

Urlar

The musical notation for the 'Urlar' variation consists of three staves of music in C major, 6/8 time. The first staff begins with a repeat sign and contains 12 measures. The second and third staves each contain 12 measures. The notation includes various note values (quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes), rests, and phrasing slurs. There are also some grace notes and accents throughout the piece.

This short piobaireachd is of even-lined structure with all lines in this case each of four bars; the first line repeated, followed by the next two lines. Normally the phrasing would be every two bars, although lines one and two could be considered as bars one and two as phrases A and B, then the next two bars as phrase C. Occasionally there are some liberties taken in the notation values of the odd pulse or beat. Pause marks above some notes denote a little extra tasteful feeling/duration and sometimes as in the opening pulse two notes to show that the marked note is relatively longer from a not very short note, but a subtly gliding note. The last bar three note grouping should have the C and E relatively longer as in the recording. **As a guide to the time taken to play line one once through it would about thirty seconds give or take** a second or two. Endeavour to be song-like in your approach. The two variations follow.

Variation 1

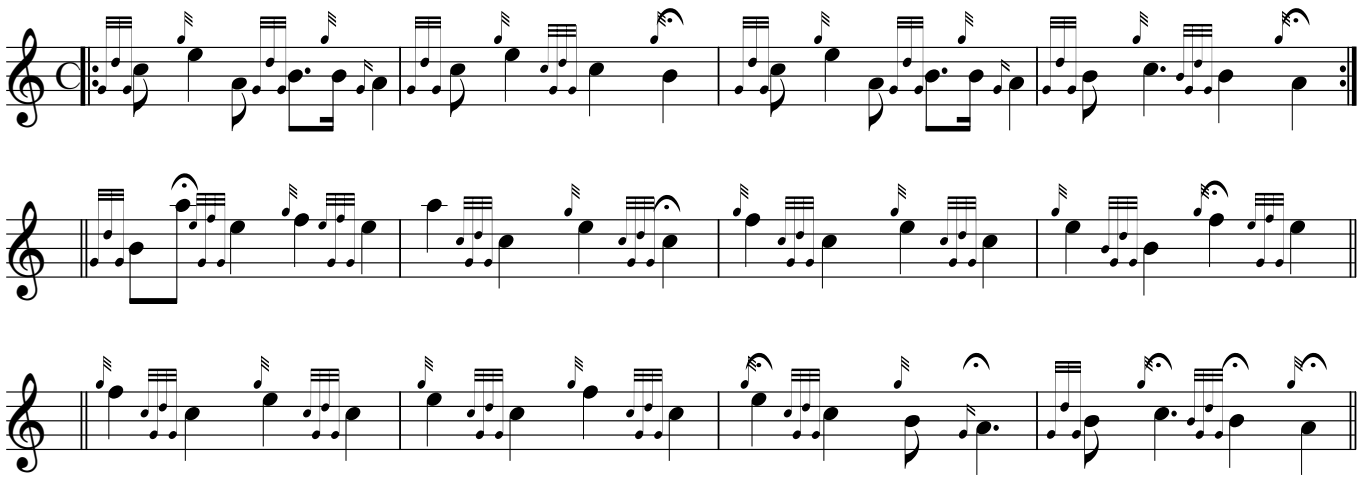
*1st 2nd

The musical notation for Variation 1 consists of three staves of music in C major, 6/8 time. The first staff begins with a repeat sign and contains 12 measures. The second and third staves each contain 12 measures. The notation includes various note values (quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes), rests, and phrasing slurs. There are also some grace notes and accents throughout the piece. The first measure of the first staff is marked with an asterisk and '1st', and the second measure is marked with '2nd'.

Please note again liberties taken with some bar etc., values i.e. the first and second bars with five pulses without a cadence and different to that in the two most used books of piobaireachd music, but a recommended alternative on very good authority.

* At the end of line play only that shown as 1st first time through, and only that shown as 2nd second time through leading into the second line. **Time taken as guide for line one once through** is about thirty seconds or so. Although taking about the same time as the urlar the rate appears to be faster in rhythm to that of the urlar.

Variation 2



Time taken to play line one once through would be about twenty to twenty-two seconds. Line two would be about twenty-two to twenty-five seconds as we subtly appear move along a shade faster until we reach the end of the second bar last line. The last two bars are much slower as indicated by the pause marks and would take about fifteen seconds, especially with the last three notes drawn out more so for a certain pathos. It is necessary in competition to repeat the whole of the urlar to finish. I feel that perhaps that once through the first line would do for an informal recital or the like if desired

