

in memoriam Pete Seeger

Blue Skies

Irving Berlin (1926)

arr. Pete Seeger (1955)

based on a performance by Tony Trischka (Jan. 2014)

trans. C. Gainey (Aug. 2014)

Moderate* Swing** (♩ = ca. 100)***

* **"Moderate"** in that this tune has a laid back feel, despite the active texture (i.e., there is a difference between music that is fast and music that is active).

** **"Swing"** reflects a flexible approach to the subdivisions of the beat in performances by both Pete Seeger and Tony Trischka. For example, the triplets in mm. 6-8 are often swung, while the cascade of triplets in m. 9 is often played more or less straight. This distinction lends a dramatic touch to the end of the "B" theme of this tune. Throughout this transcription, rhythms are notated according to the most plausible (at least in my opinion) straight rhythm – a baseline against which one may develop a personalized interpretation of how this tune should swing.

*** (♩ = ca. 100) is meant to indicate the median within a range of possible tempos for this piece. The choice of tempo is, naturally, somewhat subjective. In my opinion, however, this tune should be played no slower than (♩ = 92) and no faster than (♩ = ca. 108).