

## Cover Page

### Ye Banks and Braes for Two Violins, Cello, Keyboard/Bass

**Title:** Ye Banks and Braes

**Origin:** Robbie Burns 1875 Scotland

**Key:** G major

**Metre:** 3/4

**Rhythms:** 

**Skill Level:** Level 2+

**Duration:** 2:20

**About the Music:** This venerable melody appears in every collections of Scottish airs. The poem by Robbie Burns tells of a Scottish lassie seduced and left behind. It begins thusly:

‘Ye banks and braes o bonnie Doon,  
How can ye bloom sae fresh and fair,  
How can ye chant ye little birds,  
And I sae weary full o care,’

#### Performance Suggestions

- This air might be played as **part of a suite** with By Yon Bonnie Banks and Maids of Arrochar.
- **Play very gently** at the beginning, without any hint of accents.
- The repeat of **Section B** could feature a ritard and fermata at **m.23/24**
- The repeat of **Section C** should sound very far away, pianissimo.
- **Keyboard** plays **arpeggio-style** play from chord-chart.
- **Bass** should keep it simple; a **half-quarter** rhythm should prevail.

#### Pedagogy (for teachers)

- **Violin II** (m.1-4) learns to hear the three-beat rhythm from Violin I
- The **dotted quarter & eighth** gets a good work-out.
- Violin II may use the ‘**cross-under**’ **fingering at m. 15**, if desired.
- This is an easy piece for fundamental **ensemble playing** and **intonation** work.