

Loreena Mccennitt**"Track Comments to the Visit"**

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"All Soul's Night"

This piece was inspired by the imagery of a Japanese tradition which celebrate the souls of the departed by sending candle-lit lanterns out on waterways leading to the ocean, sometimes in little boats; along with imagery of the Celtic All Souls Night celebrations, at which time huge bonfires were lit not only to mark the new year, but to warm the souls of the departed. - L.M.

"Bonny Portmore"

The destruction of old growth forests has become an important conservation issue in recent years, but it is not a new phenomenon. Over the centuries many of Ireland's old oak forests were leveled for military and shipbuilding purposes. Only recently has there been an effort to reestablish these great hardwoods. The Great Oak of Portmore stood on the property of Portmore Castle on the shore of Lough Beg. - L.M.

"Greensleeves"

I always wondered how Tom Waits would sing Greensleeves. When preparing my previous recording Parallel Dreams, while waiting to do something else, we accidentally and spontaneously recorded this track in one take without ever intending to release it. However, here is, Tom. - L.M.

"Tango to Evora"

This piece was originally conceived and recorded for the National Film Board of Canada's The Burning Times, directed by Donna Reid. - L.M.

"Courtyard Lullaby"

The photographs which appear in this booklet were taken at a 16th century hunting lodge in Portugal, where Elisabeth Feryn and I stayed for a week. Within the lodge was a courtyard, marked at each corner by orange trees. The feel of the place reminded me of

the Unicorn tapestries which hang in The Cloisters in New York City. The tapestries and the lodge are both rich with earthy, pre-Christian iconography - depicting the mysterious life and death cycle of the seasons. It was in this courtyard that this piece was conceived. - L.M.

"The Old Ways"

I spent a most haunting New Year's Eve in Doolin, County Clare, Ireland some years ago, and was moved by the antiquity of the some of the celebrations. Yet I was met by deep reminders that they may be the remnants of the old world meeting the "new". - L.M.

"Cymbeline"

Here are William Shakespeare's thoughts on this earthly visit. this song occurs towards the end of his romance play Cymbeline, which was written near the end of the author's life. The play is set in ancient Britain when the Romans were invading the last remaining outpost of the old Celtic order. - L.M.

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