DON MESSER ANTHOLOGY OF FAVORITE FIDDLE TUNES

In 1942 we published ORIGINAL OLD TYME MUSIC, a book of fiddle tunes compiled, arranged and composed by Don Messer. We then produced his WAY DOWN EAST FIDDLIN' TUNES, BARNDANCE BREAKDOWNS and CANADIAN HOEDOWNS, while another publisher released his FIDDLIN' FAVORITES and CENTENNIAL FOLIO. Six collections in all.

This Anthology contains the fiddle tunes from all of those books, most of which have been out of print for some time. They represent Don's favorite and most requested tunes in his long career as Canada's best-known country fiddler.

Don Messer was born in Tweedside, York County, New Brunswick in 1909. His parents were Scottish. Their forebears had migrated to this country early in the eighteenth century. His first band was called THE BACKWOODS TRIO (violin, piano and banjo). It was soon enlarged to an eight-piece group called THE NEW BRUNSWICK LUMBERJACKS and finally DON MESSER AND HIS ISLANDERS was formed to accept an offer from CFCY in Charlottetown, P.E.I., where he and his band performed until his death March 26th, 1973.

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