

The Rufous-Sided Towhee

David Donaldson: pennywhistles, recorders and synthesizers

2003

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Recorded at Hominid Studio, 4408 W. 15th Avenue, Vancouver, BC V6R 3B2, Canada by David Donaldson (whistler4[at]mac.com)

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CD Production by Sunrise

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On this CD, I play pennywhistles, recorders and synthesizers.

- 1. Lullaby (dd) 3:12:** It started as a lullaby but it got away from me.
- 2. Nicholas Hill (dd) 2:23:** Written to celebrate the birth of my nephew, Nicholas Hill.
- 3. Shades of Green (dd) 1:15:** Part of my published collection The Rufous-Sided Towhee: Three Songs for Alto Recorder, Avondale Press.
- 4. Friends Forever (dd) 3:29:** This waltz celebrates the successful transplant of a kidney from my son Jesse to my son Tobias in 1999. The title comes from a poster, by Peter Joyse, they enjoyed as children.
- 5. The Rufous-Sided Towhee (dd) 1:31:** This tune can be played on a whistle or recorder. For this version, I used an alto recorder. It appears with Shades of Green and another piece in the Avondale Press publication.
- 6. Handhold (dd) 2:07:** This tune got me back into writing music in 1989. I taught in the Arts One program at UBC and wrote Handhold because of a suggestion by Tanya Fader, a student in the course.

7. The Irishe Dumpe (anon.) 1:28: This tune is from the Fitzwilliam Virginal Book, a good source of late Elizabethan and Jacobean keyboard music. In the original, the tune has four parts.

8. Killiecrankie (traditional) 1:51: This traditional Scots tune commemorates a battle fought in the Killiecrankie pass in 1689.

9. The Foggy Dew (traditional) 1:26: This traditional Irish love song was later made into a revolutionary song, but I try to capture the feeling of the original.

10. Together At Last (dd) 3:02: Written for the wedding of Mary Lightly and David Lowe, November 12, 2000. It was performed at the wedding by The Three Davids: Lowe, Donaldson and Sheftel.

11. Lament for Jack (dd) 1:09: Written for my nephew Jack Higgins, who died on June 30, 2000 at the age of twenty-six.

12. Troy's Jig (dd) 1:12: This slow jig was written for the birth of Troy Hill.

13. Thon Buri: Gardens of Peace Brought to us by the Smiling Buddha 3:33: Written by Hans Ulrich Staeps in 1982, this piece is very different from his other works. Originally for recorder, piano, and a few percussion instruments, I arranged it for alto recorder and synthesizer.

14. Jetstream (dd) 3:32: This spooky piece was made with a very short whistle recording that was processed using the computer programs thonk_0+2 and Cubase. thonk_0+2 performs granular synthesis.

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