

Mp3 Mary Cay Brass - Green Mountain



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This is contra music at its best, with tunes from Irish and Quebecois reels to a Scandinavian snoa and a Bulgarian kopanica, performed by Mary Cay Brass and some of the best women musicians from the Connecticut Valley dance scene. 13 MP3 Songs in this album (55:42) ! Related styles: FOLK: Contra Dance, FOLK: Traditional Folk Details: Mary Cay Brass's piano flair is renowned in the thriving contra dance community of Northern New England. She is joined here by the best women musicians from the Connecticut Valley dance scene. The result is exhilaratingly melodic and merrily pulsing contra music at its best. Playing tunes from Irish and Quebecois reels to a Scandinavian snoa and a Bulgarian kopanica, they celebrate the joy, vitality and diversity of New England contra music. ----- THE BAND Mary Cay Brass - piano, accordion Becky Ashendon - upright bass Sarah Blair - fiddle Susan Conger - fiddle Mary Lea - fiddle Ann Percival - guitar Becky Tracy - fiddle ----- GREEN MOUNTAIN Meet Mary Cay Brass, piano player, accordionist, choral director and New England contra dance's Queen of "A-Ha!" She is a renowned fixture in the thriving dance community of Northern New England's Connecticut River Valley, where New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Vermont all huyg. But as dance pianist and director of several local choral groups, it is usually her job to make everybody else sound good. In its splendid series of recordings by the best New England contra dance musicians, Great Meadow Music asked Brass to step out of her supporting role and take a few spins around the dance floor as soloist, arranger and producer, joined by some of her favorite women musicians from the Connecticut Valley dance scene. The result is robust, exhilaratingly melodic and merrily pulsing: contra music at its best. And the "A-Ha?" That is how fiddler Mary Lea, veteran of popular folk dance bands Yankee Ingenuity, Bare Necessities, BLT and Orijent Express, describes what musicians and dancers alike love about Brass's music. "Mary Cay has a lot of drama in her playing," Lea says, "a great harmonic sense and sense of drive and groove. It

really gives new life to the dance, sort of a musical "A-Ha!" (more in the Green Mountain CD liner notes)

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