

Mp3 Kate Chadbourne - The Irishy Girl



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Earthy and ethereal, merry, wise, and whole-hearted, these Irish traditional songs celebrate life. Delightful singing in Irish and English with fresh accompaniment by Irish harp, bodhran, cello, piano, Irish flute, whistles, and fiddle. 15 MP3 Songs WORLD: Celtic, FOLK: Traditional Folk Details: About the CD It would be lovely to be on a mountainside and to have for company an Irishy Girl So begins the song which gives its title to The Irishy Girl, a gathering of Irish traditional songs which I hope will provide as good company to you, dear listener, as they have to me. These are some of my favorites, brought into my life by beloved friends, teachers, singers, and musicians, and assembled here in a kind of kaleidoscope of brilliant images and voices. Their cast of characters includes passionate shepherds and men off to war, several courting couples and a handful of philosophers, a nun and at least two mermaids. About half of them speak in Irish, and half in English. And what they tell us covers the gamut: love, friendship, loneliness, wit, disappointment, devotion, and the desire to celebrate being alive! I am very lucky and grateful to have been joined in this project by several talented and generous people. Ace engineer, Steve Friedman, contributed his sharp ears, dedication, and amazing technical skills. Graphic artist, Jenn Baskin, brought the CD booklet into flower and feather, a perfect habitat for any Irishy Girl. Matt Heaton (bodhran and guitar) and Valerie Thompson (cello) came back into the studio and wowed me once again with their creativity and musical brilliance. And to top it all off, we were thrilled that fiddling master Samus Connolly could join us for a spirited set of jigs. About Kate Kate Chadbourne has built her life's house at the crossroads of song, scholarship, poetry, story, and music. She holds a Ph.D. in Celtic from Harvard where she teaches courses in Irish language, folklore, literature, and storytelling. She is most powerfully attracted to Irish folktales and medieval legends and often embellishes them with harp accompaniment. In her musical life, she travels between the world of Irish traditional song and the worlds she imagines and

creates in her original songs for voice, piano, Irish flute, whistle, and harp. Her music and singing is featured on five recordings, most recently *The Irishy Girl* (2006). She is also a published poet and essayist. Responding to this freedom and range of expression, one reviewer hailed her as a modern troubadour. Kates performances often set a traditional Irish tale alongside an original song, or a newly-minted poem next to a set of reels. Listeners encounter a blend of the ancient, the modern, and the quirkily idiosyncratic. Whether she is singing, telling stories, teaching, or sharing a poem, she aims to leave her audiences moved, enlivened, and eager for their own adventures.

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