

Turlough O'Carolan (1670 - 1738)

# - Sir Arthur Shaen -

Banjo solo by Jean Louis Thiry

*Andante espressivo*

1.  $\text{g D G C D}$   $\frac{4}{4}$

The tablature consists of six systems of six-line staves. Each system contains musical notation with fret numbers (0-7), rhythmic markings (accents, slurs), and fingerings. Fingerings are indicated by '+' for the thumb and '.' for the index finger. Special techniques are marked with 'Po' (Pull off), 'H' (Hammer on), and 'Arpeggio' (indicated by a triangle symbol ▲). The piece concludes with a double bar line and a final chord marked with a circled 0.

This is a sample tune from:

## "Jiggin' Banjo, Sélection de Morceaux Ternaires & Syncopés",

a collection of tunes played or written in triple meter (ternaire) and syncopated like, jigs, blues, marches, french bourrées, ragtime, waltzes, schottisches, farandole, and more... like this Turlough O'Carolan's tunes, **Sir Arthur Shaen**, a curious funeral march where the last beat of most bars is silent. Rarely heard in Irish sessions, this peaceful tune has a nice chinese music feeling. Mountain minor tuning, best sounding without a capo.

All the tunes in this all-tablature clawhammer banjo songbook make an extensive use of what I call "arpege" (represented by the symbol ▲ in the tablature above) consisting in playing several consecutive notes on adjacent strings with the index (or medium) finger as you would do with a flat pick and allows you to play more complex rhythms and melodies. Texts are written in french, but music has no frontier and is one language. For a lighter look of the tabs, I opted for the classic banjo sheet music fingerings, "+" for the thumb and "." for index.

Most of the tunes are played without a capo and use the following tunings: G-tuning, Standard C-tuning (bass to C), Mountain Minor, Double-C and my favorite and most melodious above all:  $\text{f\#DGBD}$  (*Tourdion Tuning*) for an easy playing in Bm, D, bluesy D and related.

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+ Pouce • Index •• Majeur ▲ Arpège **Po** Pull off **H** Hammer on