

The Deil's awa' wi' The Exciseman

TRADITIONAL SCOTTISH (BURNS) ARR. HUGH LEVEY



SAXOPHONE QUARTET

SCORE & PARTS

The Deil's awa' wi' the Exciseman

TRADITIONAL SCOTTISH (BURNS)

The Deil's awa' wi' the Exciseman was written by the great Scottish poet, Robert Burns, in 1792. It is written in his native Scots tongue and tells the tale of the devil fiddling through the town and dancing away with the exciseman (tax collector). For part of his life Burns himself was an exciseman, with responsibility for bringing smugglers to justice on the Ayrshire coast of Scotland. In the song there is much cheer and rejoicing that the devil has taken away the taxman, so the locals can distil their whisky and brew their beer without having to pay any tax.

Burns wrote the words of the song, but set them to a variation of an existing tune called The Hemp Dresser which dates from the 17th century or earlier. It is a lively jig which is arranged here for Saxophone Quartet.

The arrangement begins with the soprano and baritone saxophones playing the tune and bass line, almost exactly as they appeared in *The Scots Musical Museum*, published by James Johnson & Co in six volumes between 1787 and 1803. The other instruments all get the opportunity to play the melodic line in the ensuing 5 verses, as the arrangement gets more complex and fun. The arranger makes great use of the tritone; or "devil's interval" as it is often known because of its unsettling presence. However, in this arrangement it merely adds to the fun and excitement.

Duration: 2' 45"

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The De'il's awa' wi' the Exciseman

Robert Burns

Traditional Scottish (arranged Hugh Levey)

Vivace

Soprano Saxophone

Alto Saxophone

Tenor Saxophone

Baritone Saxophone

mf

PREVIEW ONLY

6

S. Sax.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

11

S. Sax.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

16

S. Sax.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

f

mf

f
PREVIEW ONLY

21

S. Sax.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

mf

mf

26

S. Sax.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

31

S. Sax.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

PREVIEW ONLY

36

S. Sax.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

f

41

S. Sax.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

f *mp*