

Nollaig Chridheil, Songs of the Christmas Season

Chambless, Miller & Muse

Jil Chambless / Vocals, Flute, Whistle

Ed Miller / Vocals

Scooter Muse / Guitar, High String Guitar, Ukulele, Bouzouki, Keys

Special Guests:

Rich Brotherton / Bouzouki; A Man's A Man and Down Among the Bushes of Jerusalem

Nick Watson / Percussion

Bob Wray / Bass; Streets of London

Recorded at Saddle Abbey Studios, Muscle Shoals AL, and Ace Recording in Austin Texas

Engineered, Mixed and Mastered by Scooter Muse

Graphics by Trey Simmons

Photo by Mick Shea

TRACK LISTING:

1. On the Very First Christmas - learned from the Barra MacNeils, one of the many great musical families of Cape Breton, Nova Scotia [2:40]
2. Christmas Carol - The traditional nativity story told in Scots dialect, written by Alexander Gray(1862-1968) [1:25]
3. Christ Child Lullaby - A hymn written by Father Ranald Rankin (c. 1855) in Scots Gaelic. Here we sing the English translation of 4 of the original 29 verses. [4:18]
4. From a Distance - An award winning song written in 1987 by Julie Gold, Irving Music Inc. OBO Wing and Wheel Music, A Side Music SSC OBO Julie Gold Music. Although people have a right to interpret the song any way they want, as with all art, she has stated that the song is about the difference between how things appear to be and how they really are.[4:18]
5. Away in a Manger - We decided to pair two familiar melodies in this arrangement. [3:11]
6. Down Among the Bushes of Jerusalem - a realistic and completely non-sentimentalized celebration of the life of Christ by Northern Ireland's great, peace-mongering songwriter, Tommy Sands [4:37]
7. Child in a Manger - An English translation of a Scots Gaelic song written by Mary McDonald of Mull and set to a very familiar old Gaelic air. [3:25]
8. Christmas Card - another version of the nativity story in Scots, by E.M. Buchanan [1:14]
9. Silent Night - In English, Irish, and Spanish. Thanks for pronunciation help: Cathy Ryan for the Irish and Josie Prado for the Spanish. [4:18]
10. Streets of London - Ralph McTell, Essex Music International. Substitute your town for London in this song for a powerful reminder that we all have much to be thankful for. [5:17]
11. A Man's A Man - Arguably Robert Burns' most powerful song. This anthem of the common man and plea for social equality was nothing less than revolutionary when written in the late 18th century; sadly it probably still is.[4:47]
12. Rebel Jesus - a sharply observant and generously critical reminder of the reality of what Christmas is all about by Jackson Browne [3:45]
13. Coventry Carol - According to *Take Joy!, the Tasha Tudor Christmas Book (1966)*, this is an English melody from 1591. Jil based this a cappella arrangement on the one by Nick Nicholson in that book. [2:09]
14. Emanuel - Craig Van Winkle. Written by our good friend in Arlington Texas. [4:35]
15. Auld Lang Syne - Robert Burns' internationally-known song of recalling good memories with an old friend, sung here to the tune that Burns originally used rather than the better known one his publisher preferred. [4:13]

Total Time 55:00