

*War or Peace (Gesto)

PS 10 p 306 (new)

This tune is rarely heard. The Gesto setting has been recommended when the tune has been set in the past. Angus MacKay's setting has been criticised for being overloaded with variations.

In the ground, players tend to shorten the note before the 'D' Taorluath much as we play a 'D' taorluath-a-mach.

In transliterating the Gesto canntaireachd directly, the most remarkable difference is in the way that the crunluath-a-mach is written/played. P/M William MacLean has noted this variation as a 'crunluath breabach-a-mach which seems to adequately describe the structure.

Tempo was felt to be critical to adequately evoke the effect of a call to war, although, it was pointed out that the tune was 'War **OR** Peace' which might allow for a softer treatment to represent 'Peace'.

Older settings seem to have structural issues whereas Gesto seems to follow a form we recognise and this, perhaps, makes it easier to memorise.