

FOLKWAYS RECORDS FTS 31062

Ship in the Clouds

Old Time Instrumental Music

ANDY CAHAN

LAURA FISHLER

LISA ORNSTEIN



M
1630.18
C129
S557
1978

COVER DESIGN BY RONALD CLYNE

MUSIC LP

FOLKWAYS RECORDS FTS 31062

Side I

Ship in the Clouds	2:48
Rolling River	1:54
Molly Put the Kettle On	2:15
Liquor Seller	1:58
Elkhorn Ridge	2:45
Jimmy Johnson Pass the Jug Around the Hill	2:20
Tildy Moore	2:11
Prettiest Girl in the County	2:01
Great Big Taters in Sandy Land	3:15
There's a Brown Skin Gal Down the Road Somewheres	2:02

Side II

CoalCreek March	1:56
Greasy Coat	2:21
Hellbound for Alabama	2:30
Sally Ann Johnson	2:48
Fort Smith	2:00
Old Mother Lobos	1:54
Polly Put the Kettle On	1:57
Silly Bill	2:07
Lost Indian	2:13
Big Scioty	2:26

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ANDY CAHAN LAURA FISHLEDER LISA ORNSTEIN

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES ARE INSIDE POCKET

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SHIPS IN THE CLOUD—

Old time instrumental music

with Andy Cahan, Laura Fishleder, Lisa Ornstein



M
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5557
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MUSIC LP

Side One

Ship in the Clouds (banjo, fiddle, guitar). From Taylor and Stella Kimble of Laurel Fork, Virginia, and Judy Hyman of Bloomington, Indiana.

Rolling River (fiddle, banjo). Bruce Molsky, a tremendous fiddler now living in Virginia, taught Lisa this tune. Andy learned it from a 1946 Library of Congress recording of a black stringband from Tennessee.

Molly Put the Kettle On (banjo). This tune has nothing to do with the more well-known Polly Put the Kettle On which we also play on this record. Andy got this tune from Pete Sutherland, fiddler with the Arm and Hammer Stringband of Burlington, Vermont. This is probably a West Virginia tune and seems related to Yew Piney Mountain.

Side One

	<u>Time</u>
Ship in the Clouds	2:48
Rolling River	1:54
Molly Put the Kettle On	2:15
Liquor Seller	1:58
Elkhorn Ridge	2:45
Jimmy Johnson Pass the Jug Around the Hill	2:20
Tildy Moore	2:11
Prettiest Girl in the County	2:01
Great Big Taters in Sandy Land	3:15
There's a Brown Skin Gal Down the Road Somewheres	2:02

Side Two

Coal Creek March	1:56
Greasy Coat	2:21
Hellbound for Alabama	2:30
Sally Ann Johnson	2:48
Fort Smith	2:00
Old Mother Lobos	1:54
Polly Put the Kettle On	1:57
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Liquor Seller (fiddle, banjo). A strange banjo tune from the playing of Roscoe Parish of Coal Creek, Virginia.

Elkhorn Ridge (fiddle, banjo, guitar, Andy on vocal). Andy got this tune from the playing of the late Oscar Wright of Princeton, West Virginia, and then heard it done stringband by Jeff Woodring and friends, at the Brandywine Mountain Music Convention.

Jimmy Johnson Pass the Jug Around the Hill (fiddle). Similar to the better-known John Brown's Dream, this tune comes from Ward Jarvis via Jeff Goehring of Columbus, Ohio. Jeff has spent lots of time with Ward and has taught us many of his tunes. Ward is a great old fiddler who lives in New England, Ohio.

Tildy Moore (fiddle, banjo). Lisa got this tune from Bruce Molsky and Andy learned a similar version from the playing of Roscoe Parish.

Prettiest Girl in the County (banjo). Learned off one of the earlier recordings of Gid Tanner and Riley Puckett re-issued by Rounder Records. I *understand* that this tune is pretty well-known, but the only times I've heard it is on the Tanner/Puckett recording and by Kenny Hall.

Great Big Taters in Sandy Land (fiddle, banjo). Related to Sally Ann, Sail Away Ladies, and etc. This particular version comes from Bruce Molsky again.

There's a Brown Skin Gal Down the Road Somewheres (fiddle, banjo, guitar). From an old recording of Eck Robertson who is supposed to have made it up.

Side Two

Coal Creek March (banjo). This *tune* was well known in Kentucky and a version was made popular by Pete Steele. The one played here was learned from an old recording of Marion Underwood, one of the original space banjoists from Kentucky.

Greasy Coat (fiddle, banjo, guitar). From Burl Hammons of Pocahontas County, West Virginia.

Hellbound for Alabama (fiddle, banjo). A fine old Georgia tune, shuffled around after hearing Fiddlin' John Carson and his Virginia Reelers's 1920's recording. A similar tune, Ride Old Buck to Water, was recorded by the Skillet Lickers.

Sally Ann Johnson (fiddle). Another "Johnson" tune. This is from the late Henry Reed, fiddler from Glen Lyn, Virginia.

Fort Smith (fiddle, banjo). An Ozark tune, this was recorded in the 1920's by Luke Highnight's Ozark Strutters.

Old Mother Lobos (fiddle). Lisa learned this from Chris Murray, a fine Virginia fiddler.

Polly Put the Kettle On (fiddle, banjo). Our version of this well-known tune comes from everybody.

Silly Bill (banjo, guitar). Andy heard this tune on a record of the Mountain Ramblers, a band from Galax, Virginia. Silly Bill is known as a song as well as a dance tune and we wish we knew the words.

Lost Indian (fiddle, banjo). One of many versions of tunes by this name. This version comes from Ed Haley.

Big Scioto (fiddle, banjo, guitar). This is one of our favorite tunes. The Scioto is a river which flows south through Ohio. Burl Hammons plays a similar version but we're not sure where we got ours.

The Musicians

LAURA FISHLEDER (guitar). Laura is from Teaneck, New Jersey and is now a sophomore at Oberlin College. She has been playing guitar since she was nine, starting with the union songs and various folk songs that she learned from her parents.

In junior highschool Laura started to take guitar lessons with Eric Schoenberg. Later she met up with Paul Kahn, who got her interested in playing old time music and traditional bluegrass.

Laura has been a member of the Gold Watch Band, a traditional bluegrass and old-time band, and since coming to Oberlin she plays frequently with the numerous folk music people at the college and around the area.

LISA ORNSTEIN (fiddle). Although there is no tradition of old time music in her family, Lisa grew up in a very music-loving environment. Both her mother and her sister are professional musicians and music was a basic element of daily home life.

Lisa took up the violin at age nine. When she was sixteen she became interested in old time music. Her uncle Norman Robbins shared this interest and gave her some records of old time fiddling from Virginia. He also introduced her to Peter and Caroline Hoover who Lisa feels were the most important influences in her musical life. Around this time Lisa took up the fiddle and traded her violin for a viola.

At seventeen Lisa spent the summer as a research volunteer at the Library of Congress's Archive of Folksong, then headed by Alan Jabbour. Through this experience she became interested in the study as well as the performance of old time music. In

1975 she spent twelve weeks on a N.E.H. Youthgrant visiting fiddlers in Vermont and North Carolina. The following summer Lisa did a short stand-in with the infamous Hot Mud Family.

In 1977 Lisa graduated from Oberlin College. She has just left for Quebec on a one year fellowship to study and document French-Canadian fiddling. Her family lived in Illinois until 1966 and is presently located in Cleveland, Ohio.

ANDY CAHAN (banjo). I'm from White Plains, New York, and presently am a junior at Oberlin. I've been exposed to lots of different types of music since very young. My grandmother plays many songs which she learned as a girl in Russia on the piano. My mother plays classical piano and my father listened to everything from Ravi Shankar to the Dillards.

As a kid I played recorder, piano, trombone, and harmonica. At about fifteen I began playing harmonica with rock groups around the area, but when the movie Deliverance came out in 1973 I got hooked on bluegrass banjo and started lessons with Evan Stein. Later I took a year of lessons from Jerry Silverman.

Lots of my playing has been with folks in New York City, as well as northeastern Ohio. A great influence musically and philosophically has been guitarist and old buddy Steve Uhrik.

Notes: Andy Cahan
Produced by: Kerry Blech
Engineer: Chuck Ruby
Photographs: Barbara Lesnick
Recorded in March 1978

This record is dedicated to our families and our friends.
Special thanks to Mike Seeger.