

The World is a Beautiful Place

THE AUSTRALIAN ROSNY CHILDRENS CHOIR

Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra



including
A DOZEN OF DENNIS

From relative obscurity to international acclaim in little more than a decade is a track record hard to beat. But that is the story of The Australian Rosny Childrens Choir — a choir which started literally with a Christmas carol in a suburb little known outside Hobart; a choir that has gone on to entertain thousands in the traditional home of the choir, Wales, and won equal acceptance since in other countries.

The choir has sung in most states of Australia and with four of its major symphony orchestras, appearing three times in the concert hall of the Sydney Opera House (twice with the Sydney Symphony), in the Melbourne Town Hall with the Melbourne Symphony, and in the Adelaide Festival Hall with the South Australian Symphony.

It has performed for the slum dwellers and millionaires of the Philippines, reached countless thousands of Chinese when it represented Australia in the first cultural exchange with The Peoples Republic of China (Peking, Shanghai, Canton 1975), and entertained in Singapore and Hong Kong. With the signing of the first contract to tour the USA and Canada, the choir reached full international professional recognition — ten weeks of concerts coast to coast, a contract which American entrepreneur Kolmar-luth says is the first of many!

What school? what church? are the two questions usually asked about the choir. To many people a childrens choir must belong to one or the other. Originally the choir consisted entirely of the piano pupils of founder-director Jennifer Filby. But today the children come from all over Hobart (capital of Tasmania, Australia's smallest state) representing over thirty public and private schools and most religious denominations.

Children are auditioned and if successful go into the Training Choir for about a year before promotion to the Performing Choir. A great deal of hard work and performing experience is rewarded by their eventual graduation to the Touring Choir which varies in number from about 40 to 54

depending on travelling requirements.

The choir is in many respects quite unique. For a start it includes both girls and boys, and its age range is very wide — from 7 to 18 years. The repertoire is extremely varied, from early a capella works to romantic, classical, and sacred music, through the full spectrum to modern contemporary, musical comedy, and pop. It is because of its versatility and wide audience appeal that the choir is kept busy performing at formal concerts, television appearances, broadcast recitals, church services, symphony concerts, conventions, shopping centres, on cruise ships and the like.

Whilst the choir's approach to its work is completely professional, it never loses sight of its main aim — to bring joy and happiness to its audiences.

“Make a joyful noise unto the Lord all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness: come before His presence with singing”. Psalm 100.

A Dozen of Dennis

Tasmanian composer/arranger Peter Davies has been associated with the choir for a number of years. As arranger for the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra, he was responsible for a number of arrangements on the choir's previous LP "The Sound of Rosny".

Peter has taken twelve poems from "A Book For Kids" by C.J. Dennis and set them to music for the choir. The work was first performed with the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra, and later was featured with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra under Patrick Thomas at the Sydney Opera House when the choir made its second appearance there as guest artist for an ABC International Year of the Child family concert.

Prologue 1'00"

The Circus 0'56"

The Ant Explorer 2'17"

Polly Dibbs 1'33"

Hist 1'45"

The Famine/The Feast 1'40"

The Trianti Wonti Gon Golope 2'08"

The Spotted Heifers 3'12"

A Change of Air 0'31"

The Axemen 2'34"

Growing Up 0'29"

The Band 1'13"

The Lord's Prayer 2'16"

This bossa nova tune is by Hobart musician Don Gurr. The track was recorded in Sydney and the choir was delighted to have one of Australia's top jazzmen Errol Buddle provide the flute obligato.

The Lord of the Dance 2'47"

This song has been in the choir's repertoire for a number of years. The version appearing on this record was recorded with the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra at the ABC Odeon. A Peter Davies arrangement.

Day Trip to Bangor 3'05"

This song became a popular hit in 1980 and has been enjoyed by countless choir audiences, including the several million who viewed it on The Don Lane Show on the National Nine Network.

The Entertainer 3'45"

Alan Dean arranged this for the choir, using the lyrics set to the Scot Joplin tune by Ward Swingle of Swingle Two fame.

Discover Australia (You ain't seen nothing yet) 1'47"

This is the tune that first introduced the choir to famous Australian showman Bobby Limb. It was the theme for the 1979 Travel Agents of Australia and New Zealand Conference produced by Bobby and as a result of his enthusiasm for the choir he became, along with Alan Dean, its National representative.

The World is a Beautiful Place 2'45"

Written for the choir by John Crane and Alan Dean, this song was recorded in Sydney during one of the choir's frequent visits to that city. Because of the great success of this song it became the choir's theme in 1979.

THE AUSTRALIAN ROSNY CHILDRENS CHOIR

Director: Jennifer Filby

Assistant: Christine Pickett

Manager: Ian Filby

Touring: Peter Richman

A DOZEN OF DENNIS

Recorded in 1979 in the Hobart Music Studios of the Australian Broadcasting Commission. Patrick Thomas conducted the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra. Engineer: Vic Holloway. Producers: Ian Hardy and Peter Davies.

THE LORD OF THE DANCE

Recorded in 1978 in the Hobart Music Studios of the Australian Broadcasting Commission. Richard Mills conducted the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra. Engineer: Vic Holloway. Producer: Ian Hardy.

THE LORD'S PRAYER / DISCOVER AUSTRALIA / THE WORLD IS A BEAUTIFUL PLACE

Recorded at Madrigal Sound Studios, Sydney

DAY TRIP TO BANGOR / THE ENTERTAINER

Recorded at Spectangle Studios, Hobart

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