

James Betagh - Jig

Also known as "Jig to the Above" and
"Jig to Ditto" following Carolan's "James Betagh"

Fairly fast and energetically

♩ = 150

Turlogh O' Carolan
Irish - early 1700s

The musical score is written on eight staves of music. Each staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#), and a 6/8 time signature. The music is a jig, characterized by its rhythmic pattern. Chords are indicated above the notes on each staff. The chords used are Em, D, Bm, B, Am, and D. The score includes repeat signs at the beginning and end of the piece.

The 18th century Irish harper Turlogh O'Carolan composed two tunes for James Betagh, of which this is the second. In Carolan collections, the jig usually follows the other James Betagh tune, and thus is often titled "Jig to the Above" or "Jig to ditto". The "Jig to the Above" is far from Carolan's easiest tune to play, but one of his most energetic. If you are playing it with a group of different instruments, try backing off the volume to a single instrument solo on the second parts, and bring everyone in fortissimo (blastissimo) when you go back to the first part.