

CD
included

Sing

Canada's History

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Themes & Variations

Sing Canada's History

Script by Elinor Hamilton

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Themes & Variations

Box 25109 Deer Park PO, Red Deer Alberta T4R 2M2

Email: tvinfo@telus.net Web Site: www.musicplay.ca

Toll Free Phone or Fax: 1-888-562-4647

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Sing Canada's History

Mother: Oh, honey, please turn off that TV and do your Social Studies homework. You don't want to get in trouble with Mrs. _____ (her own real name). You know how difficult she gets when you don't have your homework done on time.

Child: I know, Mom. But history is boring. I'd rather watch TV.

Mother: Do you know what's better than TV?

Child: What?

Mother: The real thing - the real past.

Child: What do you mean by that? We can't really see what happened in the past. We can only read about it.

Mother: But we have folk songs. They are the real thing. They are the songs people from Canada's past really sang - with the words they wrote and the music they put the words to. When we sing these songs it's as if we become a part of the past. It's almost as if we can see them, hear them, even feel their feelings. It's magic!!

Child: Really?

Mother: Yes. I have a great CD of folk songs. *(puts CD in machine as she is speaking and pretends to turn it on)* Let's listen to it. *(Mother and child sit down in a big chair at this point with the back of the chair to the audience so they are not seen through the performance but emerge at the end.)*

(Drum beats start softly as they are talking; soft introduction begins. Music continues through narration.)

Tableau: Iroquois mother rocking her baby.

Narrator 1: The First Nations Peoples have lived in this land we now call Canada for ten thousand years. Some grew crops, but hunting and fishing were the most important ways they provided for their families.

Narrator 2: This is an Iroquois mother. Her people lived along the St. Lawrence River and the Great Lakes.

Narrator 3: Singing was a very important part of their lives. They had a song for every occasion. This is a lullaby.

Song: Ho Ho Watanay (CD 1-16)

Narrator 1: In time, others discovered the riches that Canada had to offer. In 1497 an English explorer named John Cabot discovered the wealth of codfish on the Grand Banks of Newfoundland.

Song: I'se the B'y (CD 2-17)

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Narrator 2: In 1534 a French explorer, Jacques Cartier, discovered the wealth of furs. The lure of fish and furs caused the English and French to compete for this land for many years. The English Hudson's Bay Company built trading forts along rivers that drained into Hudson's Bay. The native peoples came to the forts to trade their furs for metal goods and other European trinkets.

Narrator 3: The French voyageurs paddled their canoes inland up the rivers to trade more directly with the native peoples. **(Music intro begins)** To keep their spirits high and their paddle strokes together, they often sang. This was one of their favorite songs.

Tableau: **Voyageurs with one-sided canoe (handles on inside) and paddles. They paddle in rhythm to the music. Include a funny mime with a beaver. Beaver comes in and tries to chew on a chair - shakes head. Beaver tries to chew on a teacher's arm - shakes head. Beaver then spies paddle - raises hands in excitement - takes paddle and chews on it happily.**

Song: **En Roulant Ma Boule (CD 3-18) or V'la l'bon vent (CD 4-19)**

Narrator 1: Priests from France came to Canada to convert the native peoples to Christianity. They taught the native peoples many things but the native peoples probably taught them more.

Narrator 2: They taught the priests and the other French settlers how to dress, how to find food and how to travel about. **(Music intro begins)**

Narrator 3: This sharing of ideas is shown in a song written in 1641 by Father Brebeuf, a Jesuit priest who lived among the Hurons for 22 years. His song tells the Christmas story in language the Hurons could understand.

Tableau: **Act out song**

Song: **The Huron Carol (CD 5-20)**

Narrator 1: Wars between the English and French lasted from 1689 to 1760. The final battle took place on a farm belonging to a man named Abraham Martin near Quebec City on September 13, 1759.

Narrator 2: In the middle of the night the English soldiers, led by General Wolfe, floated down the St. Lawrence River and very quietly climbed the stony cliffs to the Plains of Abraham. The surprised French army, led by General Montcalm, found them there the next morning and were not able to withstand their fierce attack. **(Music intro begins)**

Narrator 3: In half an hour the battle was over, the English had taken Quebec, and both Wolfe and Montcalm lay dying.

Tableau: **English and French soldiers in choreographed slow-motion fight scene/death scene.**

Song: **Brave Wolfe (CD 6-21)**

Narrator 1: The French people in Quebec were now ruled by the English. To keep their lives as much the same as possible, the Quebec Act of 1774 was drawn up by the English law-makers. It guaranteed the French Canadians religious freedom and French civil law.

1. Ho Ho Watanay - piano/vocal

CD 1-16

Native arr. C. Cassils

mp

Ho ho wa - ta - nay,

mp

3

3

3

3

Ho ho wa - ta - nay, Ho ho

3

3

3

3

wa - ta - nay, Ki o kee na, ki o kee na.

3

2. I'se the B'y - piano/vocal

CD 2-17

Traditional Newfoundland
arr. C. Cassils

$\bullet = 108$

mf

5 *mf*

I'se the b'y that builds the boat, and I'se the b'y that sails her. I'se the b'y that catch-es the fish and

11

takes them home to Li - za. Hip your part - ner, Sal - ly Tib-bo. Hip your part - ner, Sal - ly Brown.

17

Fo-go, Twil-lin-gate, Mor-ton's Har-bour, all a - round the cir - cle. Sods and rinds to cov-er your flake,

3. En Roulant Ma Boule - piano/vocal

CD 3-18

Lively ♩ = 112

Canadian Folk Song
arr. C. Cassils

mf

The piano introduction consists of four measures in 6/8 time. The right hand plays a melodic line starting with a quarter note G4, followed by eighth notes A4, B4, and C5. The left hand provides a bass line with quarter notes G2, F2, E2, and D2.

5 *Part 1 mf*

En rou-lant ma bou-le rou-lant, En rou-lant ma bou - le, En rou-lant ma bou-le rou-lant,

Part 2 mf

En rou-lant ma bou - le,

Measures 5-10: The vocal line continues with the lyrics. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line in the left hand and chords in the right hand. A large watermark is visible across the page.

11

Solo

All voices

En rou-lant ma bou - le. Der - rière chez nous, y a t'un é - tang, En rou-lant ma bou - le. Der-

En rou-lant ma bou - le.

Measures 11-15: The vocal line features a solo section for the first voice and then all voices. The piano accompaniment continues with the same rhythmic pattern. A large watermark is visible across the page.