

## Pachelbel's Greatest Hit - The Ultimate Canon (2003)

Written by bluesever

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*Jean-Francois Paillard Chamber Orchestra • Canon in D*  
*James Galway & Munich Radio Orchestra with John Georgiadis • Canon in D*  
*Peerless 2x2 (piano duo) • Canon (over a Basso Ostinato)*  
*Isao Tomita & the Plasma Symphony Orchestra • Canon of the Three Stars*  
*Cleo Laine, James Galway & John Dankworth • How, Where, When? (Canon in D)*  
*The Hampton String Quartet • Earth Angel*  
*The Canadian Brass • Canon*  
*BRR (shakuhachi & koto quintet) • Canon in F*  
*The Concord String Quartet • Variations on the Pachelbel Canon in D*  
*Clive Carroll • Canon*  
*Platinum (a cappella vocal ensemble) • Canon*  
*Sakakibara, Matsumoto, Tashiro & Ikeda • Sweet Home (based on Pachelbel's Canon)*  
*Romero, Glaser, Irwin, Washington & Leatherbarrow • Canon*  
*Arthur Fiedler Sinfonietta • Canon in D*  
*Robert Salter & Guildhall String Ensemble with Paul Nicholson • Canon & Gigue in D*

Pachelbel's Greatest Hit is an expansion of an earlier RCA Gold Seal staple of the same name (released as RCA Gold Seal 60712-2-RG). Whereas that package was rather stingily limited to only eight tracks, here you get Johann Pachelbel's only contribution to the standard repertoire in no less than 15 versions, all different from one another. This disc seemingly includes everything that was on the earlier disc except in that the "regular" Pachelbel Canon included is a digital recording by the artist and ensemble that initially popularized it on records (Jean-François Paillard) rather than a recording by Ettore Stratta with a pick-up ensemble. Among the new recordings of the famous Canon in D offered here is guitarist Clive Carroll's own solo arrangement, the duo pianists Peerless 2x2 performing Denes Agay's four-hand version, a rendition played on traditional Japanese instruments and Arthur Fiedler's lickety-split 1940 recording with his own Sinfonietta, the first ever made of Pachelbel's piece. Whether you have the patience to sit through all of these incarnations of the same work is up to the taste of the

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individual listener, and although it was shorter in content, the same held true of the original Gold Seal issue. Consider this, then, the "deluxe" edition of Pachelbel's Greatest Hit -- if you have the old one, you may not need it. But even if you love Pachelbel's Canon in D, this may still be more than you bargained for. ---Uncle Dave Lewis. Rovi

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