

## A Mhàiri, a Mhàiri

## Retreat air

The image shows a musical score for the song 'A Mhàiri, a Mhàiri'. It is written in 3/4 time and consists of six staves of music. The melody is a retreat air, characterized by its simple, repetitive structure. The notation includes treble clefs, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and various rhythmic values such as eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

***A Mhàiri a Mhàiri:*** This was a song popularised by the entertainer Calum Kennedy in the early sixties, whereupon it was taken up in the pipe band world; the setting here is the one we used to play at Aberdeen University.



*Calum Kennedy (1928-2006) came from Lewis and won the gold medal at the Mòd in 1955 going on to a full-time showbiz career touring the village halls and variety theatres of Scotland. Despite his penchant for tartan Kitsch (a necessary concession to the demands of the commercial market) most people still thought him the greatest Gaelic singer of his generation. With his own show on Grampian Television, and frequent recordings on the Gaelfonn and Beltona labels, he was an inescapable presence in Scotland during the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century*