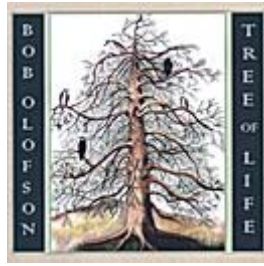


## Mp3 Bob Olofson - Tree Of Life



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"Good Medicine" music - strong, distinctive and earthy, with lots of different drums and flutes, joyful vocal harmonies, dijeridoo and singing bells. 6 MP3 Songs WORLD: World Fusion, WORLD: World Traditions

Details: "Tree Of Life" has been an amazing journey for me - I hope you will enjoy it as much as I have! It began in earnest on the Winter Solstice of 2003, when I met "Poppy Drum". This remarkable drum had belonged to Homer Gayne, a diplomat and popular singer in the 1930's, 40's and 50's, while he was living in Haiti. It was the first time I'd ever heard an instrument truly speak - to me, personally! To my delight I was allowed to take Poppy home with me, and he has been an honored guest in my home since then.

The wonderful spirit I found in this drum has guided and supported this whole project, and its big, distinctive sound is particularly important in "Le Toon de Baboon" and "Chant For Spring". The role of spiritual guide has been shared by another unique instrument, the double-chambered cedar flute which appears in "Chant For Spring" and "Hawk Turtledove". I had ordered the flute from Ward Stroud ([stroudflutes.com](http://stroudflutes.com)) then experienced several months of frustration, as I tried to make the instrument do what I wanted. After a particularly difficult bout of futility, I stared at the flute in my hands and asked, "Okay, what do you want to play?" Almost instantly music started flowing from it - intense, poignant and authoritative. I learned very quickly to treat it with the utmost respect, as a channel for healing power and guidance. (I don't play this flute at regular gigs at all, only at my church and for special occasions.) I suggest that, if you possibly can, listen to this CD the first time in a quiet environment (preferably in a bath with the beverage or recreational herb of your choice,) where you can really let yourself take the journey.

Some notes on the individual songs: Le Toon de Baboon - Two whole years in the making! What started out as simple little vocal riff (Go...ri...la-la, Go...ri...la-la-la,) mutated into this very complex and difficult, Bobby McFerrin-style jungle doo-wop extravaganza! If it hadn't been for Poppy Drum's way solid drum

track early on, it might have died of sheer frustration. But it was worth it - very fun and danceable.

Herman Kalimba - I have no idea why this wanted to be written in Spanish...it just sort've happened that way. Very unusual instrumentation: Kalimba, several different drums, timbales, several flutes, tenor sax, and some pretty cool vocals considering that none of us are fluent en Espanol! But we had big fun and danced around a lot when recording, and I think that's what counts most.

Chant For Spring - I always think of the Andes when I hear this, maybe Peru or Bolivia. This was one of the songs that the cedar flute simply told me to play, so I did. The whole session, drum and two flute tracks, went down in about 40 minutes total, all first takes. Very gritty and powerful stuff.

Dreamtime Ocean - A very gentle, meditation groove. The vocals on this track are the product of a sort of extended musical family: Ric Replogle, his daughter Merissa and his son Colin have all been playing and singing together since the kids were pre-teens. Ric, Robbie Jarvis and I were in a band called Airhead in the early 80's, and Robbie's daughter Marley Jarvis (named after Bob Marley shortly after the latter's death,) also plays with Ric Family on a regular basis. I love the sweetness of Marley and Merissa singing together in the middle of this tune - positively angelic!

Hawk Turtledove - This is essentially a story without words, about the relationship between predator and prey. The recording session at John Berning's house was extremely intense for both of us, starting with a smudge and meditation, and rising to the point where we both were struggling to stay in our bodies (rather than soaring right up with the spirits!) That may sound hokey, but I'm telling the truth. By the time it finished there were tears streaming down my face, my hands were shaking, and John and I were staring at each other like "What the ## just happened?"

Evolution Suite -The most eclectic of an already mixed bag...from traditional Celtic to heavy synthesizer, drums, flutes, the Humboldt Primal Drone Choir, dijeridoo and Tibetan singing bells...if this doesn't make you want to dance around, you might want to consider some serious Ginseng or accupuncture or something...

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