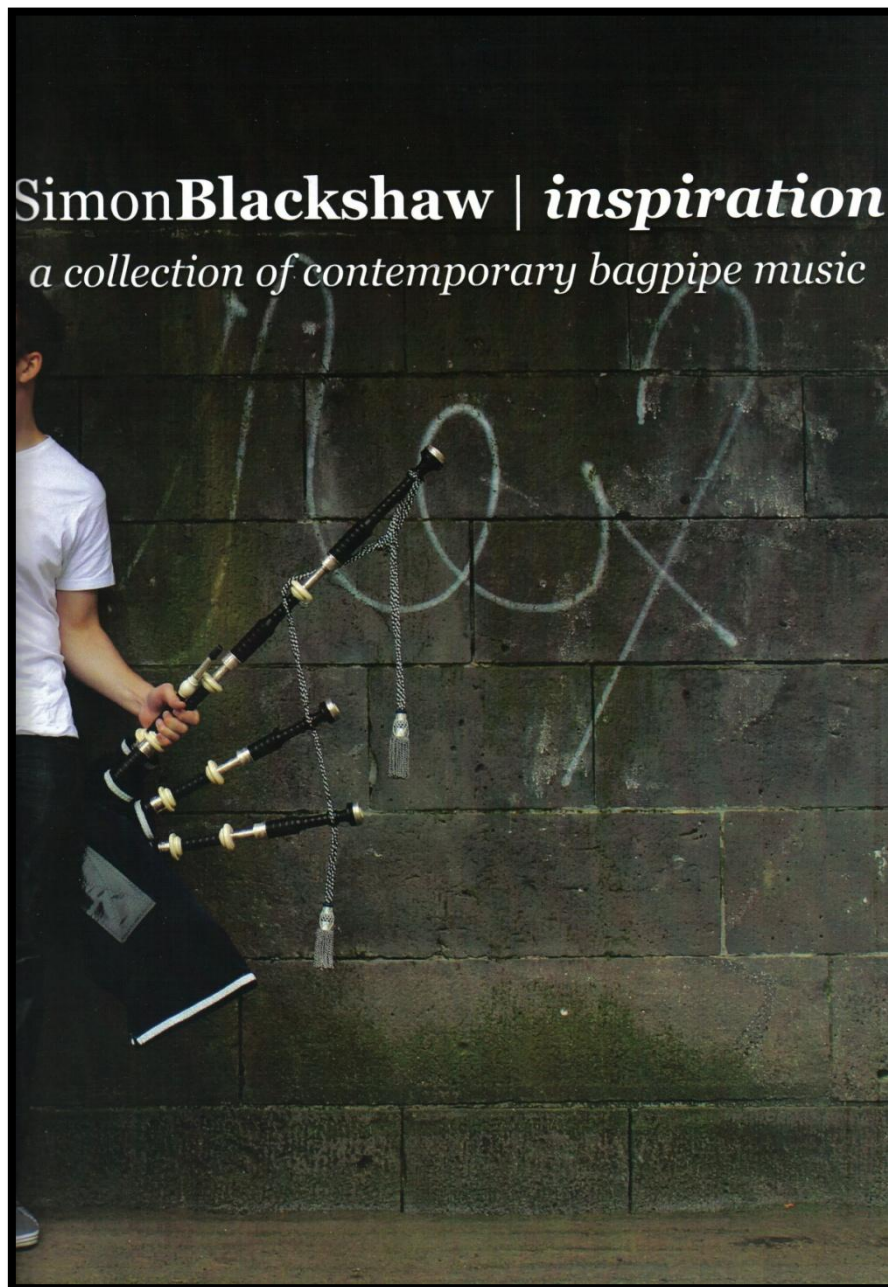


# BOOK REVIEW: Inspiration by Simon Blackshaw

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Simon Blackshaw is a fine young piper from Melbourne, Australia whose tunes are already featuring in the repertoire of some of the better grade one bands around the world. His first book of tunes "Inspiration" is a well presented publication that contains contemporary tunes for the bagpipe. There are no strathspeys and only 4 march tunes, most of which are far from traditional in style. There are however 3 suites, 10 jigs (including some nice wee 9/8 jigs), 15 hornpipes and 10 Reels, all very modern in flavour with hardly a dotted or cut note to be seen.



Simon acknowledges Mark Saul as one of his sources of inspiration and the style of tune writing has a similarity in its contemporary nature. The book contains the following tunes:

## Contents

If Looks Could Kill	<i>Hornpipe</i>	1
Kings March	<i>Hornpipe</i>	2
The New Groove	<i>Hornpipe</i>	2
Rip and Roar	<i>Hornpipe</i>	3
Wizard of Goth	<i>Hornpipe</i>	4
www.nunapb.com	<i>Hornpipe</i>	5
Pleasant Valley Sherry	<i>Hornpipe</i>	6
The T1000	<i>Hornpipe</i>	7
The Trip to Portrush	<i>Hornpipe</i>	8
The Walkabout	<i>Hornpipe</i>	9
The Nicol-Brown Gang	<i>Hornpipe</i>	9
Yonge at Heart	<i>Hornpipe</i>	10
50th Anniversary	<i>Hornpipe</i>	11
Highlanders Hybrid Dance	<i>Hornpipe</i>	13
Ricochet	<i>Hornpipe</i>	12
Keep Rollin'	<i>Slow Air</i>	15
05' Jig	<i>Jig</i>	16
The Two Cockatoos	<i>Jig</i>	16
Angus'	<i>Jig</i>	17
Killer Beez	<i>Jig</i>	18
Counter-Blast	<i>Jig</i>	19
Unstoppable Falcon	<i>Jig</i>	20
Simba's Jig	<i>Jig</i>	20
All Flinged Out	<i>Jig</i>	21
The Lynx Affect	<i>Jig</i>	21
Word on the Street	<i>Jig</i>	22
Glen Fruin	<i>March</i>	23
Kezia's Wedding	<i>March</i>	24
March to the Shrine	<i>March</i>	24
Kinglake	<i>March</i>	25
Dave's Rockin' Reel	<i>Reel</i>	26
Extreme Ways	<i>Reel</i>	27
Hot Gossip	<i>Reel</i>	28
Full Steam Ahead	<i>Reel</i>	28
Two to Tango	<i>Reel</i>	29
Cleaning All Silver	<i>Reel</i>	30
Howlin Hawks	<i>Reel</i>	31
A Tad of Class	<i>Reel</i>	31
The Fast Fox	<i>Reel</i>	32
Zane Scotts	<i>Reel</i>	32
All the Kings Men	<i>Suite</i>	33
Our Natives	<i>Suite</i>	37
A French Suite	<i>Suite</i>	40

Bands and soloists alike are always seeking quality contemporary music for medleys and concerts that break from the traditional idioms and this book is a good source for such tunes. Whether you want a small tune to add a key change, or a twist or turn or a feature tune at the start or end of a set, these can all be found in this publication. I suspect we are about to hear a lot more of many of these tunes. This is certainly a book worth adding to your modern piping collection.

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