

Bright Day Star (2009)

Wpisany przez bluesever

Wtorek, 13 Grudzień 2011 19:21 - Zmieniony Piątek, 11 Październik 2013 17:31

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Christmas Traditional 1. *Ding Dong! Merrily on High (French)* Anonymous 2. *The Old Year Now Away Is Fled*

Christmas Traditional

3. *Christmas Day in da Mornin'* 4. *The Cherry Tree Carol*

Nickolaus Hermann

5. *Wir singen dir, Immanuel*

Christmas Traditional

6. *The Wren Song (Irish)* 7. *A Wassail tune (Chestnut)*

William Sandys

8. *Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day*

John Bull

9. *Een Kindeken Is Ons Geboren for keyboard in G*

John Stainer

10. *The Bellman's Carol*

Christmas Traditional

11. *Jesus born in Bethn'y, Christmas jig*

Michael Praetorius

12. *Es ist ein Ros entsprungen (Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming), instrumental arrangements*

Johann Michael Bach

13. *In Dulci Jubilo, for organ*

Christmas Traditional

14. *Rorate coeli desuper*

Anonymous

15. *Drive the cold winter away*

Thomas Ravenscroft

16. *Remember, O thou man (from Melismata, 1611)*

Michael Praetorius

17. *Der Quempas (Quem pastores laudavere)*

Christmas Traditional

18. *Christmas is my name*

Giovanni Giacomo Gastoldi

19. *In dir ist Freude*

Christmas Traditional

20. *Hey for Christmas!*

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The Baltimore Consort: Chris Norman: wooden flute, Ronn McFarlane: lute, Mark Cudek: bandora, cittern, viol, Custer Larue: soprano, Larry Lipkis: viol, recorder, gemshorn, Mary Anne Ballard: rebec, viol, Webb Wiggins: organ

Had enough of animated snowmen and over-sweetened carol arrangements? Here's a hugely enjoyable recording of songs and dances done with flair by the Baltimore Consort. There are a few familiar tunes, such as the lilting arrangement of "Ding, Dong Merrily On High" and a beautiful solo flute version of "Lo, How a Rose 'Er Blooming." But most the songs are off the beaten track, and are therefore fresh and new despite their antiquity. Custer LaRue brings feeling and energy into the songs. This has become the most played Christmas CD in our household. --- Frederick Lauritzen, amazon.com

One of the finest Christmas recordings ever made, this 1994 production by the Baltimore Consort makes a welcome return (complete with a new cover) along with the revival of the Dorian label. Glowing with the high, clear soprano of Custer LaRue and brimming with versatile, virtuoso instrumental work by Mary Anne Ballard (viols, rebec), Mark Cudek (cittern, Baroque guitar, viols, bandora), Larry Lipkis (viol, recorder, gemshorn), Ronn McFarlane (lute), Chris Norman (wooden flutes, pennywhistle), and Webb Wiggins (organ), this program literally lives up to the promise of its title.

Many of these 20 tunes/carols/dances are among the most familiar Christmas standards--Ding dong merrily on high; Greensleeves; Es ist ein' Ros' entsprungen; In dulci jubilo; The Cherry Tree Carol; Tomorrow shall be my dancing day--presented in both vocal/instrumental and strictly instrumental arrangements. But whatever the tune, and however it's presented, the result is invariably engaging, artful, classy, and infinitely repeatable, which means it's perfect for multiple repetitions, whether at Christmas or any other time of year. Chris Norman's flute improvisation on "Es ist ein' Ros' entsprungen" is a classic, and Custer LaRue's rendition of the beautiful "Rorate coeli desuper" is not to be missed. In fact, that last instruction applies to this entire disc. If you're a Christmas music fan (and who isn't?) and you don't already own this CD, you know what you have to do. --- David Vernier, ClassicsToday.com

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