

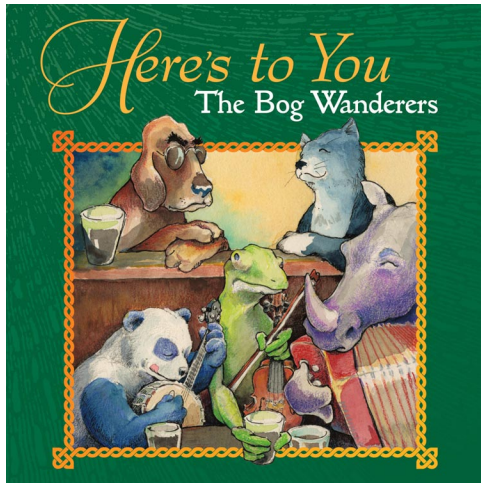


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The Bog Wanderers

Here's to You

FM-1042, CD only
Produced by Regan Wick



The Words of Others

“....celebrate the Irish diaspora with the vitality of a first-rate ceili band... a treat to hear from start to finish... The group's versatility produces some colorfully woven and textured arrangements that enhance an unusually broad assortment of traditional and contemporary tunes”

- The Washington Post

“an energy and lightness of touch that is guaranteed to keep any dance floor shaking... Finch's piano adds a distinctive New England bounce to the arrangementsa very listenable well-rounded recording. ”

- Green Man Review

About this Title

What do you get when luminaries from throughout the world of Celtic music come together in one all-star lineup? The Bog Wanderers, the latest addition to the prestigious roster of traditional musicians at Falling Mountain. The quintet brings their virtuosity to an impressive collection of reels, slides, jigs and songs. The tunes traverse the spectrum from old to new, even tapping into the latest generation of Celtic music. Old favorites like “Pigeon on the Gate” and “The Cameronian” are juxtaposed with new gems by the likes of the great fiddler/composer Liz Carroll (“Dancing Tables”, “Wissahickon Drive”), the inimitable Si Kahn (the haunting “Aragon Mill”), and Falling Mountaineer/flutist extraordinaire Linda Hickman (“The Raging River”). Rounding out the program are evocative original compositions by Tabby (“The Bluebird”), Betsy (“The Wee Folk”), and, from the next generation, Joe's son Graham DeZarn (“The Fiddler's Cabinet”).

About the Artists

A ceili band is one that plays for Irish country dancing, and The Bog Wanderers are one of the best on the east coast of the US. Jigs, reels, hornpipes, polkas, and slides are their mainstay. In addition to playing the tenor banjo, mandolin, mandola and tin whistle, Betsy O'Malley brings her superb voice to the Bogs' renderings of traditional and contemporary material. Fiddler Joe DeZarn's chief interest is traditional dance music, with a particular focus on Irish music, but also has an impressive repertoire of American fiddle tunes and traditional music from Quebec. Jesse Winch is well regarded for his mastery of the bodhran and other percussion, but also plays guitar, mandola and harmonica. Jesse helped establish the traditional music scene in the Washington area as a founding member of the internationally-acclaimed group Celtic Thunder. A native of Philadelphia, Danny Flynn has been performing Irish music on the accordion since age six and is well known for both his skill in performing traditional tunes and his ability to accompany Ceili and step dancers. Longtime Falling Mountaineer Tabby Finch began playing the hammered dulcimer on an antique instrument that has been in her family since the 1840's. Tabby includes accordion wizard Laurie Andres among the influences on her unique piano style, and also plays the Celtic harp, which she studied with the late Derek Bell of The Chieftains.

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FM-1042, CD only, Total Time 73:33

For interviews or other artist relations, please visit the artist page at our website, www.FallingMountain.com, for email links and contact info.

To the DJs: These program notes are designed to make it easier to quickly navigate the track information on this CD. We at Falling Mountain Music appreciate you taking the time to review new material and add it to your library, and we hope you enjoy the music.

PROGRAM NOTES

1. Waiting For Bridget/The Magic Kingdom/ The Great 38 5:07 (Danny Flynn) - slides

The first of these was written by Danny for his daughter Bridget, the second during a fun visit to the Magic Kingdom; the third tune commemorates a turbulent ride in the Gulf of Mexico on the US Navy vessel 38, an oceanographic research laboratory.

2. The Faery Reel/Pigeon On The Gate/The Cameronian 5:16 (trad) - reels

These three classic reels are played throughout the Irish Diaspora; we play them often for ceili and set dancing

3. The Tide Full In 3:52 (Fahey/Mulligan)

Francis Fahey of Kinvara, Co. Galway wrote many wonderful lyrics in the late 19th century that are now being rediscovered; "The Tide Full In" is one of his best. The music was recently composed by Paul Mulligan and the instrumental break is Danny's adaptation of "The Dawn."

4. Dancing Tables (Liz Carroll) /Eddie Kelly's (trad) /Michael McGoldrick's (M. McGoldrick) 4:39 - jigs

"Dancing Tables" is the first of two tunes on this recording by Liz Carroll, the great fiddler, composer and National Heritage Fellow from Chicago. The other jigs come from a session recording made in Co. Mayo by our fiddling friend and Celtic Thunder alumnus, Rob Thornburgh

5. Friends And Neighbors (trad) 5:27

Joe Hickerson tells us that this great song originated in the Catskill Mountains. Betsy first heard this sung in a Vermont coffeehouse in the early 80s, and it was originally printed in Cazden, Haufrecht, and Studer's *Folk Songs of the Catskills*, and in Cazden's *Abelard Song Book*.

6. The Columbia Seven/The North Trenton (Danny Flynn) 5:48 - waltzes

The first of these tunes of Danny's was composed in commemoration of the seven Columbia astronauts, and the second for dancing the St. Bernard's Waltz at the Sons and Daughters of Erin ceili in North Trenton, NJ.

7. The Shoemaker's Daughter/ Love At The Endings/ Hunter's House (Ed Reavy) 5:31 - reels

Ed Reavy was a prolific composer of Irish dance music from Co. Cavan who settled in Philadelphia. These are three of his best-known tunes.

8. Aragon Mill (Si Kahn) 4:35

This evocative piece tells of the sad plight of mill workers everywhere as America shuts down its factories and mills, and shuts out those who were their backbone for decades.

9. Mary Shore (trad)/The Wee Folk (Betsy O'Malley) /Danny Flynn's (Bob McQuillen) 5:30 - jigs

This track features one traditional and two recently composed jigs: "Mary Shore," which features Tabby's piano playing, we learned from a recording by the Dolores Keane band; it's followed by one of Betsy's compositions named by her step-dancing champion daughter, Nora, and a jig written for Danny by the prolific and inspirational pianist and composer, Bob McQuillen, another National Heritage Fellow.

10. Rivers Of Texas (trad) 5:01

Betsy found this gem in a volume of children's songs collected and sung by Texas musician Jill Trinka. It's a song with many variants and despite the many rivers of Texas mentioned, doesn't include them all.

11. The Fiddler's Cabinet (Graham DeZarn)/ The Raging River (Linda Hickman)/ Throw The Ball (Regan Wick) 7:00 - reels

Joe's son Graham composed "The Fiddler's Cabinet" as a Father's Day gift (here they do a twin fiddle arrangement), followed by compositions of two old Bog friends and Jesse's band-mates from Celtic Thunder; Linda Hickman wrote "The Raging River" (Jesse's son Yancey joins him in a drum duet) and Regan Wick wrote "Throw the Ball" for his son John Paul and lends his piano-playing skill.

12. The Bluebird (Tabby Finch) 5:04 - waltz

Inspired by hammered dulcimer virtuoso Sam Rizzetta.

13. So Here's To You (Alan Bell) 5:17

Betsy learned this heartfelt song of parting from the great Dublin singer Frank Harte with whom she studied at the Augusta Heritage Center. We subsequently learned that it was written by the English singer/songwriter Alan Bell, who generously welcomed our recording of the song and its entry into the traditional repertoire.

14. The Galtee Rangers (trad) /The Plough And The Stars (trad) /Wissahickon Drive (Liz Carroll) 5:11 - reels

Two popular session reels followed by another Liz Carroll tune named for the road that leads to the Philadelphia Irish Center.