

Mp3 The Melancholy Ramblers - Goin' To The Mountain



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Traditional and original mountain folk music with 3-part harmony, fiddle, guitar, accordion, bass and hummel(a larger dulcimer) celebrating America's country, gospel and honky-tonk heritage. 17 MP3 Songs

FOLK: Traditional Folk, COUNTRY: Country Folk Details: THE MELANCHOLY RAMBLERS are: Brady Coleman on guitar, fiddle, harmonica, mandolin and vocals Frances Barton on accordion, piano and vocals Marco Perella on hummel, percussion and vocals Blackie White on bass and banjo The Ramblers have been playing together in various combinations since the mid-70s. We used to play old songs on camping trips or on somebodys back porch or sing three part harmonies in Bradys kitchen where the acoustics are real good. We all wound up living in Austin, Texas at the same time and in about 1989 we decided to formalize our group and The Melancholy Ramblers were born. Weve been playing gigs around Texas, New Mexico and Colorado since then. We were chosen to represent the USA and play the Concert for Peace in Potsdam and Berlin in 1991 after the wall came down. We got to play for Russian generals and their families along with representative bands from Germany, Russia and Turkey. The location for the concert was the auditorium at the former headquarters of the dreaded Stasi... the East German secret police. We played our favorite old songs like Long Black Veil, Muddy Water and Operator (Give me Jesus on the Line). I have to tell you that we received a roaring ovation and Gave Peace a Chance. Brady got a Martin guitar when he was a teenager and learned to play Hank Williams songs with his brother. Hes still got that rosewood Martin and its now considered a classic. That guitar must know a million songs. Brady had some time to kill in middle age and took up the fiddle. Now the Melancholy Ramblers feature that instrument and use it on all kinds of folk, gospel, Cajun and Celtic songs. Brady also learned to yodel by listening to Jimmy Rodgers and Kenny Roberts records. His versions of Cattle Call and Chime Bells always leave the audience elated. Frances grew up in a Czech family out in the

country near Taylor, Texas and learned to sing in church. She has an amazing, powerful, soulful alto voice and people just love to hear her sing. Shes been a piano player since she was a girl but picked up the accordion so shed have a transportable instrument to play with the Ramblers. Frances is working on a degree in music from the University of Texas and helps Brady and me with our musical theory. (Were always telling her...But Frances, its a Johnny Cash song!) Marco (your humble correspondent) got a dulcimer from a kit in the early 70s and found the drone to his liking. Later on he discovered a larger version of the mountain dulcimer called the hummel. A hummel has more strings and is a German/Swedish cousin of dulcimers. The hummel sound has something in common with the bagpipe. In their spare time, both Brady and Marco are actors working in film, TV and on stage. Blackie White is the most recent Rambler. He started playing with us a few years ago and we liked what his bass added to our sound. Blackie is an incredibly versatile musician and in addition to his duties with the Ramblers, plays guitar for the Cornell Hurd Band. Blackie is also a famous Austin poster artist under his nom de plume Guy Jukes and does all the Melancholy Rambler posters. (You can see some examples on our CD and at our website melancholyramblers.com. We also have some stories about our adventures on the website.) The Melancholy Ramblers play a lot of songs from the past: traditional English folk songs, Irish songs, old Country gospel numbers, cowboy songs, honky tonk songs from the early country music era... We believe that theres a reason these songs have lasted. They hold the spiritual DNA of this country and we are very proud to play a small part in their preservation and celebration. Weve also written quite a few songs in the spirit of these old numbers. Some of them are included on Goin to the Mountain. There are a couple of historical songs about the Civil War written by Marco and Bradys great fiddle instrumental Frances Waltz that we play at almost every gig. Brady also wrote a song about trucker love called Angel in a Devils World and a hymn to the Grand Canyon. We hope you like them. The Melancholy Ramblers thank you for your kind attention.

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