

Here's one of the new tunes I'm working on for my next Manx dulcimer book, *Tailless Tunes Too*, slated for release in 2014. The background of the song is a mystery -- no information about its origin or title can be located! I like to think of it as a love song written by a devoted husband for his beautiful wife who has become even more beautiful with the passage of time. I've arranged this in a fingerpicking style -- take your time with it -- play it with a gentle touch and relaxed tempo.

December Is Fairer Than May

Traditional Manx Tune
 Collected by Dr. John Clague, 1896

Arr. for Mountain Dulcimer
 by Carol Walker

5

D

5

9

B m F#m B m F#m

13

E m A D E m

December Is Fairer Than May

17 A G Em A D

4 4 3 3 1 1 0 0
0 0 0 1 2 3 3 2 1 0 0 0
4 4 5 1 2 3 3 2 1 0 0 0

21 Em G A D

1 3 4 0 0 0 2
1 1 1 2 1 0 0 0 0 0 1 2
1 2 3 2 1 0 0 2 1 0 2 3

25 A D A

4 4 7 7 6+ 0 0 0 0 0 0 1
0 0 0 0 0 0 5 4 3 4 5 0 0 0 0
4 7 6+ 8 7 6+ 5 4 3 2 3 4 3 2 1

29 D

0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 1 2 2 3 4 7 6+ 8 7 6+ 5

33 A D

slower...

0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
4 3 2 4 3 2 1 0 0 0 0 1 2