The Chieftains - The Wide World Over (2002)



1. March of the King of Laois; Paddy's Jig; O'Keefe's - Chattering Magpie (Reels) - 4:23 2. The Foggy Dew (feat. Sinead O'Conner) - 5:00 3. I Know My Love (feat. The Corrs) - 3:24 4. Cotton-Eyed Joe (feat. Rickey Skaggs) - 2:46 5. The Magdalene Laundries (feat. Joni Mitchell) - 4:56 6. Live From Matt Molloy's Pub - 2:19 7. Shenandoah (feat. Van Morrison) - 3:52 8. The Munster Cloak; An Poc Ar Buile; Ferny Hill-Little Molly - 6:11 9. Morning Has Broken (feat. Diana Krall & Art Garfunkel) - 2:54 10. Morning Dew; Women of Ireland - 2:57 11. Mo Ghile Mear (feat. Sting) - 3:19 12. Carolan's Concerto (feat. The Belfast Harp Orchestra) - 3:01 13. Guadalupe (feat. Linda Rondstadt & Los Lobos) - 3:30 14. Full of Joy (feat. the Chinese Ensemble) - 3:22 15. Here's A Health to the Company - 3:03 16. Chasing the Fox (feat. Erich Kunzel & The Concinnati Pops Orchestra) - 4:09 17. Long Journey Home (feat. Elvis Costello & Anuna) - 3:20 18. The Rocky Road to Dublin (feat. The Rolling Stones) - 4:17 19. Redemption Song (feat. Ziggy Marley) - 4:23 Ry Cooder - electric guitar, mandocello Van Morrison Art Garfunkel Don Was - percussion Paddy Moloney - tin whistle, Uilleann pipe Ziggy Marley vocals, guitar, percussion Derek Bell - harp, keyboards Sean Keane - fiddle Kevin Conneff vocals, bodhran Matt Molloy - flute Carlos Nunez - bagpipe Jean Butler - dancer Faith Chorale Sharon Riley

From their roots as a traditional Irish band to their later decades of border-crossing collaborations, the Chieftains are a cultural force unto themselves. This album shows them in all their collaborative glory, playing with Sinead O'Connor, Sting, the Chinese Ensemble and even Ziggy Marley. Revelations include "Guadalupe," "Full of Joy" and "Live From Matt Molloy's Pub." ---Sarah Bardeen, rhapsody.com

In the Chieftains' four decades of recording, they've changed labels a handful of times, and

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each label has seen fit to record at least one or two collections of the band's output under their tenure. At this point they have so many best-ofs and greatest-hits compilations, it's tough for the listener to know the best of what they're actually hearing. New millennium -- new collection: the band's longtime label, RCA Victor, has done the Celtic community a favor by releasing a collection that deals more with the band's journey through their different phases as opposed to trying to reassemble a hits package. The end result is almost like listening to a radio station that only plays Chieftains songs. There are some live tracks, their countrified romp through "Cotton-Eyed Joe"; Van Morrison's adult-contemporary "Shenandoah"; an unusual introduction of the bandmembers in Chinese; appearances from Sting, Diana Krall, and Art Garfunkel; and a couple of new recordings. The breezy cover of "Morning Has Broken" fares better than the hybridized "Redemption Song" (in fact, it's a challenge to think of any instances of a successful Celtic/reggae alloy). The album will be enjoyed by Chieftains fans as a fun collection of songs they have never heard back-to-back before, and those looking for a greatest-hits collection will have plenty of other places to look. —Zac Johnson, Rovi

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