

# Stev

Traditional Norwegian Stev

INTRO

STEVE

6

Set C#

Set C-nat.

11

Set C#

Set C-nat

17

21

INTERLUDE

*p*

24

27

STEV

32

Stev are short poems, usually four lines, set to a traditional stev melody. They are in the local dialect and the melody is a common one for stev poems. The tradition of singing stev is centuries old and is found in many places in Norway. It may be related to Icelandic 'rimur'.

The time signature is only a suggestion. The stev is sung in units of breath, rather than units of time. Rubato is the closest we get to the concept. Take the time you think each phrase ending needs and play without worrying too much about the beat. Imagine each phrase is part of a story, something to be savored and enjoyed before moving on.