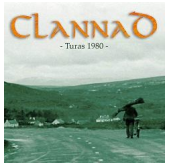
Clannad - Turas 1980 (2018)



01. Turas O'Carolan (5:30) 02. An Crúiscín Lán / Cuach Mo Lon Dubh Buí (6:22) 03. An Buinneán Buí (4:32) 04. Máire Bhruinneall (1:50) 05. An tOileán Úr (5:11) 06. Crann Úll (5:05) 07. Gathering Mushrooms (3:47) 08. Paddy's Rambles Through the Fields / Tommy O Dea's Reel (3:32) 09. Rince Philib a Cheoil (2:04) 10. Ar a Ghabháil'N a Chuan Domh / An Ghiobóg (4:40) 11. Siúil a Rún (7:19) 12. Valparaiso (2:22) 13. Ó Bhean A'Tí (3:26) 14. Hornpipes: The Fairies Hornpipe / Off to California (3:39) 15. Down by the Salley Gardens (6:50) 16. The Old Couple (3:32) 17. Dúlamán (5:31) 18. Teidhir Abhaile Riú (3:34) 19. Two Sisters (5:46) 20. Níl Sé'N Lá (10:58) - Ciaran Brennan - bass, double bass, guitar, keyboards, vocals - Moya Brennan - harp, lead vocals - Paul Brennan - bongos, flute, guitar, percussion, vocals, whistle - Noel Duggan - guitar, horn, vocals - Pat Duggan - bongos, guitar, horn, mandolin, vocals

50 Years of Leo's Tavern is where it all started. A jubilee is always worth a celebration and therefore, Clannad celebrates this with a special release. Leo's Tavern, established in 1968, was the birth place of Clannad. Officially founded in 1970 but first stage appearances took place before at their father's pub. In 1970, they won a national competition and a record deal. Three years later, the first record came out simply titled "Clannad". Two more records followed and the band toured all across Europe. Returning to Germany in January 1980 after a 36 shows long tour through the United States of America, the longest tour for an Irish band at the time; the band was full of energy as well as enthusiasm and was warmly welcomed by the Bremen crowd. This concert was never released before and contains some songs that never found a home on any studio album. It's this special kind of tight harmonies and pure natural ease only a strong family connection can lend. You can hear this magic in every song they performed on that night. ---propermusic.com

It is said that old music is only old if you have heard it, otherwise it is new. So it is with the latest release from Clannad, the Irish folk ensemble whose various versions date back to 1970. “Turas 1980” is a double album available in CD and vinyl of a Clannad concert in Germany in, well, 1980.

But it is new. The recording by Radio Bremen was never broadcast or released, much to the disappointment of the band at the time. So here is it — and very nice too. I confess I was hesitant when I got the album. I had loved an early Clannad I once owned, but then bought another years later when it had all gone a bit New Age (which is just one up from elevator music in my humble opinion). This though is the old stuff – solid Irish folk with all the emotion, poetry and bathos that goes with it. Flutes, whistles, mandolins, harps – all there.

Most of the songs are very traditional. There is , for example, the haunting lone flute of “Paddy ‘s Rambles Through the Fields”. Then there is a rollicking (and somewhat naughty) “Gathering Mushrooms”. This is one for anyone who likes traditional Irish folk. And given its age — 38-years since 1980 if you can believe it — the recording is remarkably fresh. In fact, it could be new. ---Jeremy Gaunt, nodepression.com

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