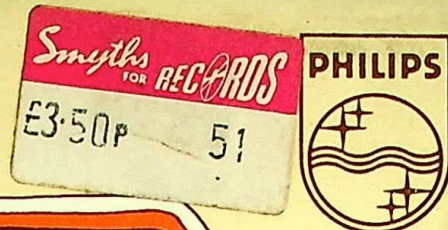


FRANK PATTERSON



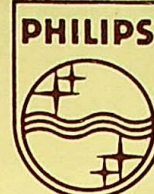
Morea

Ireland's heritage in music and song



Frank Patterson and Na Casaidigh with Eily O'Grady, Irish Harp

FRANK PATTERSON



LP 6392-025
M.C. 7230-106

OIDHREACHT

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Frank Patterson and Na Casaidigh
with Eily O'Grady, Irish Harp

Side One

1. Peigí Leitir Móir * (song) 1.50
2. Reels - An Portach Creathach (*The moving bog*) ** 3.00
3. Sliabh na mBan * (song) 3.45
4. Tom Billy's Jigs ** 1.55
5. Taibhreamh Oisín (*Oisín's Dream*) ** 3.20
6. Slán le Máigh ** (song) 2.50
7. An tSleá Airgid (*The silver spear*) ** 2.25

Side Two

1. An Chúileann * (song) 4.58
 2. Michael Murphy's Hornpipes ** 3.15
 3. Anach Cuain * (song) 4.00
 4. Máire Dhall (*Blind Mary*) ** 3.15
 5. The Mason's Apron ** 2.35
 6. Do bhíos-sa lá i bPortláiige * (song) 1.45
- * arr. T. C. Kelly
** arr. Seán O Casaide

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Frank Patterson

Frank Patterson is one of Ireland's foremost international artists. Born in Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, he made his first appearance as a boy soprano in his hometown. In 1962 he began his vocal studies in Dublin with Dr. Hans Waldemar Rosen, pursuing at the same time a course of acting at the National Academy of Theatre and Allied Arts. Two years later he won all major vocal awards at the Dublin Feis Ceoil (Ireland's National Music Festival). Scholarships to London and Holland followed and he finally went to Paris where he studied until 1971 with Janine Micheau, principal professor of singing at the Paris Conservatoire. To help finance his studies during this period, Patterson gave frequent concerts and radio and television performances, and it was a broadcast of Purcell Songs from B.B.C. London that first brought him to the attention of Philips with whom he signed an exclusive contract.

Now with 12 L.P.'s to his credit, Frank Patterson has sung in most European countries and has already completed four concert tours of the U.S. and Canada. He has appeared with many famous conductors including Colin Davis, Sir Charles Groves, Jean Fournet, Karl Richter, and Paul Sacher. Orchestras with which he has appeared include the London Symphony, Royal Philharmonic, Halle Orchestra, Liverpool Philharmonic, Orchestre de Paris, Basle Chamber Orchestra, Academy of St. Martin-in-the-fields, Rotterdam Philharmonic and the R.A.I. Symphony, Rome.

Frank Patterson's wide repertoire, ranging over Bach (his performances as the Evangelist in the Passions have won particular praise), Handel, Purcell, Mozart,

Berlioz, and Benjamin Britten, extends naturally enough to the rich storehouse of music in his own country.

On this album, ODHREACHT, Frank sings some of the great traditional songs in the Irish language, specially arranged for traditional instruments. In this tribute to the rich heritage of Irish music he is joined by his wife, EILY O'GRADY, the distinguished pianist and Irish harpist, who together with NA CASADIGH accompanies the songs.

Na Casaidigh

This is undoubtedly, one of the most exciting young traditional Groups in Ireland today. A gifted group of five brothers, they represent the flowering of a family musical tradition, extending back for generations. Originally, from the Donegal Gaeltacht, they have won competitions both in the traditional and classical field and each boy plays several instruments. In original arrangements and with a wide variety of instruments, they give an exciting and captivating performance of selections from our varied dance music and slow airs. Na Casaidigh have toured France, Wales and England where they appeared at the Royal Albert Hall, London. Their ages range from fifteen years to early twenties. "We are witnessing the beginning of a long and distinguished career for these gifted young men". (Evening Press, August 4, 1977.)

Aongus, violin and viola; Fionntan, violin and viola. Odhran, uilleann pipes, violin and tin whistle; Feargus, guitar; Seathrun, harpsichord, Bouzouki; tin whistle, and Bodhrán.

THE SONGS

(Notes and translations by Seán O Casaide)
Peigí Leitir Móir (a Connemara folk-song)
Peigí is the most beautiful girl in Leitir Mór and whoever wins her will be a lucky man. The Galway fishermen come by the light of the moon to admire her beauty. She is the love of my heart and I sent her a message that I would buy her a large boat. She replied that she would prefer a medium-sized sailing boat!

Sliabh na mBan

This song tells of a battle fought during the Rebellion of 1798 on the slopes of Sliabh na mBan, a mountain near Clonmel, Co. Tipperary. The poet, saddened by the defeat and slaughter of the insurgents, recounts the causes of their defeat, but hopes that, with aid from France, their forces will be victorious on another day on the sunny slopes of Sliabh na mBan.

Slán le Máigh

The poet (Aindrias Mac Craith) from his bleak and lonely place of exile, where his only compan-

ions are "heather and the north wind", sends a hundred farewells to his native place, the lovely valley of the Maigh in Co. Limerick; to its poets, clergy, learned people, to his friends and particularly, to the beautiful girl he loves.

An Chúileann (a traditional love-song)

1. Did you see the beautiful fair-haired girl walking on the road on a bright dewy morning, her shoes spotless? Many youths seek her hand, but none will win her from me.
2. Did you see the beautiful fair-haired girl alone on a fine day, the long curling tresses of her hair flowing down over her shoulders? Many foolish lads think she is their sweetheart.
3. Did you see the beautiful fair-haired girl by the seashore, gold rings on her fingers, combing her hair? An Paorach, the captain of the ship, said he would rather have her than the whole of Ireland.

Anach Cuain

This beautiful lament, three verses of which are sung, was written by the great Connaught poet, Raifteri, following tragedy on Lough Corrib, Co. Galway in 1828. A boat bringing 31 young people from Anach Cuain to a fair in Galway, a distance of 8 miles, sprang a leak and sank. Nineteen people were drowned, 11 men and 8 girls.

1. Long will the tragedy of Anach Cuain be spoken of.
To-day I grieve for each father and mother, woman and child, who is weeping.
O God of Mercy! Who created heaven, had two or three been lost our grief would be great.
But on a day so fine, without wind or rain, a boatful of people were swept away.
2. What a startling sight! To see them laid out on their backs in front of the people. The shrieks and wailing were terrifying, with tearing of hair and loved ones being sought.
On this day in early Autumn youths were laid on biers and brought to the church to be waked

in their wedding suits.

O God of Glory, how terrible!

3. A curse on the place where they died for it has left many people crying bitterly - weeping and lamenting each Monday morning. It was not lack of knowledge which caused their destruction, but great misfortune at Caislean Nua.

The end of my song is that the drowning of many has brought great sorrow to Anach Cuain.

Do Bhíos-sa lá i bPortláiige

A visit to a convivial gathering in Waterford with wine, women and song provides the exuberant poet with the inspiration for this rollicking song. His romantic approaches to young ladies, however, did not meet with the approval of their relatives. Nothing daunted, he is determined to win a fair lady on the following day.