

Mp3 Eric Thomas And Helen Wolfson - My Slice Of Forever

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From the blues on the hammered dulcimer to a string-bending guitar lead on Turlough O'Carolan's eighteenth century "George Brabazon," to Eric's original "occupational angst" music, Eric and Helen cover a lot of ground. 13 MP3 Songs FOLK: Modern Folk, BLUES: Work Songs Details: Helen says... The diverse music on "My Slice of Forever" is part of a continuing evolution that started in an unlikely place. The CD includes Eric's original music, a couple of joint creations, some traditional Celtic tunes, and more. Most of the tracks are collaborations, and we each have one solo track ("Danny Boy" is solo hammered dulcimer; "My Slice of Forever" features Eric on two guitars, bass, and vocals.) When I first met Eric, I was just beginning to perform in public. I was thrilled to find out that he was a musician, and I eagerly asked him what kind of music he played. At the reply, "Mostly rock 'n roll and rhythm and blues," my heart sank. But, I didn't give up on him! The first time that he showed up at my house, he brought a guitar and announced that he thought that it would be fun to trade tunes. He confidently pulled the guitar out of its case and sang me "Georgia on My Mind," figuring, I suppose, that anybody would like this popular jazz standard. Suffice it to say that "Georgia" is still not high on my list of favorites. And, as Eric sang, I became more and more panicked. "What," I was thinking, "can I possibly play from my repertoire that he would like?" I finally decided that if he didn't like J.S. Bach's "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring," there was no hope for him. So, when he finished "Georgia," I picked up my hammers, walked to the corner of the room where the dulcimer lived, and started to play. I usually play this arrangement through twice: once on the wooden side of the hammers and once on the leather-covered side. I had my back to Eric, and a bookcase was partially blocking his view, but as soon as I finished, he asked, "What did you do about half way through to change the tone?" I knew right then that he was somebody who paid attention to small but important details! A year and a half later, Eric sang "You Are So Beautiful to Me" as I walked down the aisle, and I played "Jesu" for him during our wedding ceremony. Although it took us only a year and a half to figure out how to combine our lives, it took us a lot longer to even consider that we could combine our musical styles. Eric learns entirely by ear; I learn almost entirely from sheet music. He has been improvising all his life; I have only recently begun to improvise. But somehow he got the idea that I should

come up with a back-up for a song he'd written for my son -- "Bedtime Blues" -- and somehow, I managed to do it. Later, it occurred to me that it would be fun to take one of the very steady old Irish tunes that I played (Turlough O'Carolan's Planxty George Brabazon) starting with a guitar backup and gradually transitioning to a modern guitar lead. We call our version "Roll Over,Turlough." This piece was so much fun to arrange that we were hooked. Over the last few years, we've developed a repertoire that ranges from traditional fiddle tunes to blues, to country, and beyond. Eric has developed his own genre of "occupational angst" music, which comes directly from his experiences in the corporate IT world. Playing together is a continual adventure, full of fun and surprises! People who are interested in should consider this download.

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