The Onboard Waltz Koster Waltz



Rhythm: Waltz

Source: collected from the Brown boys, Cape Barron Island, Tas

History: The Brown Boys were decendants of Aboriginals who lived on Cape Barron Island.
This tune was routinely played by them 'onboard' ships that visited the Island.
The tune probably came to Australia with Peter Mollison, to be picked up by
Eileen McCoy & the Dawsons, Tasmania.

David Hellstrom was a Swedish composer from the province of Bohuslan. He was born September 23, 1883 in Stromstad and died there on April 7, 1965. As a young man he enlisted in the Royal Bohuslan Regiment, where he studied music and played the French horn. He returned to civilian life after attaining the rank of sergeant.

After leaving the military Hellstrom continued with his musical activities, composing both waltzes and marches. He often worked with lyricist Goran Svenning. In 1907 the two men submitted Kostervalsen in a Bohuslan contest for the province's best new melody. Their entry was disqualified when the jury ruled it was 'too suggestive'. Despite the setback, the partnership endured and produced many memorable songs.

In 1962 David Hellstrom was awarded the Fred Winter prize for his contributions to Swedish music."