All in Good Time

Alan Kaufman and Don Stratton

"Being a prolific tunesmith is somewhat like using a blender without a lid – but it's much easier to clean up afterwards." –Alan

We met just about a year ago when Don temporarily moved to Arlington while on leave from his job in Vermont. We became fast friends and soon discovered that we both shared an interest in composing fiddle tunes. It was great fun to share tunes back and forth and before long we decided to team up on the creation of a CD to showcase some of our repertoire. It was a daunting prospect. Singlehandedly we might never have gotten around to it. But together we encouraged each other, learned each other's tunes, assembled some of our talented friends and gave it our best shot. We are delighted with the result.

The tunes included here represent a range of styles. We both share a fascination for old time hoedowns, waltzes and rags. Some of our tunes have been around for years and have become local favorites, while others are quite new. Some were inspired by places we visited; others came to us in dreams. The final product is now in your hands. We hope you enjoy listening to these tunes as much as we enjoyed writing them. Thank you for supporting this project.

Alan Kaufman, Arlington MA Don Stratton, Bristol VT November 2015

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Track List

1 Stripped Gears (Kaufman 2015)

(Key: C, GDAE) Fiddle: Alan and Don; Guitar: Ruth; Banjo: Joel; Bass: Gian

2 Five Bales of Hay (Kaufman 2012)

(Key: A, AEAE) Fiddle: Alan and Don; Guitar: Ruth; Banjo: Celeste; Bass: Gian

3 Cornish Point (Stratton 2014)

(Key: A, AEAE) Fiddle: Alan and Don; Guitar: Ruth; Banjo: Celeste; Bass: Gian

4 Crying Indian (Kaufman 2012)

(Key: Em, GDAE) Fiddle: Alan and Don; Guitar: Ruth; Bass: Gian

5 New Harbor (Stratton 2015)

(Key: G, GDAE) Fiddle: Alan and Don; Banjo: Celeste.

6 Black Creek (Stratton 2012)

(Key: G, GDAE) Fiddle: Alan and Don; Guitar: Ruth; Banjo: Joel; Bass: Gian

7 Surging Sandy (Kaufman 2012)

(Key: C, GDAE) Fiddle: Alan; Guitar: Ruth; Banjo: Joel; Bass: Don

8 Town Day (Kaufman 2014)

(Key: D, GDAE) Fiddle: Alan and Don; Guitar: Ruth; Banjo: Celeste; Bass: Gian

9 Halpin Bridge (Stratton 2012)

(Key: G, GDAE) Fiddle: Alan and Don; Guitar: Ruth; Banjo: Joel; Bass: Gian

10 Rocky Ledge (Kaufman 2012)

(Key: A, AEAE) Fiddle: Alan and Don; Guitar: Ruth; Banjo: Celeste; Bass: Gian

11 Brastow (Stratton 2015)

(Key: A, AEAC#) Fiddle: Alan and Don; Guitar: Tim; Banjo: Celeste; Bass: Gian

12 Three Miles from Pocock (Stratton 2014)

(Key: A, AEAE) Fiddle: Don; Banjo: Celeste.

13 Saranac (Stratton 2012)

(Key: D, ADAE) Fiddle: Alan and Don; Guitar: Ruth; Banjo: Joel; Bass: Gian.

14 A Swan in the Snow (Kaufman 2010)

(Key: G, GDAE) Fiddle: Alan and Don; Guitar: Ruth; Bass: Gian

15 Alphabet Rag (Kaufman 2014)

(Key: D, ADAE) Fiddle: Alan; Guitar: Don

16 Gone but not Forgotten (Kaufman 2008)

(Key: G, GDAE) Fiddle: Alan and Don; Guitar: Tim; Banjo: Celeste; Bass: Gian. Written in memory of Martha Pellerin.

17 Five and Dime Rag (Kaufman 2010)

(Key: G) Mandolin: Alan; Guitar: Don

18 Mystic River Waltz (Kaufman 2011)

(Key: G, GDAE) Fiddle: Alan; Guitar: Don; Bass: Gian

19 Poultry in Motion (Kaufman 2015)

(Key: D, ADAE) Fiddle: Alan and Don; Guitar: Tim; Banjo: Celeste; Bass: Gian

20 Coal Creek (Stratton 2015)

(Key: A, AEAE) Fiddle: Alan and Don; Guitar: Ruth; Banjo: Celeste; Bass: Gian.

21 Sally in the Alley (Kaufman 2012)

(Key: A, AEAE) Fiddle: Alan and Don; Guitar: Ruth; Banjo: Celeste; Bass: Gian

22 Margaret's 20th (Stratton 2012)

(Key: D, ADAE) Fiddle: Alan and Don; Guitar: Ruth; Banjo: Celeste; Bass: Gian

23 Calico Waltz (Stratton 2012)

(Key: A, AEAC# and AEAE) Fiddle: Alan and Don. Don was in calico tuning and Alan was in AEAE. It works either way.

Alan Kaufman: fiddle (1-11, 13-16, 18-23) mandolin (17)

Don Stratton: fiddle (1-6, 8-14, 16, 19-23) guitar (15, 17, 18) bass (7)

Celeste Frey: banjo (2, 3, 5, 8, 10-12, 16, 19, 20-22) Ruth Rappaport: guitar (1-4, 6-10, 13, 14, 20-22) Gian Criscitiello: bass (1-4, 6, 8-11, 13, 14, 16, 18-22)

Joel Wennerstrom: banjo (1, 6, 7, 9, 13) Tim FitzPatrick: guitar (11, 16, 19)

Recorded by David Rizzuti at Strong Recording, Somerville, MA Mixed and mastered by Eric Kilburn at Wellspring Sound, Acton, MA

All tunes are original.

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