

## RAPT CD Liner Notes –Aug 2014

1. I Know My Baby – an upbeat love song of traditional origin sung mainly by Rosie.
2. Funky Country – the strongest friendships are the ones that have been tested and have come out the other side. Written by Ann Palumbo.
3. Golden Brown – baroque punk? arrangement of the Stranglers popular song sung by Paul.
4. Adieu False Heart/Poor Wayfarin' Stranger – we heard the correlation between these two songs and thought they would go together beautifully. Both poignant and structurally similar – one traditional, one by Arthur Smith, the distinction between Ann's soprano voice and Rosie's mezzo is clear.
5. Lover Man – a favourite ballad from Billie Holiday's repertoire by Davis, Ramirez and Sherman. The lead vocals are shared by Rosie and Ann on this track.
6. Seven Yellow Gypsies a traditional well known tale of Scottish origin which allows the instruments free range. Rosie on lead vocal.
7. All Been Good – it is as it is and you just plough on. A bluegrass song written by Dion Palumbo who is living in London, inspired when he was hiking in the Scottish Highlands. Sung by Paul.
8. Present Company and Absent Friends – a traditional toast at Rosie's family gatherings. Instrumental written by Rosie.
9. Treasures – this country was settled by migrants, Ann being from Liverpool with Irish heritage , UK, Rosie –Australian of Scottish/Irish background and Paul of Hungarian refugee parents. A tribute to how lucky we are to live here in Australia. Written and sung by Ann, harmonies by Rosie and special guest vocalist Ben Palumbo.
10. Boots of Spanish Leather – a Bob Dylan song. Sung by Rosie in a nod to her own boots of Spanish leather!
11. Bird on the Wire – Leonard Cohen getting to the heart of things. We tried to create the atmosphere of the midnight choir in this arrangement. Sung by Paul in one take after receiving the news that his life-long friend had passed away in Perth after a 2 week battle with cancer. For Grant.

12. I Am A Free Bird – written by Rosie on a rainy drive up to the Blue Mountains for a rehearsal with Ann and Paul. Windscreen wipers beating out a rhythm, she pulled over, rang home and sang the tune into her answering machine. She wrote it for 2 double basses as we recorded it but for the convenience of not having to bring two basses, we usually just play it on one at the same time when performing it live. Adds a bit of circus style entertainment.
13. Nobody's Fault but Mine – a traditional song sung by Rosie with abundant harmonies by Ann Paul and special guest Ben. Rosie was attracted to this song by the lyrics “My Mother she taught me how to sing” and indeed she did! It's a song about taking responsibility – something we need to remind ourselves of in this time of world crisis.
14. A set of tunes – Piros Rozsak Beszelgetnek– red roses talk ,a Hungarian love song. Halljatok Ciganok, dance gypsy dance – Ann sings this in a Hungarian dialect known only to her (although she did receive some masterful phonetic coaching from Paul's cousin Janos Lendvai at the Balaton in Hungary in 2013) these last two feature Paul on double bass and Odessa Bulgarish - one of the many bulgarish's in the repertoire a slow fast klezmer tune featuring Ann on mandolin. Ann and Rosie subtly switch instruments between tunes –Rosie from Irish bouzouki on Piros to frenetic guitar playing on the last, Ann from guitar on the first two to the tune on Odessa.

We have included some reference to each of our backgrounds on this recording – Ann – Treasures, Rosie – Seven Yellow Gypsies and Paul – the Eastern European tune set. There are more subtle references via pieces we wrote and songs we grew up with but this is a reflection of the sum of the parts of RAPT – RosieAnnPaulTrio.

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