

# Mp3 Sean Folsom - Bagpipes Of The World

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Hear the astonishing variety of traditional harmony and melody of Celtic, Latin, Slavic, Germanic, Nordic and Middle Eastern Bagpipes. 30 MP3 Songs WORLD: World Traditions, FOLK: Traditional Folk Details: Sean Folsom was born in Berkeley, California in 1949 and grew up in the Monterey Bay area where he studied music with Francesco Lucido at the Academy of Music. At the age of eighteen Sean began his career as a professional musician; since then he's become considerably more than what that term usually means - a fine musician and entertainer of course, but also a music historian, a restorer and replicator of ancient instruments, a reed-maker and perhaps most importantly an enthusiastic and skilled educator who has given back lost traditions to large numbers of people. Early in his career, while honing his skills on modern instruments - clarinet, oboe, sax, trombone, guitar and even accordion - and performing rock and jazz with a number of area groups, Sean became fascinated with traditional ethnic music and its associated instruments. In those days there was little to be learned about such things in academic settings, so Sean struck out on his own to become one of the pioneers in the still-ongoing and vigorous revival of ethnic music and its instruments. His research carried him to the British Isles and Europe, where he has since returned a number of times, both to learn and to perform. The instrument that in particular captured Sean's attention was the bagpipe. Like most people, he was unaware of the vast range of instruments that fall under that name, so like most aspiring pipers he began to play the familiar Scottish Great Highland bagpipe. Soon, however, his broad research into ethnic music began to unveil other bagpipes - shriveled instruments hanging in shambles on museum walls and old photographs of strangely convoluted and sometimes huge pipes, often played by old men whose lives could not have overlapped the invention of photography by many years. Slightly less obscure, as it turned out, was the bagpipe of Sean's ancestral home, Ireland - the highly sophisticated Uilleann pipe. Sean was able to acquire one of these marvelous instruments and so, thirty years or so ago, began the core of his collection and his career as a piper. Today, Sean's collection stands at about 50 different bagpipes - and these are not wall-hangers, but are actively played and maintained. Anyone who has ever lived with a bagpipe knows what a monumental feat this is! A few of the more noteworthy credits accumulated over

the years by Sean Folsom are listed below. This list only touches on the highlights - no attempt is made here to catalogue the constant musical activities of Sean over the past three decades. Film Soundtrack: "Northern Lights," a Cinemafest Production directed by Rob Nilson; winner, "Best New Film" at Cannes Film Festival, Cannes, France, 1979; Sean Folsom on Irish and Northumbrian bagpipes (and his wife Sharon on Irish Harp). Film Soundtrack: "Host of the Air," a 1982 dramatization of a W.B. Yeats poem; Sean Folsom on Irish pipes, Dudelsack and Great Highland bagpipe. Film Soundtrack: "Eroica" (that's the correct spelling...), a computer animation short by Roberto Ziche (producer animator) using Kinetex "3D Studio Max" software; winner of the 1998 Silicon Graphics Character Animation Contest; Sean Folsom on Uilleann Pipes (in C), playing music composed by Mike Crowley (who also plays whistle, flutes drums on the soundtrack). The animation is featured on its own web site. Album: "Beautiful Vision," Van Morrison (Warner Bros., 1982); Sean Folsom plays Uilleann Pipes (in D) on the song "Celtic Ray;" this album was later re-released with different arrangements and musicians. Album: "Lost It In The Surf," Ron Wilson And His Surfari (Bennet House Records, 1987); Sean plays Irish Pipes (in D) on the song "Moonshine," Great Highland bagpipe on "Louie Louie" and tenor sax on "Lost It In The Surf." Album: "Holy Well," Sheila Na Gig (Cailleach Records, 1985); Sean plays Spanish bagpipes, Irish bagpipes, Scots' Lowland bagpipes, dudelsack (bagpipe), Vielle a Roue (wheel-fiddle), whistle and crwth on this album. People who are interested in should consider this download.

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