

MARY CHRISTINA

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My memories of Auckland, NZ, "City of Sails", are haunted by two boats: one was the QE2 and the other a small craft bearing my mother's Christian names. I was reminded of how infrequently I write to the queen - Happy Birthday Ma. (Ruapehu and Taranaki are volcanoes on the North Islandone shouts, the other sleeps.)

Mary Christina, Queen of the Sea
When I'm in the south land you come sailing to me
On a river (on a river of dreams)
In the night (in the nightime)
You come sailing (vou come sailing to me)

When I'm in danger, when I am low You always find me, somehow you always know On a river In the night

You come sailing

You come sailing

You come sailing

And the long white cloud lies under the long black veil And down in the city of sails the children are sleeping Tattooed faces walk the street You can touch the earth, feel its heartbeat Ruapehu steaming. Tavanaki dreaming

And Mary Christina, Queen of the Sea In the eye of a cyclone you come sailing to me On a river In the night

Like a swan among eygnets you watch over me I'm safe in your harbour even when I'm all at sea On a river In the night And Mary Christina, Queen of the Sea When I'm in the south land you come sailing to me On a river In the night You come sailing

DEVIL'S ISLAND

You come sailing

© Bernard Carney (AMCOS) 1994

Earlier this year I flew over Robben Island into Cape Town, South Africa, and thought of Mandela. A fortnight later I flew over the tourist resort of Rottnest Island returning to Australia. While one country acknowledges its dark history, the other continues to deny and perpetuate it.

The afternoon was fading as the boat pulled into landing A flock of seagulls following this rusty creaking boat A string of shackled prisoners, silent, sick from hunger Shivered as the island's winter winds began to blow

Native northern tribesmen sent to Devil's Island Victims of some pioneering penal prejudice Cramped in freezing cells With filth and soil and meagre blankets A nest of rats would never live in squalor such as this

There on Devil's Island Prisoners of the crown There on Devil's Island Far from tribal ground

1883 the history books will not remember Influenza fever took its sudden deadly hold Spreading like a bushfire, meeting no resistance Fanned by the aching undernourishment and cold

Ten a day were taken from their cells on Devil's Island Placed in unmarked graves
Without a name, without a word
Finally released from all this suffering and torment
Their spirits flying northward
Like the winter wading birds

A hundred years or more have aged
The sands of Rottnest Island
The treacherous old gaol is now a modernised hotel
The bad old days are played down
But all around the mainland
The natives of this country are still dying in their cells

The afternoon was fading as the boat pulled into harbour Evening shadows conjure up some distant silhouette Hard to believe there was a dark side to this beauty So much to remember yet so easy to forget

ELLEN

© Enda Kenny (APRA/AMCOS) 1996

Ellen is the long awaited and much loved daughter of an Adelaide engineer and an extraordinary nurse, living proof that the IVF program can bring smiles all 'round. When she grows out of her jumpsuit I'm sure she'll grow into someone special.

Ellen there's no tellin' what a girl like you can do You can fly an aeroplane and fly a rocket too You can turn a cartwheel and tumble down a hill And if you want to do it girl you will

You can make a movie, write a novel, write a song You can do it all you know, you can do no wrong You can run a marathon, sail to a distant shore All these things are possible and more

You can walk a high wire, you can be a clown You can tame a lion when the circus comes to town You can build a tree house And build your own house too Nothine is impossible for you

And who knows what you'll want to be
An engineer, a nurse
Maybe you'll do better girl, but hey! You could do worse
You might want to live here or in some other place
You can do the choosing Ellen Grace

Ask and we will answer, guide you on your way Tomorrow's for the choosing, We will help you through today You can build a tree house or build your own house too Nothing is impossible for you

Ellen there's no tellin' what a girl like you can do Whatever you dream of Whatever you dream of may it all come true

THE MARY ELLEN CARTER

© Stan Rogers (Fogarty's Cove Music, Can.) It's been ten or more years now and I don't think I'll ever tire of singing this one.

She went down last October in a pouring driving rain
The skipper he'd been drinking
And the mate he felt no pain
Too close to Three Mile Rock
And she was dealt her final blow
And the Mary Ellen Carter settled low
There was just us five aboard her
When she finally was awash
We fought like hell to save her, all heedless of the cost
But the groan she gave as she went down
It caused us to proclaim
That the Mary Ellen Carter would rise again

Well, the owners wrote her off;
Not a nickel would they spend
"She gave twenty years of service, boys,
Then met her sorry end
But insurance paid the loss to us,
Now let her rest below"
And they laughed at us and said we'd have to go
But we talked of her all winter,
Some days around the clock
She's worth a quarter million boys afloat and at the dock
And with every jar that hit the bar
We sworre we would remain

And make the Mary Ellen Carter rise again

Rise again
Rise again
That her name not be lost to the knowledge of men
All those who loved her best
And were with her till the end
Will make the Mary Ellen Carter rise again

All spring now we've been with her

On a barge lent by a friend
Three dives a day in a hard hat suit
And twice I've had the bends
Thank god it's only sixty feet
And the currents here are slow
Or I'd never have the strength to go below
But we've patched her rents, stopped her vents
Dogged hatch and porthole down
Put cables to her 'fore and aft and girded her around
Tomorrow, noon, we hit the air
And then take up the strain

And make the Mary Ellen Carter rise again

For we couldn't leave her there, you see,
To crumble into scale

To crumble into scale
She'd saved our lives so many times,
Running through the gale
And the laughing, drunken rats
That left her to a sorry grave
They won't be laughing in another day...
And you, to whom adversity has dealt the final blow
With smiling bastards lying to you
Everywhere you go
Turn to, and put out all your strength

Of arm and heart and brain And, like the Mary Ellen Carter, rise again!

Rise again
Rise again
Though your heart it be broken and life about to end
No matter what you've lost
Be it a home, a love, a friend
Like the Mary Ellen Carter, rise again

ONE NIGHT IN MELBOURNE

© Enda Kenny/Ken Ferguson (APRA/AMCOS) 1996
On consecutive nights - okay, so I cheated, it was two
nights - I heard the pool balls rattle as Headbellys and
Furphies whirled away in the corner. They don't do that in
Fremantle, where Ken Ferguson added a verse a year later,
but they still do it at The Lomond (Thursdays: tram 96
terminus).

They stand in the corner playing their heart out You stand at the table playing at pool I sit on a barstool looking at both of you I wonder which one of us thinks he's a fool

No name in the papers, no sign on the door You must ask yourself what you're doing it for For love or for music, for something to do It's old and it's stolen, borrowed and blue

Fiddle bow flying, rhythm and strings One of those nights or one of those things One eye on the clock and one foot in the door One night in Melbourne, a few dollars more

The triangle's lifted, the balls fly apart
But the words of the songs fly straight to the heart
The barflies are leaving, abandon the flight
The dreams and the stories fly into the night

It's everything life is it's happening it's real
It's a turn of the cards it's the way that you feel
It's who gets the black ball and who makes mistakes
It's who gets the money and who gets the breaks

MICHELLE

© Enda Kenny (APRA/AMCOS) 1997

costume but I think she's dynamite.

Michelle (Smith) De Bruin is the finest female Olympian since Dawn Fraser. Thanks to a rumour started by Janet Evans (USA), and perpetuated by the British press, she is also one of the world's most drug-tested athletes. The same press, eager to suggest "guilt by association", have never reported that her husband and coach was cleared of the charges for which he served a four-year suspension. She may not have swooshes or stripes on her swimming

I wrote this song for you Michelle
I'm proud of what you've done
From Seoul in 1988 I see how far you've come
I see the hatred of the press who try to put you down
Erin's daughter, queen of the water
Pride of old Kilkenny town
Erin's daughter, queen of the water
Pride of old Kilkenny town

No-one even knew your name
Every morning you would train
Down in the pool at four
In Vienna you were back page news
Your time had come
You'd paid your dues
Two gold and then a silver
But there were bigger things in store

You were always in the outside lane

From champion of Europe to Atlanta one fine day Where the Aussies watched the Russians And the Russians watched the USA But no-one watched the outside lane When you came storming home Three gold and one bronze later We were singing out your name

And we sang "Michelle, ma belle... Sont les mots" and something else I never spoke French very well Ah! But then the rumour started And they stole your finest hour Pommie papers paddy bashing When the grapes turned sour

So you married a man who'd once been banned But he's not in the pool They can dig out all the dirt they like But you're nobody's fool Perhaps if you'd been British or born in the USA They might not have been so jealous And you might have had fair play

I wrote this song for you Michelle
I'm proud of what you've done
From Seoul in 1988 I see how far you've come
I see the hatred of the press who try to put you down
Erin's daughter, queen of the water
Pride of old Kilkenny town
Erin's daughter, queen of the water
Pride of old Kilkenny town

HOME TO ME

© Tom Paxton (Accabonnac Music, Inc.) 1994 Next best thing to a bottle of wine.

Tell the rose not to bloom, the stream to flow Tell the rain not to fall, the tree to grow Tell the high summer sky to lose its blue But don't tell me that I don't belong with you

For you could send me away and I would go I would go but I would not go too far You could send me home but you would know Home to me is anywhere you are

When I met you there was nothing to decide It was simply something happening inside I felt strange for a minute, then I knew That I finally felt complete when I found you There are those who never really know their minds They're confused and they're not the staying kind They don't know what they're really looking for I don't suffer from that problem anymore

OLD BONES

© Jez Lowe (Lowe Life Music) Jez is my favourite left handed songwriter. Sorry Paul.

When I was young my father said to me, he said to me Never take advice when it comes for free You can have all the riches of the golden kind But without the riches of your peace of mind

You won't make old bones You won't make old bones You won't make old bones, you'll see

And as the old folk sit and curse time's slipping sand (time's slipping sand)
I sit and curse the time upon my hands
And the north wind blows like a song of the sea
The song it carries comes plain to me, it says...

And some folk make remark on my furrows and frown They say the only way's to get up When they turn you down But everybody gives the same advice They say go. Sign up for a soldier's life or ...

So I went to the army like everybody told me to do They said "We'd love to make a soldier out of you" But before I put my name on the line My father's words came to me in time, they said....

I said your guns and your drums
They're not for the likes of me
Though my future it might be bleaker than bleak can be
Cause you talk of many owing much to few
When all that I wanted was a job to do. You said...

So you people in power and position,
I tell you beware, you'd better beware
Of your facts and your figures
That tell you what when and where
For your facts and your figures are the likes of me
So don't try and tell me how my life should be, or you...

THE CAUSE

© Mick Ryan (MCPS/PRS, UK) 1995

Mick Ryan from Bournemouth is a fine singer I met while touring in the UK in 1995. He has many songs as powerful as this one.

It's a fine green country with an ever open hand But revenge and bloody murder lie heavy on the land They fall before the terror tide like castles in the sand And the cause is lost forever on the way And it's not worth the pain and it's not worth the strife It can't hold a candle to a single blown out life And it's not worth the death of a father, child or wife For the cause is lost forever on the way

And they've gone, gone forever And the dead are getting deader every day And it's no, nay, never For the cause is lost forever on the way

It's all for a union and it's all for a border
It's all for a colour that the killer gives the order
To keep the old religion they bring death and disorder
And the cause is lost forever on the way
And it's all against the border
And it's for a different nation
It's for a different colour that they show no hesitation
To blow away the innocent in endless desceration
For the cause is lost forever on the way

For the union, for the nation,
For the orange, for the green
For the parson, for the priest,
For the pope and for the queen
For the past, for the present,
For the love, the hate, the dream
Ah the cause is lost forever on the way
For King Billy, for James Connolly,
The sash my father wore
For the croppy, for the prentice,
For the landlord at the door
For plantation, emigration and an ancient running sore
The cause is lost forever on the way

There in Boston and New York
They sing the myths of history
And talk their bar-room talk
And they lay their money down
To keep the dove beneath the hawk
And the cause is lost forever on the way
Oh they sing about the old land
As they make their bold collection
They sing about those heroes and heroic insurrection
And for those their money murders
There will be no resurrection
The cause is lost forever on the way.

SECONDS OUT

Safe across the broad Atlantic

© ENDA KENNY (APRA/AMCOS) 1996
I've always been amused by how much everyday
language draws from the boxing ring - so I threw my hat in
instead of the towel. A Mick's metaphor!

Seconds out, you should have known
The bell rings, you're on your own
Will you go the distance, will you drop your guard
Arms length for a little while
Dance around and show your style
But you know when it hits it's always hard

Seconds out, another round
You can hear a ringing sound
Should have thrown the towel in long ago
Just when you've found your feet again
Suddenly it's count to ten
You should have seen it coming, that you know.

You're back against the ropes again and reelin' Lookin' to your corner for a sign And no-one understands the way you're feelin' So you tell 'em it's alright you're doin' fine

Seconds out, it's on again
You fight until you're gone again
And someone comes to pick you off the floor
Wake up in a strange bed
With strange voices in your head
And still, you keep coming back for more

THE SOUTHERN CROSS IS CALLING ME

© Joe Paolacci (APRA/AMCOS)

The optimism of Australia's post-war migrants deserves admiration and celebration. I rent a house in Carlton and know where to get the world's best gnocci.

He hasn't had a break, you know, in twenty-seven years Non-stop in a barber shop he owned near Station Pier He came from sunny Naples just after WWII With aching heart, he'd played his part, And bid his folks adieu

So goodbye sunny Naples
My loving family too
The Southern Cross is calling me
To build a life that's new
I'm off to see Australia
The work is plenty there
My bag is packed, I won't look back
I'll make a pile, I swear

He took a boat to Melbourne Employment was in plenty And he got a job, with a Yankee mob In motor car assembly He rented up in Carlton And money careful spent With families four and sometimes more He shared his every cent

And "g'day mate" they say to him
He answers "same to you"
He feels so queer, they all drink beer
And yell "it's your shout Blue"
This goes on till six o'clock when the barman yells
"It's time"
Then it's down the hatch, there's a train to catch
On the Gardenvale line

He met a girl from Williamstown And courted her at mass She stole his heart, right from the start This freckled Aussie lass They looked up Father Murphy Got married in great haste And they honeymooned in a tiny room They found near Eligin Place

SISTER, BROTHER

© Enda Kenny (APRA/AMCOS) 1996 Written in England for the Norman Tubercular Choir.

There are more tunes than there is time There are more words than I can rhyme There are more songs than I can sing That's why I'm giving this one everything

There are more notes than I can play And this is more than I can say But it's the best that I can do Now the rest is up to you

For we are more when we are one And heaven knows, when we've begun To raise our voice ... Where it may lead We'll worry not for what we need

What do we need We don't need more We don't need riches or gold in store We only need to be as one

Sister, Brother, Father, Mother, Daughter, Son

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We appreciate your support.

noises

guitar, voc	als	Enda Kenny
2nd guitar		Neil Adam
fiddle	L	indsay Martin
oboe, cor anglais	Jenn	ny Lowe
fretless bass		Hugh McDonald
harmonies -		Marcia Howard &
1,2,5,12		Rose Bygrave
2nd fiddle -5		Dave O'Neill
slide guitar -5		Kristina Olsen
harmonies -		Helen Wright &
6,7,8,10,12		Stephen Wright
whistles - 6,9		Barb Scott
double bass -	7,12	Bruce Packard

Special thanks

To Lindsay, Helen, Stephen, Jamie and Melanie. This is our third CD together. Ta!

To Cameron for the extra cover.

To Dave and Kristina for guesting on track 5. (Kristina plays a Beltona steel-bodied slide guitar.)
To Hugh, Anna (and bump) in Kew and my UK agent Finola for not offering me Earl Grey Tea
during rehearsals.

This album is dedicated to Christina who used to be known as bump.

and half a dozen of the o	thers		
1. Mary Christina	4:29		
2. Devil's Island (Carney)*	5:40	The second of	
3. Ellen	3:22	A STORY	
4. The Mary Ellen Carter (Rogers)*	5:05		
5. One Night in Melbourne*	5:45		
6. Michelle	4:07	Acceptance of the Control of the Con	
7. Home to Me (Paxton)*	3:23	Vincent I	
8. Old Bones (Lowe)*	4:52		
9. The Cause (Ryan)*	5:24		
10. Seconds Out	3:13	.	
11. The Southern Cross			
is Calling Me (Paolacci)*	5:03		
12. Sister, Brother	2:14		
Total Running Time	53:16		
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