

## **SCHOOL/CHILDREN & FAMILY CONCERTS**

It makes no difference whether Christina is performing to a 500 school assembly in Virginia or an intimate family setting in a Massachusetts library; a beautiful park such as **LONGWOOD GARDENS**, a museum at **WINTERTHUR**, a crowd of thousands at a weekend festival in New Hampshire or an elegant theatre in Maryland, children leave her show demanding more, even crying in some sell out incidents and come back for many years to be appeased. Some parents complain of having to continuously listen to her same cassette or cd repetitively not just for days but years. When the cassette is worn out they come and get the cd. They even buy the grown-up cds for their offspring when the children take a break from the "**Wee Folk Songs.**" Now her latest CD is available: "**Mrs Paterson's Daughter.**"

The program is simple, unaffected, versatile and engrossing. Christina may show up in either a plaid kilt of her clan with appropriate, but engaging accessories or in an equally colorful garment reflecting a theme or season, with matching stories. Her clear and distinct Scottish accent charms event the custodian as he rushes to assist with the setting up of the sound system and has even be known to leave his work day singing in a dialect or whistling a tune that no-one at home will understand or know.

Christina explains her songs simply and insists that her audience sing and clap along and in some instances even dance. It is important to her that the audience learn about Celtic culture but she ensures that it is maintained at an entertainment level, which invokes fun and some fantasy in addition to informing today's children of the hardships and simplicity of working folks' lives in earlier times and what drove many of them from Scotland and Ireland to North America.

Christina's vast experience with audiences world-wide and earlier teaching positions has taught her extraordinary communication skills now most evident in her renowned rapport and humor on stage; all of which have gained her a national and international reputation as an excellent artist and educator.

### ***PROGRAM DESCRIPTION***

In preparation for school shows Christina sends lyrics and recordings of the program to the music department well in advance so that the students can become more familiar with the materials, and can, therefore, more easily participate. Samples can be heard on her latest cd release "**Mrs. Paterson's Daughter**" – a Scottish childhood memoir." And her earlier children's recording: "**Wee Folk Songs.**"

#### **Songs from Mrs. Paterson's Daughter:**

**Tune of the Garden Fairies** - A skilful, music presentation of Scottish myth relating a child's secret view of kind, timid, fairies dancing in the night in her grandmother's garden. The children are invited to dance a few fairy steps to this very melodic jig.

**My Pal Nessie** – An audience participating song demonstrating the events of the famous Loch Ness Monster – singing and hand actions involved.

**A Different Pair of Eyes** – A beautiful lilted song about seeing life through the eyes of other living creatures, with a cheery fun-filled sing-along refrain. The children may express some animal noises to let off steam.

**Egilsay Street** – A playful sing-a-long ballad describing Christina's childhood street activities with friends and neighbors in Glasgow, Scotland.

**All That I Can Do** – An interactive appreciation song allowing the children to stand, (or sit if necessary) stretch their arms and legs and make movements to appreciate co-ordination and everyday things that we can do. This particular involvement of the children increases their attention span and eagerness to be part of the program.

### **Songs from “Wee Folk Songs:”**

**Skyscraper Wean** – Written by Adam MacNaughton. A foot stomping – hand clapping - song about children in Glasgow, Scotland moving to skyscrapers and what happens when their mothers customary throw “Jeely Pieces” (Jam sandwiches) “oot the window”.

**My Hamburger Mooed at me** - Another self-composed humorous song about animals and nature coming alive to complain about the omission of ketchup or mustard. Christina explains some culinary cultural differences.

**Marie's Wedding** - A traditional wedding song: this involves gentle line dancing in pairs to a Scottish wedding song. Even Two-Left Footers can handle this.

**Puff the Magic Dragon** – Written by Peter Yarrow & Leonard Lipton, just to make them feel back at home again and by now in good voice.

**October Winds** - A traditional Irish lullaby to soothe after all the excitement.

**The Unicorn** - Written by Phil Silverman and still the number one hit everywhere. Young volunteers are invited to join Christina at the front of the stage to visually demonstrate the song actions.

**Coulter's Candy** - a very popular traditional song about Robert Coulter who made and sold his own candy by singing in the streets of Dumfriesshire, Scotland. A sing-a-long lullaby.

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