

Mp3 Tidal Wave/raz-de-maree - Folk: Contra Dance

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Contra music from Quebec, grounded in traditional Quebec rhythms and melodies, but innovative and refreshing. Exciting sound of the northeast dance scene. 12 MP3 Songs FOLK: Contra Dance, JAZZ: Dance Band Details: Tidal Wave Raz-de-Mare Although grounded in traditional Quebec rhythms and melodies, this music is innovative and refreshing. Tidal Wave, or Raz-de-Mare, with its cross-border personnel, proves that music not only transcends national boundaries, but brings people together. Prepare to be swept up in this glorious, perfect musical storm. Traditionnelle dans sa nature mais innovatrice par sa texture, la musique issue du Raz-de-Mare traverse les frontires, runit les gens. Alors, laissez-vous emporter. ++++++ Sabin Jacques accordion, Rachel Aucoin, piano Stuart Kenney bass, with Andres Brunet, Eric Favreau and Claudine Arcand - violins
++++++ Time 1.Reel de Boucherville/ Dedicado Joe/ Racine de la pice Mexicaine/ Reel de ti-minous 4:51 2.Gueussinette 4:24 3.Reel de Valleyfield/ Polka chinoise/ Clog Parizeau 4:02 4.Reel Bruce/ Reel de Terrebonne/ Reel du Nord 4:51 5.Reel Cdulie/ reel indien 3:53 6.Quadrille de Beauharnois/ reel amricain/ reel de Bergeville/reel du Bonhomme 6:46 7.La valse Bernadette 4:23 8.repertoire famille Pigeon/ repertoire G.Lajois/ reel St-Michel 4:48 9.Galope des pionnierss 3:36 10. Hommage Philippe Breuneau/ Reel de beloeil/ Hommage Gilles Laprise 4:28 11.Les six-huits Sabin 6/8 des rapides/ 6/8 de Lachine/ - 6/8 de Iclusier 5:03 12.Reel du voyage 3:32 Total time: 56:07 English liner notes Even without crossing the border into Canada, anyone whos traveled in New England has no doubt spotted the words, Je me souviens/I remember on the license plates of vehicles from Quebec. For a people who have withstood cultural and linguistic assimilation by the more than 300 million Anglophones surrounding this province of 7 million, life is very much about memory and the maintenance of centuries old traditions. One such tradition is its music, with its undying Gallic spirit, able to conjure the rhythm of voyageurs paddling across the St. Lawrence, or the plaintive voice of a sailor bound for the New World. It is music with an irresistible joie de vivre, one to warm up even the coldest wintry night. But it is not a music stowed away in a cobweb-covered collective memory. Its alive and well in Quebec, thanks to a vibrant community of current-day traditional players. Pianist, Rachel Aucoin and accordionist

Sabin Jacques are among the finest. The dynamism of this music has spilled across the border onto the dance floors of New England, as these two Quebecers have joined ranks with one of New Englands most celebrated dance musicians, Stuart Kenney. A classical pianist with many prizes to her name, Rachel Aucoin grew up to the sounds of Acadian and Cape Breton music. She returned to her traditional music roots in 1999 at a festival of traditional Quebecois music where she met her husband, Sabin Jacques and began playing with him in the band, Domino. They quickly became a favorite band at contra dances south of the border, first in New England, and then all over the US, regaling dancers with their playfulness, drive, and sensitivity. Despite his relative youth, Sabin is an old musical soul. To hear him play is to hear the echoes of great accordion masters of Quebec. His unique left-hand style of playing and stunning dexterity make him one of the greatest living practitioners of Quebecois accordion playing. From Madagascar, to Italy, France and Bulgaria, he has performed with dance troupes, as well as the great Acadian singer, Edith Butler. Stuart Kenney readily admits not being able to speak a word of French, but the musical communication with his Quebecois band members transcends language. Indeed, it is Stuarts ability to listen one of the greatest virtues in a musician and his driving rhythm that have allowed him to find a home for himself in Irish music (in The Sevens) and in Cajun music (he played often with the late Dewey Balfa). It was inevitable that he would one day find himself adopted by Quebecois musicians. Three of Quebecs most talented traditional musicians share the fiddling duties in Raz-de-Maree. A fiddling dynamo, Andr Brunet is best known for his work with La Bottine Souriaute. Eric Favreaus years of experience translate into his nuanced and vibrant playing, heard in his work with Entourloupe and other ensembles. Claudine Arcand, a classically trained violinist turned fiddler, is an active player in the Quebec, playing with Les Grondeuses, Rveillons, and La Part du Quebec. The bands name Raz-de-Mare (Tidal Wave) is a nod to Sabin and Rachels maritime roots; the two grew up near the Saint Lawrence Seaway. Like these waters, their music is full of movement and drive, captured in this, their first recording. The CD opens with a set of reels, Le Set du Barbier/The Barber Set and the single voice of Sabins accordion, a statement on the hallowed place of the accordion in Quebec. Within a few bars, the other instruments join in, like dancers forming a chain. This lively number gives way to the haunting and delicate, Gueussinette, suggestive of an English Country Dance. Whether straight-ahead reels and jigs youd hear at a New England contra dance or crooked tunes that evoke the effervescent movement of a step dancer, this is music to set the feet moving. The lovely Valse Bernadette/Bernadette Waltz has an

old world feel, the kind of waltz played in Paris cafs a few generations ago. The jaunty Galope des pionniers/Pioneers Gallop recalls a buggy ride across la belle province on a rare warm spring day. While some of the tunes are traditional, others are attributed to composer/musicians like master accordionists, Marcel Messervier or Philippe Bruneau. A prolific tunesmith himself, Sabin contributes to the album with a set of three jigs and the lively Reel Bruce. Although grounded in traditional rhythms and melodies, the music is innovative and refreshing. Raz-de-Mare, with its cross-border personnel, proves that music not only transcends national boundaries, but brings people together. Prepare to be swept up in this glorious, perfect musical storm. Susan Kevra Nashville, January 2007 ++++++ French Liner Notes lheure de la mondialisation et de lexplosion technologique, la musique traditionnelle fait de plus en plus dadeptes. De lAbitibi la Gaspsie, les festivals et les veilles sorganisent et rassemblent les gnations. On y retrouve lessence mme dune culture vraie, qui prend vie dans ce monde parallle o temps et argent nexistent plus; que partage, galit et plaisir. Grande chane, swinguez-la, promenade, sous la direction du calleur, tous sont transports par une musique dune joie de vivre irrsistible, capable de rchauffer la nuit dhiver la plus froide. Grce une communaut de musiciens actuels qui perpuent cette tradition dont la pianiste, Rachel Aucoin et laccordoniste, Sabin Jacques, le dynamisme de cette musique se rpand, depuis environ une dcennie, travers les Etats-Unis. En effet, leur musique sinfiltre particulirement sur les parquets de danse en Nouvelle Angleterre, pour toucher les curs des contredanseurs qui stonnent de cette musique, la fois si familire et exotique. Cest dailleurs dans ce contexte que naquit la collaboration de Rachel et Sabin avec lun des musiciens pour la contredanse des plus reconnus des Etats-Unis, Stuart Kenney. Rcipiendaire de premiers prix de concours en musique classique, Rachel Aucoin a grandi dans un milieu familial baignant dans la musique traditionnelle acadienne et cossaise du Cap Breton. En 1999, paralllement son cheminement des plus acadmiques, elle a redcouvert la musique traditionnelle sous un nouveau jour lors dun festival o elle rencontrait son futur mari, Sabin Jacques. Presquaussitt, elle a joint le trio Domino, devenu par la suite lun des groupes les plus populaires pour la contredanse aux Etats-Unis, tout en multipliant leurs apparitions lors des festivals et veilles au Qubec. Anim par un esprit musical ancestral, Sabin Jacques voe un grand respect aux matres accordonistes qui lont inspir. A la fois puriste, polyvalent et audacieux, il repousse les limites de linstrument et se dveloppe, en tant que gaucher, un style bien lui. Accompagnant des troupes de danse folkloriques, la chanteuse acadienne Edith Butler ou mme le groupe rap de lheure, Sabin est lexplorateur de ces mondes. Stuart Kenney

admet ne pas parler franais. Toutefois son dsir de communiquer va au-del des mots lorsqu il sagit de musique. Dot dun sens de lcoutre extraordinaire et dune prsence rythmique quasi-organique, Stuart est vite adopt par des musiciens de traditions voisines la sienne, notamment par des musiciens irlandais (The Sevens) et par les Cajuns (Dewey Balfa). Il tait alors invitable quil soit un jour dcouvert par des musiciens qubcois ! Larchet est partag par trois des meilleurs violoneux du Qubec. Andr Brunet (La Bottine Souriante, Celtic Fiddle Festival), patant virtuose, nous rgale de son talent dimprovisateur. Eric Favreau (Entourloupe) touche par son jeu raffin et nuanc ; sa versatilit nous surprend sans cesse tandis que Claudine Arcand (Les Grondeuses, Rveillons, La Part du Quteux) nous enchante par sa sonorit envolante et son rythme dansant. Le nom du groupe Raz-de-Mare (Tidal Wave) voque la provenance maritime de Rachel et Sabin (Nouveau-Brunswick/Baie des Chaleurs et Gaspesie/ Bas St-Laurent).

Comme ces eaux, leur musique donne une ide de mouvement et de force surnaturelle qui transporte les danseurs, et cet album, leur premier, transmet bien cette ide. Le premier morceau, une suite de reels, Le Set du Barbier, commence avec laccordon de Sabin a capella, indiquant la position vnde de laccordon dans la musique qubcoise. Aprs quelques mesures, les autres instruments sy joignent, comme des danseurs se donnant la main. Le prochain morceau est plut dlicat, rappelant une contredanse anglaise. Soit des reels, des six-huit ou un air croche, voquant les pas effervescents dun gigueur, cette musique vous fera remuer les pieds. La belle Valse Bernadette rappelle une mlodie dautrefois, comme celles qui rsonnaient dans les caf Paris dans le temps. Interprte la manire des anciens, la galope des pionniers met en lumire notre riche hritage dans ce rpertoire. Tandis que certaines mloies sont traditionnelles, dautres sont attribues aux compositeurs comme les matres accordonistes Marcel Messervier et Philippe Bruneau. Traditionnelle dans sa nature mais innovatrice par sa texture, la musique issue du Raz-de-Mare traverse les frontires, runit les gens. Alors, laissez-vous emporter. -Susan Kevra Nashville, janvier 2007

++++++ Produced and arranged by Tidal Wave, recorded at Signature Sound. Mixed and Mastered at CedarHouse Sound,North Sutton,NH Cover photograph by acclaimimages.com, Graphic design by Carolyn Isaac, Keene, NH, Thanks to Eric Favreau, Raynald Ouellet and Marcel Messervier for musicological information Great Meadow Music P.O.Box 4, Westmoreland, NH 03467 (603) 399-8361
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