

# MUSIC

## *Cape Breton's Diversity in Unity*

---

### *Puirt-A-Beul*

1. Nuair chaidh Uilleam dhan taigh fhuar  
Cha tug e bonaid idir ann,  
Dh'fhàg e 'm bogadh i 's an allt,  
Feitheamh air a sgùradh.

Dòmhnall Uilleam leis a' bhròig,  
Ged nach robh a bhonaid agam,  
Bha i air a' chist' ud thall,  
'S thuit i air a cùlaibh.

A' bhonaid a bh' aca 'm Broad Cove,  
Cha dèan i solas idir ann,  
Nam biodh i aca 's a' mhèin  
Dhèanadh i "balloon" dhaibh.

Tha Aonghas Uilleam an-dràst'  
An dèidh dhol air thurraman,  
Cha teid e dh'iarraidh gin gu bràth  
An dèidh na ban-Dùghlach.

2. Hòro na rogallaich  
Tha fuireach aig na lochan,  
Cha toir iad ionnsaidh chosannaich  
Ged tha iad ro-mhath air an danns'.

'S ann sud a tha na beigeirean,  
Iain agus Alasdair,  
'S Eòghain mòr nan geallannan,  
'S am bodach damaint' air an ceann.

Truisidh sibh na luideagan  
Is cuiridh sibh na giobagan,  
'S thoir dhomh am poca-mine,  
'S cha bhith 'm ministear nar taing.

3. Tha fir a' bhaile faramach,  
Tha fir a' bhaile faramach,  
Tha fir a' bhaile faramach,  
'S tha banais air gach taobh dhiubh.

'S chaidh thu sios na sràide  
A choimhead air St. Lawrence,  
A dh'iarraidh rud air d'àilgheas,  
'S gum pàigheadh tu ri ùin' e.

Sin nuair a thuirte Seumas,  
'S e labhairt an deagh Bheurla:  
Ma phàigheas tusa fhèin e,  
Chan èirich e ri d' chunntais.

### **Translation:**

### *Mouth Music*

1. When William went to the cold house  
He didn't take a bonnet there,  
He left it soaking in the brook,  
Waiting to be cleaned.

Donald William with the boot,  
Though I didn't have his bonnet;  
It was on the chest over there  
And fell behind it.

The bonnet they had in Broad Cove  
Will not provide a light there,  
If they had it in the mine  
It would make a balloon for them.

Angus William has now  
Gone into grief,  
He will not go looking for another one  
After the MacDougall woman.

2. Hòro the rascals  
Who stay at the lakes;  
They will not do a hand's turn,  
Though they are good at dancing.

What beggars they are,  
John and Alasdair,

And big Ewen of the promises,  
And the damnable old man leading them.

You will discard the cast-offs,  
You will take off the rags,  
Give me the meal-bag,  
And the minister will not be indebted to you.

3. The men of the village are merry,  
The men of the village are merry,  
The men of the village are merry;  
There's a wedding on every side of them.

You went down the street  
Looking for St. Lawrence,  
Seeking something you desired  
And would pay for eventually.

That's when James said,  
Speaking in good English:  
"If you pay for it yourself  
It will not be held against your account."

*Recording:*

[Puirt-A-Beul](#), 1963. T-044. Beaton Institute, Cape Breton University.