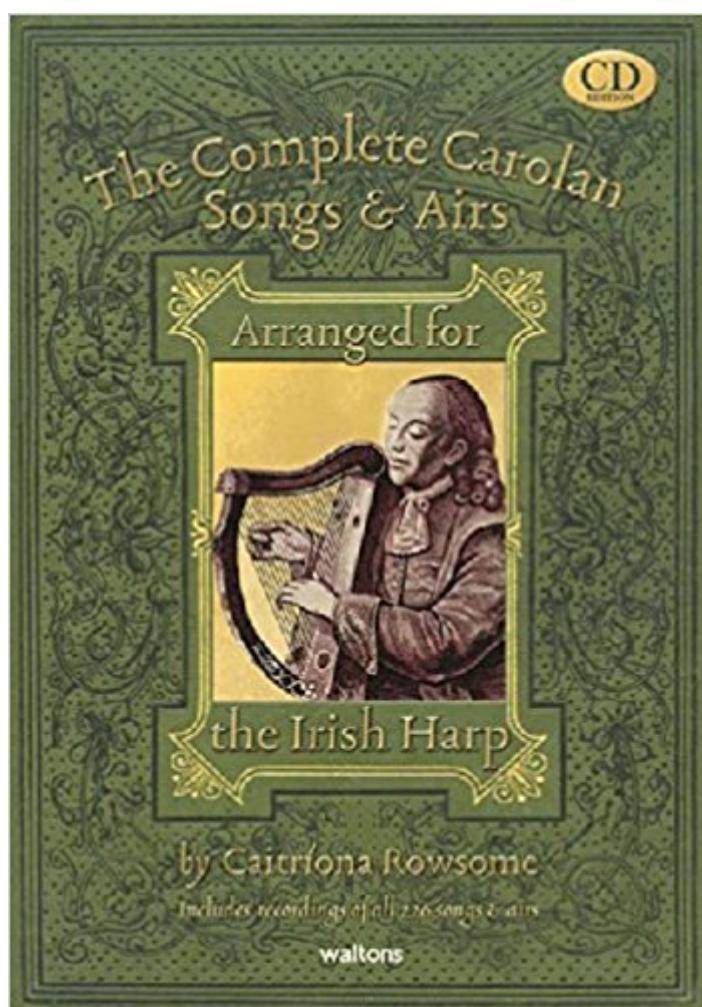


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# The Complete Carolan Songs & Airs: Arranged For The Irish Harp



## Synopsis

(Waltons Irish Music Books). This remarkable book is a valuable resource for those wishing to play and sing the music of this extraordinary 18th-century blind harper. This comprehensive collection combines Carolan's surviving airs with sensitive and appropriate harp settings, metrically matching them with Carolan's surviving lyrics for the airs. Many of the airs are not commonly known as songs, and some include lyrics published here for the first time. For each of Carolan's Irish songs, an English interpretation is also provided.

## Book Information

Paperback: 270 pages

Publisher: Waltons Irish Music; Pap/Com edition (December 1, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 185720218X

ISBN-13: 978-1857202182

Product Dimensions: 8.2 x 0.9 x 11.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 5 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,556,045 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #80 in Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Songbooks > Strings > Harps #325 in Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Songbooks > Mixed Collections #1930 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Sheet Music & Scores > Forms & Genres > Lieder & Art Songs

## Customer Reviews

I bought this book from . I got it used pretty cheap. It came with 4 CDs. It is a compilation of every Carolan piece (like 228 tunes or some such) with an arrangement for the harp...it is a nylon harp in the recordings...and every tune is on the CDs. It has a lot of detail about Carolan and his history as well. It is all interesting stuff. It is a monumental work in that every piece has a harp arrangement. The arrangements are pretty good, but it is straight out with no fluff. It takes very little license with the original tunes. I consider it to be a reference work more than anything. Caitriona Rowsome wrote the book, arranged the pieces, and played them...pretty impressive. She has a solid history in Irish music it seems and knows her subject well. I very much have enjoyed reading the book, listening to her arrangements and plucking some of them on my wire harp. If you like ancient Irish music this purchase should be a no brainer. My only complaint is that the Carolan in the picture has an awfully small harp...I sort of feel sorry for him. He probably wouldn't be able to play many of the

tunes in the book...lol.

A good source for Carolan's music. The CDs were somewhat disappointing, but I think I understand why they are as they are: All 261 tunes are jammed onto 4 CDs, and what there is there sounds good, but in order to fit them all in, Ms Rowsome plays only one verse, or one verse/chorus of each one. That is probably sufficient for a musician to get a idea of the tune (along with the sheet music in the book) to perform the tunes themselves, but anyone looking for actual performances of Carolan's tunes should look elsewhere, i.e. Joemy Wilson's excellent performances, with accompaniment, on hammered dulcimer. In summary, this is really intended as a resource for musicians or music historians, or for serious Celtic music geeks like me.

Excellent!!! As a Harper of over 35+years and a fan of O Carolan, this is the best collection for Harper's available. It's rare, so get it while you can!!!!!!

Beautiful...wonderful source and inspiration!

Absolutely outstanding work of scholarship and performance on the enclosed CDs

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