



Blue Skies and Pirates



Juno nominees and ECMA award winners - Donna & Andy

Donna Rhodenizer and Andy Duinker have been creating top quality music for children since 1996. Fans are sure to enjoy listening and sing-along with the twelve songs on Donna & Andy's *Blue Skies and Pirates*.

Blue Skies and Pirates has clever lyrics, a variety of musical styles, and musicality that creates a pleasurable listening experience for the whole family. Finally, parents can listen to one of their kids' CDs and enjoy the experience!

[Listen to samples](#)

Listeners will hear the influence of rural Nova Scotia in the songs written by these Maritime-born, Canadian composers. However, geographical restrictions are left behind with a variety of styles reflecting the influence of blues, classical, jazz, ragtime, and even a cha cha. Some of Nova Scotia's finest musicians made guest appearances on the CD, providing a deep pool of talent and creating authentic accompaniment tracks for all the songs.

REVIEW:

Get Up in the Mornin' A cheerful look at a variety of weather in a solid, rocking jazzy setting. Do not be grumpy, sad or blue, and definitely do not "sass" Momma Nature as she sends a variety of weather upon the world.

I'd Rather be a Bear What's not to like? Bears get to eat a lot, get fat, and then sleep the winter months away. Playing in the sun and then going back to bed, round out their enviable lifestyle. Set in a style reminiscent of the classical tale of *Peter and the Wolf* by Prokofiev, listeners will soon find themselves singing along and maybe even looking at those wild blackberry bushes with more than normal interest.

Best Friends The escapades of two friends that always seem to require apologetic reconnection. If you have ever been chased by a bull, unsuccessfully attempted to jump a major mud puddle or stumbled on a nest of bees with your "best" friend, this song will strike a familiar chord.

I Got a Sister (but I wanted a dog) What self-respecting youngster who asked for a dog would be satisfied when a sister shows up instead? Everyone knows a dog will do things a sister would not. How could parents misunderstand that? This 6/8 blues style offering has gritty harmonica highlights and will certainly be a favourite of siblings everywhere.

Who's in the Tub? Add to the tub - lots of water, a duck, a chicken, a tuba, a cat and anyone else you can find and get ready to sing along. Accompanied by soprano saxophone, banjo, bassoon and tuba, this song may become as much of a bath time staple as a rubber ducky.

Dust Bunny Rag Everyone has those pesky little dust bunnies. Finally, a song in which someone is able to come clean and admit it! Ragtime seemed to be the most appropriate setting for those inclined to try to win the war on dust, although our advice is to throw in the dust rag and learn to live with the dust bunnies.

Singin' the Blues In a true blues song it is common that the singer loses their girl and their truck, their dog runs away, it's raining and Momma is in jail. This song is from the perspective of a child who may have different issues than the grown ups, but who still finds reasons to sing the blues.

Donna-Andy Cha Cha Cha Grab your dancing shoes and get ready to Cha Cha Cha. Listen to the hot sax and trumpet section and good instructions given in the lyrics and you won't even need those expensive dance lessons!

It's a Pirate's Life for Me Imagine a ship full of singing pirates when you listen to this song. Accordion, guitar and a bass trombone create the perfect on-board ambiance required to sing about talking birds, swords and walking the plank. To the sea! To the sea!

Phone Me This song is dedicated to all those who have ever experienced the frustration of being unable to leave that important message on someone else's answering machine. A sultry "back alley" trumpet and walking bass give movement to this slow, jazzy song of complaint.

Star Light Star Bright Close your eyes and remember wishing on an early evening star. Maybe that star would like to make a wish, or is it all just wishful thinking on our part? With hints of Twinkle Twinkle Little Star and fine saxophone stylings, this beautiful song is reflective and plaintive.

Someone Like Me A young solo voice is joined by an adult asking the same question: what can one person do to affect change? Each small contribution helps, and combining forces with others creates a force that can accomplish much. "Maybe what the world needs is someone like me." In a pop style with a message promoting self-esteem, this song is sure to be a favourite selection for elementary school choirs and soloists.

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