. *f*

Vc. *f*

Vc. *f*

46 **p** **f** **D**

S. Mac Rìgh na rìgh! Shoill-sich grian nam bean-naibh àrd dha, Ho! ro! biodh aoibh!

A. Rìgh nan rìgh a tìr na slàint; Shoill-sich grian nam bean-naibh àrd dha, Ho! ro! biodh aoibh! **mf** cruin-ne còmh-la,

T. Shoill-sich grian nam bean-naibh àrd dha, Ho! ro! biodh aoibh! **p** Shoill-sich cè dha is cruin-ne còmh-la,

B. Rìgh nan rìgh a tìr na slàint; Shoill-sich grian nam bean-naibh àrd dha, Ho! ro! biodh aoibh! **D**

Vln. *grw*

Vla.

Vla.

Vc.

Vc.

55

S. A Mhic Mhuir Oig-he greas ga'm chòmh-nadh A Chrìosd an dòch-ais, a Chòmh-la 'n t-son ais

A. Dh'fhos-gail Dè an Domn-aich Dor - us

T. Dh'fhos-gail Dè an Domn-aich Dor - us A Mhic Mhuir Oig-he greas ga'm chòmh-nadh A Chrìosd an dòch-ais, a Chòmh-la 'n t-son - ais

B. Crìosd an Dòch - - ais

Vln. **p**

Vla. **p**

Vla. **p**

Vc. **p**

Vc. **pp**

61

S. *f* Or - adh Ghrèi - ne shlèibh is mhon - aith Ho! ro! biodh aiobh! Hoi - re! Hoi - re! Beann - aicht e!

A. *f* Or - adh Ghrèi - ne Ho! ro! biodh aiobh! *p* Hoi - re! Hoi - re! Beann - aicht e!

T. *f* shlèibh is mhon - aith Ho! ro! biodh aiobh! Hoi - re! Hoi - re! Beann - aicht e!

B. *f* Or - adh Ghrèi - ne shlèibh is mhon - aith Ho! ro! biodh aiobh! Hoi - re! Hoi - re! Beann - aicht e!

Vln. *p*

Vla. *mp*

Vla.

Vc.

Vc.

67

S. *f* Beann - aicht e! Hoi - re! Hoi - re! Beann - aicht e! Beann - aicht e! *f* Hoi - re! Hoi - re Beann - aicht e'n Righ dh'am

A. *f* Beann - aicht e! Hoi - re! Hoi - re! Beann - aicht e! Beann - aicht e! Hoi - re! Hoi - re! Beann - aicht e!

T. *f* Beann - aicht e! Hoi - re! Hoi - re! Beann - aicht e! Beann - aicht e!

B. *f* Beann - aicht e! Hoi - re! Hoi - re! Beann - aicht e! Beann - aicht e! Hoi - re! Hoi - re Beann - aicht e'n Righ dh'am

Vln. *f*

Vla. *f*

Vla.

Vc. *sfz*

Vc.

73

S. *f* bi sinn a' seinn, Ho! Ro! biodh aiobh! *f* Ho! Ro! biodh___ aoibh!

A. *f* Hoi-re Beann-aicht Ho! Ro! biodh aiobh! *f* Ho! Ro! biodh___ aoibh!

T. Ho! Ro! biodh aiobh! Ho! Ro! biodh___ aoibh!

B. *f* bi sinn a' seinn, Ho! Ro! biodh aiobh! *f* Ho! Ro! biodh___ aoibh!

Vln. *f* (8) pizz.

Vla. *f* pizz.

Vla. *f* pizz.

Vc. *f* pizz.

Vc. *f* pizz.