Songs (Mostly Traditional): Ontario

Scatter the Ashes: Songs of Early Ontario performed by Muddy York

A delightful glimpse into the music of early Ontario tunes and songs that were performed by traditional players in Upper Canada — most over 150 years ago. There are variants of songs from Britain as well as some locally composed tunes. It is a remarkable collection of songs that chronicle a very poorly known aspect of musical Canadiana. Performed by Anne Lederman and Ian Bell (Muddy York), the variety and quality of this album make it “required listening” for Canadian folk music buffs. An illustrated booklet with extensive documentation is included.

Stock number: BOS7244
Cost: $10.00
Member’s price: $8.00

Glengarry “77”: Scottish Music and Song at the National Arts Centre

Recorded in front of a live audience at the NAC in 1977, this is a collection of Scottish singing and instrumental music from the Glengarry region of Ontario. It includes some fine highland piping and traditional fiddling as well as singing (e.g. The Highlanders Return, Annie Laurie, Flowers of Scotland).

Stock number: WRC355
Cost: $10.00
Member’s price: $8.00

Glengarry “82” at the National Arts Centre

This is a second two album set performed by a variety of artists from the Glengarry region of Ontario. It has been recorded live and includes highland pipe bands, singers and dancers. Some of the songs included are: Scotland the Brave, Bonnie Wee Thing, Westering Home and Bonnie Dundee.

Stock number: PLP1019
Cost: $12.00
Member’s price: $10.00

Folk Songs of the Canadian North Woods sung by Wade Hemsworth

Features traditional songs Hemsworth learned in Northern Ontario (e.g. Peter Rambelay, The Bride’s Lament and V’la le bon vent) as well as several he wrote himself (Black Fly Song, Shining Birch Tree).

Stock number: FW6821
Cost: $10.00
Member’s price: $8.00
Tom Brandon: The Rambling Irishman

Tom Brandon comes from a long line of Irish Canadians, and has learned some great songs from his family and during his stints working on Great Lakes boats, lumber camps and the CPR. He is described as one of the finest Canadian tradtional singers, and this recording makes it plain why. The cassette contains songs such as Muskoka, The Lady Leroy, The Blarney Stone and Jack Haggerty. Detailed notes are by Edith Fowke. This cassette was formerly Folk Legacy FSC 10, but is now part of the CFMS cassette series.

Stock number: CFMS 5-8502
Cost: $10.00
Member’s price: $ 8.00

Irish and British Songs from the Ottawa Valley sung by O.J. Abbott (recorded and notes by Edith Fowke)

O.J. Abbott came to Canada from England when he was 12 years old. He started to work in the lumber camps at the age of 20 years, and later for the CPR and finally in a paper mill. Through these experiences he developed into one of the finest traditional singers ever to be found in Canada. This album presents a varied sampler from his repertoire. The detailed notes by Edith Fowke provide interesting background on the songs and the singer. This album is a true “Canadian classic” for anyone interested in traditional singing.

Stock number: FM4951
Cost: $13.00
Member’s price: $11.00

Lumbering Songs from the Ontario Shanties: Selections from the field recordings of Edith Fowke

This is an incredibly rich collection of traditional singers and songs from northern Ontario. All of the material relates to the lumbering song traditions of the north and provides wonderful insight into the rigours and good times of the shantyboys. It includes a great variety of traditional singers and singing styles, with extensive liner notes.

Stock number: FM4052
Cost: $13.00
Member’s price: $11.00

Songs of the Great Lakes collected by Edith Fowke

A great collection of songs from sailors who ply the Great Lakes. These are field recordings from Edith Fowke’s archive, mostly from the singing of C.H.J. Snider and Stanley Baby. Topics include ship wrecks, sea battles and sea voyages. Extensive notes describe the songs and the singers.

Stock number: FE4018
Cost: $13.00
Member’s price: $11.00

Folk Songs of Ontario recorded by Edith Fowke

If you ask Edith which of her numerous books she is most proud of she will name her “Traditional Singers and Songs from Ontario.” This album includes some of the field recordings upon which that book is based. It includes some fantastic traditional performances by the likes of O. J. Abbott, Tom Brandon and Martin Sullivan. The songs cover a wide range of topics and there are extensive liner notes.

Stock number: FM4005
Cost: $13.00
Member’s price: $11.00