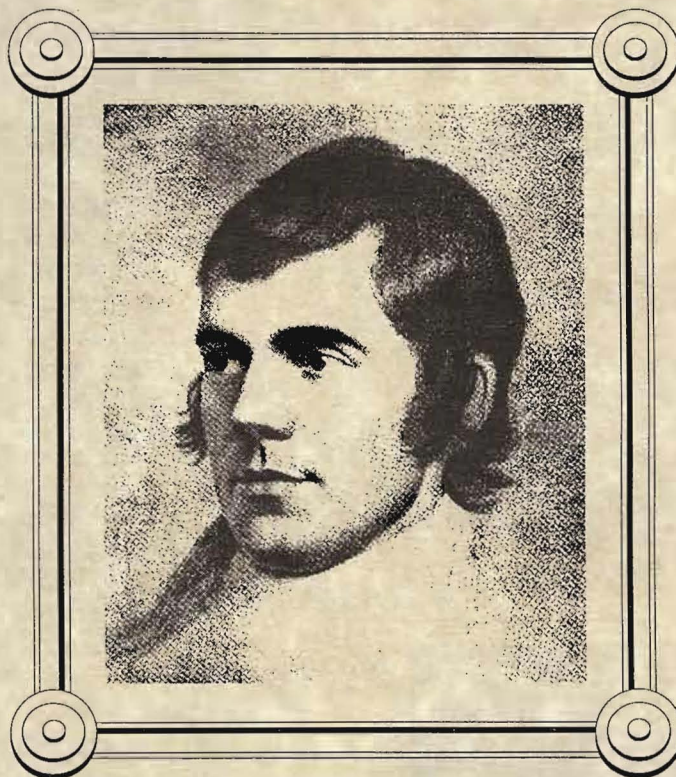


Robert Burns Dinner



January 20th., 1996

St. Andrew Society of Greater St. Louis 24th. Anniversary Program



*The Archibald Skirving Portrait of Burns
1796/8*

Born in 1759, Robert Burns was the eldest son of a professional gardener and unsuccessful tenant farmer in Ayrshire. Growing up to a life of demanding physical work, poverty, and acute awareness of social disadvantage, he began to write poetry and songs in an attempt to find some kind of counterpoise to these adverse circumstances. Burns has an international reputation, founded on his passion for: life and nature, falling in love, freedom, democracy, and human rights. His is an exceptionally personal kind of literary fame, and it is in his ability to express widely shared feelings simply, and memorably, which has led to his extraordinary popularity. Burns was a very down to earth creative genius, a friend to the common man and, as a result, people meet at Burns suppers all over the world each year on and near his Birthday January 25th., to celebrate his life and works, just as we are doing here tonight. 1996 marks 200 years since the death of Robert Burns and so this year's dinner has an extra significance for those of us present to celebrate his life and works here at the Adam's Mark Hotel in St. Louis this evening.

Star Spangled Banner

Oh....say can you see,
by the dawn's early light
what so proudly we hailed
at the twilight's last gleaming.
Whose broad stripes and bright stars
through the perilous fight
o'er the ramparts we watched
were so gallantly streaming.
And the rockets red glare,
the bombs bursting in air
gave proof through the night
that our flag was still there.
Oh....say does that star spangled
banner yet wave.
O'er the land of the free
and the home of the brave.

God Save The Queen

God save our gracious Queen
Long live our noble Queen
God save our Queen
Send her victorious,
happy and glorious
long to reign over us
God save our Queen.



Burns' Cottage
The Birthplace of Burns

Toast to the Immortal Memory

A last request present we here
When yearly ye assemble a'
One round I ask it with a tear
To him the Bard that's far awa'

The Flower of Scotland

O Flower of Scotland
when will we see your like again
that fought and died for
your wee bit hill and glen
and stood against him, proud Edward's army
and send him homeward tae think again.

Those days are past now
and in the past they must remain
but we can still rise now
and be the nation again
that stood against him, Proud Edward's Army
and send him homeward tae think again.

The Star of Rabbie Burns

There is a star whose beaming ray
is shed on every clime;
It shines by night it shines by day
and ne'er grows dim wi' time.
It rose upon; the banks of Ayr
it shone on Doons' clear stream
a hundred year are gane and mair
yet brighter grows its beam

REFRAIN

Let kings and courtiers rise an fa'
this world has many turns
but brightly beams abune them a'
the Star of Rabbie Burns

Though he was but a ploughman lad
and wore the hodden gray
Auld Scotland's sweetest bard was bred
a-neath a roof o' strae
to sweep the strings of Scotia's lyre
it needs nae classic lore
it's mither wit and native fire
that warms the bosom core

Selkirk Grace

Some hae meat and canna eat
and some wad eat that want it
But we hae' meat and we can eat
Sae let the Lord be thankit

PROGRAM

Welcome : Keith Parle

Master of Ceremonies : Alex Sutherland

Toast to the President : Elaine Martin
"Star Spangled Banner"

Toast to the Queen : Shawn Steadman
"God Save the Queen"

"Flower of Scotland"
piano accompaniments by Winnie Shirreff

Invocation and Selkirk Grace : Rev. Dr. Thom Hunter

Piping in the Haggis : Pipe Major William Henry III

Address to the Haggis : Lawrence Murray

DINNER

Haggis

Cock-a-Leekie Soup

Roast Sliced Sirloin with Wild Mushroom Sauce

Garlic Roasted New Potatoes

Steamed Brussel Sprouts, Carrots, and Cabbage

English Trifle

(wine may be purchased at the table during dinner)

** * * INTERMISSION * * **

The Immortal Memory

Address to the Immortal Memory of Robert Burns
by

William Nicoll

"The Star of Rabbie Burns" : Assembled Company Led by Alex Beaton

Toast to the Lassies : Peter Gowran

Reply for the Lassies : Anna Swaim

The Pipes and Drums of the St. Louis Invera'an Pipe Band
Wm. Henry III - Pipe Major, Charles Cablish - Drum Major

Dance Caledonia - under the direction of Sandra Brown

Alex Beaton in Concert

Auld Lang Syne & Country Dancing

St Andrew Society of Greater St. Louis Robert Burns Dinner

Address to a Haggis

Fair fa' your honest sonsie (cheerful) face
Great chieftain o the puddin' race!
Aboon (above) them a' ye tak yer place,
Painch, (paunch) tripe or thairm (guts);
weel (well) are ye wordy (worthy) of a grace
As lang's my arm

The groaning trencher (plate) there ye fill,
Your hurdies (buttocks) like a distant hill,
Your pin wad help to mend a mill
In time o need,
While through your pores the dews (juice) distil
Like amber bead (scotch).

His knife see rustic Labor dight (wipe),
An cut you up wi' ready slight (skill),
Trenching (digging) your gushing entrails bricht (bright)
Like onie (any) ditch;
And then, O what a glorious sicht (sight)
Warm reekin (steaming), rich!

Then horn (spoon) for horn, they stretch and strive:
Deil (devil) tak the hindmost and on they drive,
Till a' their weel swall'd (swelled) kytes (bellies) belyve (soon)
Are bent like drums;
The auld Guidman maist like to rive (burst),
'Bethankit hums.

Is there that owre his French ragout,
Or olio that wou'd staw (sicken) a sow
Or fricassee that wou'd mak her spew
Wi' perfect sconner (disgust),
Looks down wi' sneering scornfu view
On sic (such) a dinner?

Poor devil! see him owre his trash,
As feckless (weak) as a withered rash (weak),
His spindle shank a guid whip-lash,
His nieve (fist) a nit (nut);
Thro bloody flood or field to dash
O how unfit!

But mark the Rustic, haggis-fed
The trembling earth resounds his tread,
Clap in his wale (choice) nieve a blade,
He'll mak it whistle
An' legs an' arms an' heads will sned (trim),
Like taps o' thrissle (thistle).

Ye Powers, wa mak mankind your care,
an dish them out their bill o' fare,
Auld Scotland wants nae skinking (watery) ware
That jaups (splashes) in luggies (plates);
But if ye wish her gratefu' prayer,
Gie her a Haggis!

Alex Beaton

A native of Glasgow, Alex began his folksinging career in the sixties. Along the way he performed on the same bill with legendary bands such as The Animals, The Hollies, Gerry and the Pacemakers and Manfred Mann. He launched his solo career in New York in the late sixties. In 1974 he won the International American Song Festival. Eight years later he began concentrating on bringing traditional Celtic music to American audiences. Since then he has won wide acclaim, and his name has become synonymous with the best in Scottish tradition.



Alex is the featured performer at all of the major Scottish festivals including Maxville and Fergus Highland games in Canada, Grandfather Mountain, North Carolina, and Stone Mountain, Atlanta.

He has recorded fifteen albums and hosted three full-length musical travelogue videos of Scotland. He is the founder and president of Glenfinnan Music, and has made numerous television appearances on both sides of the Atlantic. We are delighted to have North America's most popular folk singer with us again tonight. Welcome back to St. Louis Alex!