

Landskein - Lauren MacColl

MBR9CD

Released 07.08.20



With James Ross - piano (tracks 3,4,7,9)

The melodies on this recording are all old. Some I've carried with me for some time, and others unearthed especially for this recording. I'm pleased to share the acoustic of Abriachan Hall with you - captured beautifully by engineer Barry Reid - in bringing you 'Landskein', a collection of music that reflects my personal connection to the Highland landscape, a love of the hills, and a return home. I hope you find a stillness within it.

laurenmaccoll.co.uk

1. Air Mullach Beinn Fhuathais (On Top of Ben Wyvis)

Source - The Airs and Melodies of the Highlands of Scotland Volume 2 - Captain Simon Fraser

2. Put the Gown Upon the Bishop

Source - Gow's 3rd Repository

This melody is attributed to a satirical song published in James Johnson's Scots Musical Museum, vol. 5 (1797) which refers to the infamous Jenny Geddes - famed for throwing a stool at the minister's head in St Giles Cathedral in 1637.

3. Mo Chràdhghal Bochd (Sad and Heartsore My Weeping)

Source - song composed by Màiri nighean Alasdair Ruaidh (1615–c. 1707). From the singing of Deirdre Graham, Breakish, Skye.

This song is also known as Lament for Sir Norman MacLeod, and in one verse depicts a grief so sore, her eyelashes fell out..... “ *'S e bhith smuaineachadh ort, A chràidh mi am chorp, Is a*

chnàmh na roisg bho m' shùil (It is thinking of you, That has tortured my body, And wasted the lashes from my eyes) “

4. MacGregor of Roro's Lament

Source - Patrick MacDonald Collection

5. Mrs McIntosh of Raigmore

Source - William Christie Collection

6. A' Cheapach na Fàsach (Keppoch Desolate)

Source - The Airs and Melodies Peculiar to the Highlands of Scotland and The Isles Volume 1 - Captain Simon Fraser

7. 'Ial, Ial', Ars' a' Chailleach / Bodachan a' Ghàrraidh ("Ial, Ial", Said the Old Woman / Old Man of the Garden)

Source - The singing of; 1) Rona Lightfoot and 2) Maeve Mackinnon

8. Sproileag (An Untidy Witch)

Source - Gesto collection of Highland music

9. Iorram Iomraimh (A Rowing Time Piece)

The Airs and Melodies Peculiar to the Highlands of Scotland and The Isles Volume 1 - Captain Simon Fraser

10. Pentland Hills

Source - Caledonian Pocket Companion, Book 12 - James Oswald

11. Là Dhomh 's Mi Dìreadh Bealaich (One Day as I Climbed the Hill)

Source - The Inverness Collection of Highland Music

Lauren plays fiddle and viola in various tunings, with occasional drones from an Estey pump organ and an electric guitar through an ac15 amp

Recorded by Barry Reid in Abriachan Village Hall, Nov 2019

Mixed by Barry Reid at Rose Croft Studio

Mastered by Dean Honer

Artwork - 'landskein 9' (front) and 'landskein 7' (inside) by Mairearad Green

Design - Ewan MacPherson