# ‘Dunfermline’

A suite of 4 vignettes inspired by the town

Composed by

Douglas McNeill

*For Solo Accordion*

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| I. | The Glen Gates | March |
| II. | The Tower by the Winding Stream<br>(arranged for Free Bass) | Slow Air |
| III. | The King sits in Dunfermline Toun | Strathspey |
| IV. | Bustlin’ | Reel |

# The Glen Gates

## Dunfermline Suite I

Douglas McNeill

At the bottom of the High Street in Dunfermline stands a magnificent set of wrought iron gates, the main entrance to Pittencrieff Park - referred to locally as 'The Glen'. They were funded by Dunfermline Carnegie Trust as a tribute to Andrew Carnegie's widow, Louise, and were erected in 1928. The gates are a grand statement, marking the contrast between the busy town centre and the peaceful environs of the park. They also remind us of one of Dunfermline's most famous sons and his wife Louise who continued his philanthropic work long after his death.

# The Tower by the Winding Stream

## Dunfermline Suite II

Douglas McNeill

This piece imagines the time when the dun by the ferm linn was untamed wilderness. A peaceful place of natural beauty that is now mostly lost to us.

# The King Sits in Dunfermline Toun

## Dunfermline Suite III

Douglas McNeill

This piece, whose title is borrowed from the anonymous 'Ballad of Sir Patrick Spens', remembers Dunfermline as the Royal Capital of Scotland.  It has the strong dotted rhythms of a strathspey and features other characteristics of the Scottish idiom such as grace notes and triplets.

As more variations arrive it gets busier, much as I imagine the Royal Court did when noblemen and foreign emissaries arrived in the time of Alexander III.

# Bustlin'

## Dunfermline Suite IV

Douglas McNeill

As a boy I remember regular Saturday morning visits to Dunfermline High Street, which of course was the thriving commercial centre of the town. Standing at the market cross and looking down the hill, I was struck how so many people could negotiate their way past each other while staying on the narrow pavements. So much weaving in and out (and the occasional collision!) inspired this piece.