

Pattern: (AAB) xN + A (+tag)

Key: G

♩. = 52

Ookpik Waltz

by Frankie Rodgers

(Sometimes mis-named, e.g. Ootpik, Utpik, "Eskimo" Waltz)

Arr. Pete Showman;
chords from Dave Barton

This tune always makes me think of the late John Stout, a violinist and member of the Santa Clara Valley Fiddlers Association who played it beautifully (with the run shown in measure 24) at the monthly jams in the 1970s and '80s. The tune was composed around 1965 by Canadian (B.C.) fiddler Frankie Rodgers (1936-2009). The name "Ookpik" means "snowy owl" in Inuktitut, referring both to the bird and to the popular handcrafted souvenir toy owls.

Ookpik soon became quite popular with fiddlers, and has undergone the usual sorts of folk-music transformations. See an approximation of the original below. Note that the [B] part is half the length of the [A] (or the same length but not repeated), and that the tune ends after one [A] part, as shown. More at the Traditional Tune Archive: www.tunearch.org/wiki/Annotation:Ookpik_Waltz.

♩. = 55

The original version, as played by Frankie Rodgers

Transcribed & arr. by Pete Showman

³ My attempt to transcribe Frankie Rodgers' playing doesn't do it justice.
Listen to it here: www.youtube.com/watch?v=B2IwkS4xHlc (but turn down your volume).

Both versions arranged and typeset in ABC Plus by Pete Showman; rev. 1: 11/26/17