SIGABOUT WINTER 2022

MIKE WATERS

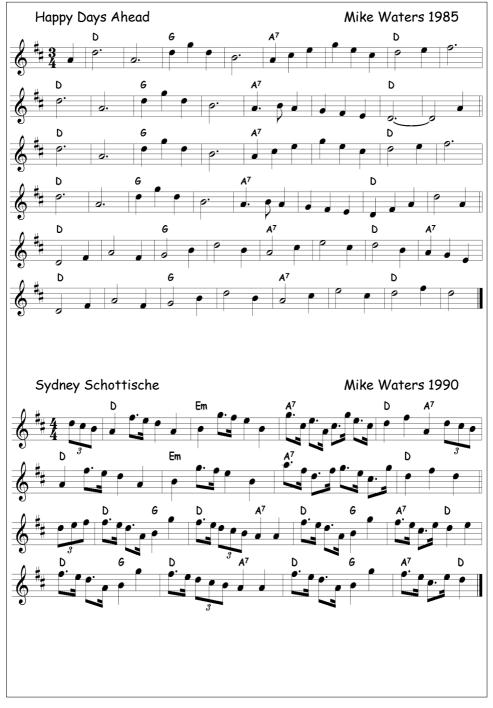
In this edition of Singabout we look at some of the legacy of music left by Mike Waters. While he is possibly better known for his dance compositions, he also composed tunes to go with many of them.

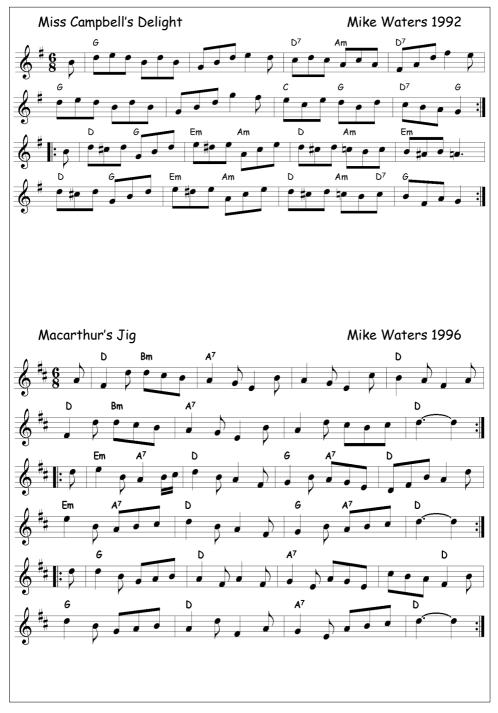
On the following two pages you will find a selection of tunes composed by Mike over the years. Ralph Pride has gathered these and others, together with some of Mike's poems that were published in Mulga Wire, in a collection called *Music from "Down the Track"*.

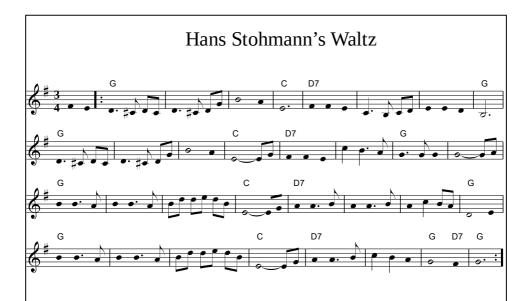
In his introduction, Ralph says:

"Sadly, many excellent musicians never have the opportunity these days to hone their art by playing for real live dancers. Conversely, many dancers have little understanding of making music. How fortunate are those with experience and skills in both camps.

Mike Waters was such a person. Dancer and musician. Not only have his publications been an invaluable resource for both musicians and dancers, but he was always ready and happy to share the benefit of his experience in person when asked."







This tune was collected by Mark Schuster and Maria Zann. Last year we had Mark come to the BMC Concert Party session on Monday night a couple of times. He had moved down to Sydney for work and told us that there was far fewer people in the bush playing this type of music. He was thrilled to see that the tradition was still being kept alive and enjoyed joining in with his button accordion.

The "Slow Session" that meets before the Concert Party has been learning a number of different collected tunes, including this one. The Hans Stohmann's Waltz was taught at the Bush Traditions workshop held at the National Folk Festival in Canberra during Easter this year. It is a nice tune to have a play with beside the fire on a cold winter's night.

George Bolliger