

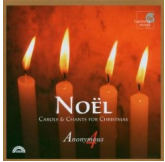
## Noël - Carols & Chants for Christmas (Anonymous 4) [2005]

Written by bluesever

Sunday, 30 November 2014 16:58 -

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## Noël - Carols & Chants for Christmas (Anonymous 4) [2005]



Disc: 1 - Legends of St. Nicholas, Medieval European Chant and Polyphony 1. *Intonent Hodie* 2. *Exultemus Et Letemur* 3. *Gaudens In Domino* 4. *Seint Nicholas Was Borne In The Citee Of Patras* 5. *Confessor Dei Nicholaus* 6. *Cantu Mirro, Summa Laude* 7. *Sainte Nicholaes* 8. *Whanne The Bisshop Of The Citee Of My Deied* 9. *Nicholai Presulis* 10. *Cum Quidam Fluctuantia* 11. *Novus Presul Prodiit* 12. *Sainte Nicholaes* 13. *All The Province Of Seint Nicholas Suffered Gret Peyne For Hunger* 14. *Plaudat Letitia* 15. *Salve Cleri Speculum/Salve Iubar Presulum/(Sospitati)/(Sospitati)* 16. *Sainte Nicholaes* 17. *A Worschipfull Man Hadde Thre Doughtres Virgines* 18. *Fulget Nicolaus* 19. *Ex Eius Tumba/Prosa Sospitati Dedit Egros* 20. *Gaudens In Domino* 21. *And Whanne Our Lorde Lust To Take Seint Nicholas Oute Of This Worlde* 22. *Psallat Chorus/Eximie Pater/(Aptatur)* 23. *Nicholae Presulum* 24. *Nicholaus Pontifex*

Disc: 2 - Wolcum Yule, Celtic and British Songs and Carols

1. *Awake, And Join The Cheerful Choir* 2. *Good People All* 3. *The Seven Rejoices Of Mary* 4. *The Lamb* 5. *A Scots Lilt* 6. *Balulalow* 7. *Balulalow* 8. *The Holly And The Ivy* 9. *The Reel Of Tullochgorum* 10. *I Saw Three Ships* 11. *A Calendar Of Kings* 12. *Air: La Fuar Geimhreadh* 13. *An Teicheadh Go Heigipt (Flight Into Egypt)* 14. *A God, And Yet A Man?* 15. *Grene Growith The Holy* 16. *Wel, Dyma'r Borau Gorau (Behold, Here Is The Best Morning)* 17. *The Cherry Tree Carol* 18. *Can Wassel (Wassail Song)* 19. *A New Year Carol*

Disc: 3 - On Yoolis Night, Medieval Carols and Motets

1. *Hodie Christus Natus Est* 2. *O Nobilis Nativitas/O Mira Dei/O Decus Virgineum/Apparuit* 3. *Lux De Luce (Chant)* 4. *Alleluya: A Nywe Werke* 5. *Verbum Supernum Prodiens (Chant)* 6. *Balaam De Quo Vaticinans/(Ballam)* 7. *Ave Maria* 8. *Gabriel, Fram Heven-King* 9. *Lulla: I Saw A Swete Semly Syght* 10. *Prolis Eterne Genitor/Psallat Mater Gracie/(Pes)* 11. *Vox Claral, ,Ecce, Intonat (Chant)* 12. *De Supernis Sedibus* 13. *Omnes De Saba* 14. *Puellare Gremium/Purissima Mater/(Pes)* 15. *Lullay, Lullay: As I Lay On Yoolis Night* 16. *Tria Sunt Munera (Chant)* 17. *Orto Sole Serene/Origo Viri/Virga Iesse/(Tenor)* 18. *Peperit Virgo* 19. *Ecce Quod Natura* 20. *A Solis Ortus Cardine (Chant)* 21. *Ther Is No Rose Of Swych Vertu* 22. *Videntes Stellam (Chant)* 23. *Nowel: Owt Of Your Slepe Aryse*

Disc: 4 - A Star in the East, Medieval Hungarian Christmas Music

1. *Ave Spes Nostra* 2. *Mi Atyank Atya Isten* 3. *Veni Domine* 4. *O Mundi Domina* 5. *Fuit Virgo* 6. *Vox Clara, Ecce, Intonat* 7. *Omnes Unanimter* 8. *Dum Medium Silentium* 9. *Primo Tempora Alleviata* 10. *Speciosus Forma* 11. *Novum Decus Oritur* 12. *Letentur Celi* 13. *Salvator Noster* 14. *Az Idvoztot Regenten* 15. *Novus Annus Adiiit* 16. *Exulta Filia Syon* 17. *Liber Generationis* 18. *Gaude Et Letare* 19. *Exordium Quadruplicate/Nate Dei/Concrepet Infanti/ Verbum Caro* 20.

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### *Isten, Teged*

Anonymous 4: Ruth Cunningham, Susan Hellauer, Marsha Genensky, Johanna Rose, Jacqueline Horner With Andrew Lawrence-King – irish harp, baroque harp, psaltery

Anonymous 4, the a cappella women's vocal quartet, has recorded a number of albums of sacred music for the Christmas season, and this set is a reissue of four of the most popular -- Legends of St. Nicholas: Medieval European Chant and Polyphony, Wolcum Yule: Celtic and British Songs and Carols, On Yoolis Night: Medieval Carols and Motets, and A Star in the East: Medieval Hungarian Christmas Music.

The pieces span the twelfth to the twenty first centuries, but the collection is heavily weighted with works from the Medieval and Renaissance eras. The performances encompass unison unaccompanied chant, solos, four-part carols, and songs accompanied by harp and psaltery. Anonymous 4 sings with absolute clarity of tone, flawless intonation, and a remarkably pure vocal blend. It performs this largely obscure repertoire with passionate commitment. In the Celtic and British songs and carols, Andrew Lawrence-King gracefully accompanies the group on Irish and Baroque harps and psaltery.

The set contains a sumptuously produced booklet that includes the texts with English and French translations, insightful essays by singers Susan Hellauer and Johanna Rose, lists of the sources of the music, and gorgeous full-color reproductions of Medieval and Renaissance illuminations. The sound quality is for the most part excellent, resonant without being boomy, except that the CD of Hungarian music has a very low-level rumble that could be heard either as an evocation of the ambience of the large spaces in which this music would have first been sung or simply as a minor distraction. ---Stephen Eddins, Rovi

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