

QUARTERNOTES

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Paddy Tutty PRAIRIE DRUID

If you look in the Canadian Encyclopedia you'll find mention of Paddy Tutty - and for good reason. Tutty is one of Canada's best traditional folk musicians, and *Prairie Druid*, her newest release, proves without a doubt that she deserves this recognition.

Tutty's trademarks are her true, clear vocals, precise playing and complete respect for the music. On *Prairie Druid*, Tutty demonstrates her skill once again with beautiful vocal arrangements and some truly tasty playing. Moving from dulcimer and guitar to harpsichord and fiddle with equal ease, she takes us back to a time of mystery and magic.

The Child ballad, "Fair Annie", combines both British and American texts, while "The Man Behind the Plough" is a pertinent reminder of the importance of farmers in society. My personal favourite is "The Prairie Pagans" by Norman Walker, an exuberant tribute to that spring-time ritual - the crocus hunt. The album ends with "Land on the Shore", an Appalachian hymn beautiful in its simplicity.

Excellent musicians provide solid vocal and instrumental back-up. The album is produced by Ian Tamblyn, who also provides hammered dulcimer and keyboards.

If you're not familiar with Tutty's work, this album will make you a convert. It's definitely a must for any folk collection!

Kate Ferris

NEW WAX

National Chart September 1992

PADDY TUTTY *Prairie Druid* (Prairie Druid Music)

On her third release Paddy manages to combine her folk trappings with the passion she has for traditional old English music, coming up with a wonderful collection of twelve songs. Featuring a wide range of instrumentalization with fiddle, dulcimer, bodhran, shawm, guitar and English concertina being just a few of the tools here. The album weaves a spell from song to song which continues until the friendly gentle goodbye of "Land on the Shore". Vocals are warm and intimate throughout the album, hitting their peak on such songs as "Woodland", "Island Spinning Song" and "The Wild Hog". This is Paddy's strongest offering to date and is not to be missed by anyone who even remotely is interested in traditional music.

Brent Pomoroy