

Percy Grainger (1882–1961) and Ronald Stevenson (1928–2015), both composer-pianists of the Golden Age of keyboard virtuosity, shared a passion for folksong, especially the modal Celtic melodies from the fringes of the British Isles. Though the two never met, they corresponded for many years, with Stevenson arranging many of Grainger’s transcriptions in a deliberate act of homage to the older man, whose quirky originality brought Stevenson illumination on his own idiosyncratic path. This seventh instalment in Christopher Guild’s Toccata Classics survey of Stevenson’s piano music uncorks the exultant good humour that he and Grainger found on that common Celtic ground.



TOCC 0748

RONALD STEVENSON Piano Music, Volume Seven: Folksong with Grainger

1 <i>Green Bushes</i> (1905–6, arr. Stevenson for solo piano, 1963) 12:34	10 <i>The Poor Irish Boy</i> (date unknown) 1:26
2 <i>Irish Folksong Suite</i> (1965) 12:33	11 <i>Skye Boat Song</i> (transcr. Grainger, 1900; arr. Stevenson, 1983) 1:38
6 <i>Two Chinese Folk Songs</i> (1966) 4:25	GRAINGER/STEVENSON
8 <i>Manx Melodies: ‘i. Mannin Veen’</i> (1985) 1:02	12 <i>The Young Person’s Solo Album</i> (1966) 28:41
9 <i>Variation on ‘Coolun’ (in late 18th century style)</i> (date unknown) 1:48	27 <i>The Queen’s Maries</i> (1967, rev. 1975 and 2005) 2:53
	28 <i>Jamboree for Grainger</i> for two pianos (1960) 7:10
	TT 74:12

Christopher Guild, solo piano **1** **8**–**27**, primo **2**–**7**, piano 2 **28**
 Marcel Zidani, secondo **2**–**7**, piano 1 **28**

FIRST RECORDINGS

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