

# Gaol Ise Gaol I

*(My Love Is She)*

traditional Hebridean waulking song

arr. Sheena Phillips

for women's chorus, soli, and folk harp or piano

This piece is based on a traditional Gaelic waulking song - a highly rhythmic song that accompanied the waulking (beating and finishing, or fulling) of woollen cloth, a task traditionally done by women. The performance should have a sturdy, rhythmic quality.

duration c. 3:00

perusal copy

not for rehearsal or performance

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## Gaol ise gaol i

Gaol ise gaol i  
Gaol air Anna ni'n Nill  
Mi torrach mi trom  
Chan ann le balach mo throm  
Leis an lasgaire dhonn  
Mac fir Bhaile nan Long

### Translation

Love she love her - "she is my love"  
Love for Anna, daughter of Neill (or simply Anna McNeill)  
Me pregnant, me heavy - "I am heavy with child"  
Not by some lad is my pregnancy  
(But) by the dark haired dandy  
Son of the Laird (master) of ships

### Pronunciation

heu ree ree o hoo o ro ho ee o hee o  
'heu' ~ back form of French 'peu', and the 'r' is flipped at the roof of the mouth  
IPA: hu: ʀi ʀi ɔ hu: ɔ ʀɔ hɔ l ɔ hi: ɔ

geul ish-a geul ee  
'geul' ~ "girl" without the 'r' sound, and 'a' is schwa  
IPA: gw:l iʃə gw:l i

geul air owna neen neel  
'air' rhymes with 'fair', 'owna' rhymes with 'browner' but with no r sound  
IPA gw:l ɛʀ aunə ni:ən ni:l

mee torrokh mee trowm  
'kh' ~ end of 'loch'; 'ow' as in 'cow'; 't' is dentalised (tongue touches front teeth)  
IPA: mi: tɔʀɾəx mi: tʀaum

khannown lay balokh maw rowm  
'own' as in 'brown'; 'lay' ~ French 'les'; 'aw' ~ long vowel as in 'more'  
IPA: xanaun le baləx mə: raum

lesh a lass garra ghown  
'a' ~ slightly nasalised schwa; 'gh' ~ voiced at back of the throat  
IPA: lɛʃ əŋ læs gɑʀrə ɣaun

machk eer valla neu long  
IPA: maxk i:r vallə nu: lɔŋ

# Gaol Ise Gaol I

(My Love Is She)

traditional Hebridean  
English translations by Sheena Phillips

trad. arr. Sheena Phillips

**Moderato** ♩ = 108 *mf*

solo *mf*  
hao ri-ri o hu o ro-ho i o hi o

echo *mf*  
hao ri-ri o hu o ro-ho i o hi o

harm. *p*  
hao ri hao ri hao ri

harp *mf*

7 *mf*  
solo Gaol i-se gaol i e ho hu o hu o, hao ri-ri o hu o ro-ho i o hi o

echo *mf*  
e ho hu o hu o, hao ri-ri o hu o ro-ho i o hi o

harm. *mf*  
e ho hu o hu o, hao ri hu o ro hi o

harp *mf*

11  
solo My love is An - nie e ho hu o hu o, hao ri-ri o hu o ro-ho i o hi o

echo  
e ho hu o hu o, hao ri-ri o hu o ro-ho i o hi o

harm.  
e ho hu o hu o, hao ri hu o ro hi o

harp

gaol ise gaol i 2

15

solo

echo

harm.

harp

Gaol air An-na ni'n Nill e ho hu o hu o, hao ri-ri o hu o ro-ho i o hi o

e ho hu o hu o, hao ri-ri o hu o ro-ho i o hi o

e ho hu o hu o, hao ri hu o ro hi o

19

solo

echo

harm.

harp

An-nie, Ne-il's daugh-ter e ho hu o hu o, hao ri-ri o hu o ro-ho i o hi o

e ho hu o hu o, hao ri-ri o hu o ro-ho i o hi o

e ho hu o hu o, hao ri hu o ro hi o

23

solo

echo

harm.

harp

Mi tor-rac mi trom e ho hu o hu o, hao ri-ri o hu o ro-ho i o hi o

e ho hu o hu o, hao ri-ri o hu o ro-ho i o hi o

e ho hu o hu o, hao ri hu o ro hi o

gaol ise gaol i 3

27

solo  
I am ex-pect-ing e ho hu o hu o, hao ri-ri o hu o ro-ho i o hi o

echo  
e ho hu o hu o, hao ri-ri o hu o ro-ho i o hi o

harm.  
e ho hu o hu o, hao ri hu o ro hi o

harp

31

solo  
Chan ann le ba-lach mo throm e ho hu o hu o, hao ri-ri o hu o ro-ho i o hi o

echo  
e ho hu o hu o, hao ri-ri o hu o ro-ho i o hi o

harm.  
e ho hu o hu o, hao ri hu o ro hi o

harp

35

solo  
This ba-by's spe-cial e ho hu o hu o, hao ri-ri o hu o ro-ho i o hi o

echo  
e ho hu o hu o, hao ri-ri o hu o ro-ho i o hi o

harm.  
e ho hu o hu o, hao ri hu o ro hi o

harp

gaol ise gaol i 4

39

solo

Leis an las - gai-re dhonn e ho hu o hu o, hao ri-ri o hu o ro-ho i o hi o

echo

e ho hu o hu o, hao ri-ri o hu o ro-ho i o hi o

harm.

e ho hu o hu o, hao ri hu o ro hi o

harp

43

solo

Son of a he - ro e ho hu o hu o, hao ri-ri o hu o ro-ho i o hi o

echo

e ho hu o hu o, hao ri-ri o hu o ro-ho i o hi o

harm.

e ho hu o hu o, hao ri hu o ro hi o

harp

47

solo

Mac fir Bhai-le nan Long e ho hu o hu o, hao ri-ri o hu o ro-ho i o hi o

echo

e ho hu o hu o, hao ri-ri o hu o ro-ho i o hi o

harm.

e ho hu o hu o, hao ri hu o ro hi o

harp

gaol ise gaol i 5

51

solo

Grand-son of a cap-tain e ho hu o hu o, hao ri-ri o hu o ro-ho i o hi o

echo

e ho hu o hu o, hao ri-ri o hu o ro-ho i o hi o

harm.

e ho hu o hu o, hao ri hu o ro hi o

harp

55 *p* humming

solo

mm, mm, mm.

harp

59

solo

mm, mm, mm.

echo

mm, mm, mm.

harm.

mm, mm, mm.

harp

gaol ise gaol i 6

63 *f*

solo  
Gaol i-se gaol i e ho hu o hu o, hao ri-ri o hu o ro-ho i o hi o

echo  
*f* e ho hu o hu o, hao ri-ri o hu o ro-ho i o hi o

harm.  
*f* e ho hu o hu o, hao ri hu o ro hi o

harp  
*f*

67

solo  
Gaol air An-na ni'n Nill e ho hu o hu o, hao ri-ri o hu o ro-ho i o hi o

echo  
e ho hu o hu o, hao ri-ri o hu o ro-ho i o hi o

harm.  
e ho hu o hu o, hao ri hu o ro hi o

harp

71

solo  
hao ri-ri o hu o ro-ho i o hi o

echo  
ro-ho i o hi o

harm.  
ro-ho i o hi o

harp