

# National Anthems Online

## FAROE ISLANDS: Mítt alfagra land *(My land, oh most beautiful)*

The Faroe Islands (meaning "Sheep Islands") are a group of eighteen islands in the north Atlantic Ocean between Scotland and Iceland. Only one of the islands remains uninhabited. The population of the Faroes is largely descended from Viking settlers who arrived in the 9th century. The Faroe Islands have been connected politically to Denmark since the fourteenth century but since 1948 have had self-government in almost everything except matters of defence and foreign affairs.

The words of the Faroese national anthem were written by Símun av Skarøi (1872 -1942) who was a Faroese poet, politician and teacher. He founded Føroya Fólkaháskúli (the Faroese folk high school) in 1899, and worked there as head teacher from 1899 for the rest of his life - about 43 years.

Petur Alberg, the composer of the music, was born in Tórshavn (Faroe Islands) and spent most of his life there. Sólvrør Henriksen, of the National library of the Faroe Islands writes that, "Around the year 1900, Alberg started to play the violin, which began his career as a composer and songwriter. As well as the national anthem of the Faroe Islands, Alberg composed other choral works. His songs are still well known on the Islands. At the age of 23 he went to Norway to study painting. Later in life, he became a writer of the journal Baldursbrá."

The national anthem "Mítt alfagra land" is often known as "Tú alfagra land mitt", for these are the words of the first line.

♩ = 63

Petur Alberg (1885-1940)  
Arranged by Colin Kirkpatrick

The musical score is arranged for a string quartet (Parts 1-4), a string quintet (Parts 5-6), and a percussion ensemble. The score is in 4/4 time with a tempo of 63 beats per minute. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The string parts (Parts 1-6) are marked with *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *p* (piano) dynamics. The percussion parts include Timpani (marked *mf*), Cymbals, Snare drum, and Bass Drum. The Cymbals part has a note marked *mf* and the text "In Eb, Ab and Bb" above it. The Snare and Bass Drum parts are marked with a common time signature 'C'.

*You may download the score and the instrumental parts free of charge, making as many copies as you need. However, these may not be subsequently sold. Feedback from users is always welcomed. If you would like to report any mistakes in the music, make comments or suggestions (in English) please contact Colin Kirkpatrick at [doctorcolin@csloxinfo.com](mailto:doctorcolin@csloxinfo.com). If you perform, record or broadcast this arrangement, please notify the Performing Rights Society (in the UK) or the equivalent performance rights organisation in your own country (e.g. [ASCAP](#) in the USA; [SOCAN](#) in Canada), listing the name of the anthem and the arranger.*

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1 *cresc. f mf*

2 *cresc. f mf*

3 *cresc. f mf*

4 *p cresc. f mf*

5 *p cresc. f mf*

6 *p cresc. f mf*

Timp.

Cym.

S.D.

B.D.

1 *cresc. f ff molto rit.*

2 *cresc. f ff molto rit.*

3 *cresc. f ff molto rit.*

4 *cresc. f ff molto rit.*

5 *mf cresc. f ff molto rit.*

6 *mf cresc. f ff molto rit.*

Timp. *ff molto rit.*

Cym. *ff molto rit.*

S.D. *mf cresc. f ff molto rit.*

B.D. *ff molto rit.*