

Svenska Låtar

(Swedish Songs)

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Swedish Folk Music History



- Began in the early 19th century – with the formation of an organization called the Gothic Society in 1811 following the establishment of Sweden as a modern constitutional monarchy in 1809.
- First published Swedish Folk Tune was in 1813 in the Gothic Society Journal.
- In the early 1890's – the first “public” performance by folk musicians called “Spelman” at Skansen in Stockholm.
- In the 1940's, 1st Spelmanslags were established, associated with the music of Dalarna.
- Today, there are numerous spelmanlags in the US.
ASI-Spelmanslag, Chicago Spelmanslag....
- Primary instrument is the fiddle, another common instrument is the nyckelharpa. In the '60's, other instruments were added.
- Most common tune is the polska.

Walking Tunes – Marches

In Sweden, it means walking tune. The traditional tempo is that of a stately walk like a professional march for a ceremony, i.e. Midsummar,

Ganglat Appelbo

Drottningens Marsch



Vals (Waltz)

Can be Relaxed or Quick
 $\frac{3}{4}$ Time with emphasis on 1st beat

Svensk Annas Vals

Christina's Waltz (Written by Christina Nilsson) - Relaxed

Schottis

Similar to a Marching Tune; A happy, upbeat tune

The World's Best Schottis

Plog Anders Rattig



Polska

Wide variety; emphasis on 1st and 3rd beats Often used for a Hambo

Karis Pers Polska

Polska efter Skinnar Albin – “Över sjö och land”

Mazurka

$\frac{3}{4}$ Time – emphasis on the 2nd beat; dance that came from Poland

Masurka Druttchikaleken