

# *J'AI PASSE'*

## Traditional Cajun Waltz

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*"J'ai Passe"*, also referred to as, *"J'ai Passe' Devant Ta Porte"*, is a traditional Cajun dance tune from the bayou region of Louisiana. Literally translated as "I passed by your door", the words tell the story of a young man hoping to court a girl, but every time he goes by her house, he sees that she is with other suitors. In spite of the theme of "unrequited love", it is played as lively dance tune, like most Cajun music. The song has received some notoriety through the efforts of Dewey Balfa, who was an impassioned ambassador for Cajun music and culture. A talented fiddler and singer, Balfa was a driving force in the revival of traditional Cajun music in the 1940's and 1950's. Many of his recordings became popular on main stream radio stations throughout the country during that period. Balfa once remarked that this was because "the sound of true country music resonates the same in French as in English, the same in Louisiana or Quebec as in Tennessee".

In music and friendship,

~Tull

