

## Preface to the Revised and Expanded Edition

In the late 1990s, I embarked on a quest to collect and tab out Celtic music that would be accessible to beginning and novice mountain dulcimer players. As a novice to intermediate player myself, I appreciated tablature from people like Mike Casey, Jerry Rockwell, Ron Ewing, and Lois Hornbostle that granted me access to this music I loved, and I was anxious to share that music with others when I had developed as a player and transcriber and began teaching students of my own. I had a special interest in finding those tunes that could be played on the mountain dulcimer even by those just getting started on the instrument. The result was the first edition of *Simply Celtic* in 2000 A.D. The response to that book exceeded my expectations. So many dulcimer players were interested in the music of the Celts.



After ten years, it is time for a new edition. In this newly expanded and revised edition, I have tried to do a couple of things. First of all, I have expanded the number of tabs from 29 to 41. There are so many tunes I've discovered, performed, and used in workshops since the original edition. This edition has 16 of my favorites that are not represented in the earlier edition. Secondly, I've transposed 4 additional tunes that appeared only in the DGD tuning in the first edition to the popular DAD tuning, making them a little more accessible for today's beginner and novice players.

It is my wish that you will find this tablature book useful. You are welcome and encouraged to play these arrangements with others. I've provided chords so others players may accompany you. If you need to make a couple copies of individual songs to share with accompanists, you are free to do so. However, I would ask you not to make copies to resell or mass distribute through either print or electronic media. I also would ask that you not make copies of the book for fellow musicians. I thank you in advance for respecting my copyright.

Celtic music has captured the imagination of musicians for centuries all around the world. The wonderful melodies were born in the hearts of a people looking for hope in a world that was often unkind to them. As you play these songs, may hope fill your heart and spill over on those around you. More importantly, I pray that the hope of the ages be yours in the person of Jesus Christ.

God bless,

Joe Collins