

Ya Ha Haway

First Nations Inter-tribal Greeting Song

Cheerfully ♩ = 100

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked 'Cheerfully' with a quarter note equal to 100 beats per minute. The melody consists of two staves. The first staff contains three measures of music, each ending with a quarter rest. The lyrics 'Ya ha ha-way' are written below each measure. The second staff begins with a measure rest marked '4', followed by three measures. The first measure has the lyrics 'Ya ha ha-way'. The second measure contains a sequence of notes marked with 'x' above them, with the lyrics 'ho ha ho ha ha ha-way' below. The third measure also contains notes marked with 'x' above them, with the lyrics 'ho ha ho ha ha ha-way' below. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Ya ha ha-way Ya ha ha-way Ya ha ha-way

4
Ya ha ha-way ho ha ho ha ha ha-way ho ha ho ha ha ha-way

This is an inter-tribal greeting song, and so has no particular association with one Nation. The text uses vocables and so meaning is derived from the singing and drumming together. The song can be sung four times, seven times or as many times as it needs for each person in the circle to 'lead' the song.