



PADDY TUTTY - BIOGRAPHY

Paddy was born in Calgary, immersed in a family of British Isles immigrants. Her interest in music was piqued by the Beatles and the 1960s folk boom, when she acquired a guitar and after a bit of a struggle, decided to learn to play it right-handed. After the family relocated in Saskatchewan, she started performing with her sister Leslie, and many concerts and coffeehouses later, developed into a seasoned performer. Paddy studied visual art at the University of Saskatchewan and moved to Regina in 1974, immersing herself in the folk scene there. She performed with her trio *The Barley Straw*, and as a solo performer, presenting mainly traditional songs from British and American roots. In 1976 she left Regina to travel across Canada, performing extensively from St. John's to Victoria.

In 1978-9, Paddy travelled in the British Isles, performing, researching and finding explanations for her peculiar British upbringing. It was her trip to Britain that cemented her relationship to the dulcimer: she had left her guitar at home, and was forced to re-arrange renditions for the new, smaller instrument. After returning to Canada, Paddy continued to perform and tour, based in Saskatoon. She played extensively throughout Canada at folk clubs, libraries, schools and festivals.

Establishing an independent label *Prairie Druid Music*, she released her self-titled recording in 1983, followed by *Who Liveth So Merry* in 1986 and *Prairie Druid* in 1992. In 1994, Paddy acquired a hundred-year-old concertina, and added this instrument to her roster of guitar, dulcimer, fiddle and harpsichord. In 1998, Paddy released *In the Greenwood*, incorporating all of these instruments and more in her FACTOR-supported CD. In 2013 Paddy released a self-produced recording *The Last Holdout*.

Paddy continues to perform solo at festivals and folk clubs in Canada, and is active in the national storytelling community as a singer of traditional ballads.

BRIEFLY

Paddy Tutty is a singer of mostly traditional music: ancient ballads, songs of wit and mirth, songs of working people and seasonal pageants. Much of her repertoire is from British, Irish and North American folk tradition. Her concerts entwine old and new folk music, embellished with fretted dulcimer, guitar, fiddle and anglo-concertina.

Born and raised on the Canadian Prairies and based in Saskatoon, she has performed extensively across Canada. Working with renowned producers Ian Tamblyn, Ken Hamm and David Essig, Paddy has released six albums on her independent label Prairie Druid Music.

A SAMPLE OF REVIEWS

Her albums are finely crafted creations that delight, play after play. Gene Wilburn, *Northern Journey*

Her commitment and passion come across in every song...She is the kind of performer from whom other performers "lift" songs. Celtic Roots Festival, Goderich, ON

Singing songs that tell stories of women and men who pre-date the dreams of the prairie settlers, Paddy Tutty's music has a quality of magic in it that reminds the fields themselves of their former glory.

The *Gravelbourg Tribune*, Gravelbourg, SK

The Last Holdout is an impressive 6th release from Saskatoon, Canada, tradition-bearer singer accompanying herself on guitar, Anglo-concertina and fretted dulcimer, with songs from a wide variety of sources.

Len Holton, *From Albion and Beyond*, Little Rock, AR

Saskatchewan-based Paddy Tutty is a devotee of traditional music. Ancient ballads, story songs, laments, and seasonal songs from, or derived from, Celtic and English music make up this CD. Overall, this is a well-researched and interesting collection.

Penguin Eggs Magazine

Paddy's singing is genuine and unvarnished, and is never at odds with the spirit of the stories she sings. It has been a long 13 years since her last recording, but she has made it worth the wait.

Canadian Folk Music

I have known Paddy Tutty's work for many years. She is a wonderful singer whose songs are part of that new tradition in folk and acoustic music that draws new ideas from the stories that ordinary people tell in their day to day lives. If I were nearby I'd be sitting in the front row. Don't miss this performance and for gosh sakes, bring the whole family. Real folk music by a consummate artist.

Larry Kaplan

SELECTED PERFORMANCES

Athabasca Live Arts Society, Athabasca, AB
Canada Day Celebrations, Calgary, AB
Canadian Society for Traditional Music Conference, New Westminster, BC
Contemplative Arts Festival of Saskatoon. Saskatoon, SK
Cowichan Folk Guild, Duncan, BC
Creative City Centre, Regina, SK
Earth, Air, Fire and Water: Celtic Roots Festival, Goderich, ON
Festival of Friends, Hamilton, ON
Flatland Music Festival, Regina, SK
Full Moon Folk Club, Edmonton, AB
Grassroots Regina, Regina, SK
Harbourfront Centre, Toronto, ON
Haskell Library, Quebec-Vermont border
Heartwood Folk Club, Athabasca, AB
Home County Folk Festival, London, ON
John Arcand Fiddle Festival, Saskatoon, SK
Live From the Rock Folk Festival, Red Rock, ON
Mariposa at the Cloud, Flying Cloud Folk Club, Toronto, ON
Mid-Winter Celtic Festival, Regina, SK
Mill Race Festival of Traditional Music, Cambridge, ON

Motherwell Historic Site, Abernethy, SK
National Library, Cultures Canada, Ottawa, ON
Ness Creek Music Festival, Big River, SK
Newfoundland & Labrador Folk Festival, St. John's, NF
Nickelodeon Music Club, Calgary, AB
Northern Lights Bluegrass and Old Time Music Festival, Big River, SK
Northwest Folklife Festival, Seattle, WA
Old Chestnuts House Concerts, Kitchener, ON
Old Sod Folk Music Society, Ottawa, ON
Ottawa Folklore Centre, Ottawa, ON
Ottawa Storytelling Festival, Ottawa, ON
Princeton Festival of Traditional Music, Princeton, BC
Regina Folk Festival, Regina, SK
Rocky Mountain Folk Club, Calgary, AB
Saskatchewan Cultural Exchange Society, Regina, SK
Society for Ethnomusicology Conference, Toronto, ON
Songs of Sail Festival, Penetanguishene, ON
St. Albert Celtic Festival, St. Albert, AB
Storytellers of Canada National Conference, Saskatoon, SK
Summer Solstice Festival, Calabasas CA
T.A.L.E.S., Edmonton, AB
The Folk Arts Society, St. John's, NL
The Wee Folk Club, Toronto, ON
Upper Canada Village, Morrisburg, ON
Victoria Folk Music Society, Victoria, BC
Water Valley Celtic Festival, Water Valley, AB

MEDIA

Another Year, Another Party - video production produced by Shirley Spidla
Saskatoon's American Elms - DVD, original musical score
"...still looking for home..." interview, Canadian Folk Music Bulletin, June 1999
Project Discovery, Shaw-Cable Television, Saskatoon, SK
Gallery, CBC Radio Saskatchewan
Planet Beat, CFCR FM, Saskatoon, SK
So Many Roads, CFCR FM, Saskatoon, SK
Prairie Ceilidh, CKJS Radio, Winnipeg, MB
Canadian Spaces, CKCU-FM, Ottawa, ON
Basic Black, CBC Radio One (with Not a Love Song)

COLLABORATION

Norm Walker (duo and trio) 2002-2017
This is Not a Love Song, Saskatoon Women's Festival, Saskatoon, SK 1999- 2001
Sweet Grassland Salon Trio – with Susan Hurka and Carla-Marie Powers, Centennial Saskatchewan Tour 2005
Newfoundland Soiree, Persephone Theatre, Saskatoon
Paddy Tutty and Chris Lindgren: Ballads and Legends from Wales and Beyond, Saskatoon, SK
Paddy Tutty with Paul Gitlitz, Mothers' Day Hootenanny, Saskatoon, SK

DISCOGRAPHY

Solo

The Last Holdout, 2013, self-produced

The Roving Jewel, 2000, the best of Paddy Tutty's early recordings

In the Greenwood, 1998, produced by Ian Tamblyn

Prairie Druid, 1992, produced by Ian Tamblyn

Who Liveth So Merry, 1986, produced by David Essig

Paddy Tutty, 1983, co-produced with Ken Hamm

With others

"Prairie Dog" Doug Campbell: *Summer Song-a-Thong* 1995

Brenda Baker: *Looking for Grandma's Teeth*, 1994

Chris Lindgren: *Winter Harp*, 1991

Don Freed & the Kids of Northern Saskatchewan, *Our Very Own Songs*, 2001

Flatland 2002, Flatland Music Festival Compilation CD, SRIA, 2002

Jayne Graham: *A Fish Out of Water*, 2005

Joys Dancer: *Shadow & Light*, 1993

NESSentials - Ness Creek Music Festival Centennial CD, 2005

Norm Walker: *"T" TIME: Test Tested Tales, Tall & True*, 2002

Norm Walker: *Dear Friends and Gentle Hearts*, 2011

Revolutions 2000, compilation CD (w. Susan Bond) Video Verite 2000

Spirit Rise, Voices of the Forest Productions, 1992

Susan Bond and Byron Olsen: *Susan Bond & Byron Olsen*, 1992

Susan Bond: *River's Edge - a haiku/tanku suite*, CD and book, 2000

CURRENT MEMBERSHIPS

Canadian Federation of Musicians, Local 553

Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann, Claddagh Branch, Saskatoon

Country Song and Dance Society

Northern Lights Bluegrass and Old-Tyme Music Society

Saskatoon Storytellers' Guild

SOCAN (Society of Composers Authors and Publishers)

Storytellers of Canada/Conteurs du Canada

AWARDS

FACTOR Loan for Independent Recording, 1998

SaskArts grants: 1988, 1983, 1984, 1993, 2012, 2018

SaskMusic grants: 2006, 2013

CONTACT

Paddy Tutty - Prairie Druid Music

219 11th Street East Saskatoon, SK S7N 0E5 Canada

phone: 306.665.0864 mobile: 306.380.0864

email: paddytutty@sasktel.net web: www.prairiedruid.net