



When my Great-Uncle Andrew was a young man our neighborhood was full of Scandinavian immigrants, and he used to play fiddle and accordion for their dances. Years later, when my brothers & I were little, we would beg him to play for us. He played with energy, and I remember feeling excited and a bit terrified, seeing his tall frame lunging as he danced around, playing his wild polkas with a mischievous grin and a twinkle in his eyes.

When I perform this medley of traditional Swedish and Norwegian tunes, I freely embellish and accompany the melodies as I perform, so I never play them the same way twice. I hope you will take the same artistic license with these arrangements, and make these tunes your own.

Each arrangement contains ornamentation that is not original, and represents my interpretation of the piece for harp.

Anders-Orsa Waltz is a traditional tune from Sweden.

"Oppå fjellet" (Oppaa fjellet) (On the Mountain) is a traditional Norwegian children's song. The tune has many titles, including: Skiloeperwise, "Jeger bom-bom" (hunter boom boom) or "En Liten Gut" (A Little Boy).

"Pål sine hoener" "Paal sine hoener (Paul's chickens) is another Norwegian children's song. I love feeling the motions of the pecking chickens when I play this piece.

Balzer Jungfrau is a waltz, and I have seen it listed as Norwegian or Swedish. I suspect it may actually be from the Jungfrau region of Switzerland.

Kathryn Cater
April, 2009



Northern Dances

arranged by Kathryn Cater

Anders-Orsa Vals

Rhythmic, lilting

Chords: C C/E G C

Chords: C C/E G C C

Chords: C/E G C C C/E

Chords: G C C C/E F