

Spotted Pony

Traditional

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The musical score is written for guitar in 2/4 time. It consists of six systems of music, each with a guitar chord indicated above the staff. The chords are: D, A7, D, G, D (System 1); A7, D, A7, D, G, D, A7 (System 2); D, A7, D, G, D, A7 (System 3); D, A7, D, G, D, A7 (System 4); D, A7, D, G, D, A7 (System 5); and D, A7, D, G, D, A7 (System 6). The score includes various musical notations such as fret numbers (0, 2, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 12, 14, 16, 17, 19), slurs, accents, and dynamic markings like 'H' (accents) and 'SI' (slurs). There are also repeat signs and first/second endings. A key signature of one sharp (F#) is indicated at the beginning. A circled cross symbol is present at the end of the fifth system.

30

16 17 17 9 10 | 0 17 16 19 17 | 0 17 12 13 | 19 16 17 | 16 17 9 10

1. 2. A7

35

9 10 0 | 14 16 0 | 19 19 17 | 12 13 0

D G D A7 D A7 D G

39

0 0 1 | 1 3 | 0 1 | 2 4 | 2 0 2

D A7 1. D 2. D

44

1 3 | 0 1 | 1 0 2 | 1 0 2

A7 D

48

7 0 7 9 | 2 5 5 5 | 2 4 | 2 5 5 5

A7 1. D 2. D

52

7 0 7 9 | 1 3 | 1 0 2 | 1 0 2 | 7 8

57

I first learned this tune about twenty-five years ago from an lp recording of contestants at the great western fiddle contest in Weiser, Idaho. It was from the same record that I first learned Whiskey Before Breakfast, which up until then I had not heard played around the Boston area. The two tunes have a very similar feel, because of their simple scale-based melodic structures. The long slide in the B part, in measures 11 and 15, is typical of western fiddle tunes, and is really the heart of the tune. I've tried to notate the slight hesitation as accurately as possible, so that it will reproduce the right dynamic in the MIDI playback.

Will Keys picks a very nice version in his unique two-finger style of playing, found on his Evergreen CD. He is the only other finger-picker I know of who plays a Paramount, although I am sure there are lots of others.