

Foreword

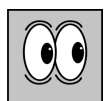
Thanks to Bugs Bunny, Elmer Fudd, and dozens of other cartoon characters, you've already heard many of the pieces in this book, even though some of the titles listed in the Table of Contents may not exactly ring a bell.

In addition, a lot of these melodies have found their way into commercials, movies, TV shows, parodies, and background music that you've been hearing subliminally for years. For instance, did you know that the lovely and lilting melody in "Hello Muddah, Hello Faddah" began life as a ballet in a 19th-century Italian opera?

And for the songs that are completely unfamiliar, well, it's my goal to share the beauties of this timeless music with my fellow dulcimer players at *all* levels of experience.

Yes, you're holding in your hands a unique collection of classical arrangements, but what's really exciting is all the stuff waiting for you on my website:

- Recordings of each of the 25 solos
- Recordings of each of the duets, trios, and Canon in D -- you can hear each part separately, then listen to it all put together -- you can practice along with any of these parts -- ***and, you can actually "play along with Carol"***
- Video demonstrations of tips and techniques for successful performance



And one more really important thing: During the times when I've traveled and taught at dulcimer festivals in various places around the country, the absolute best thing about those adventures has been the people I've met, and *whose names and faces I've kept in my mind's eye while I worked.*

The experience of writing this book has felt as if I've been teaching one grand workshop with all these wonderful folks in the room at the same time.

What a joy it has been to think of those lovely folks who I know will truly appreciate not only the music itself, but also the historical anecdotes and humorous tidbits that are included.

Have fun, Dear Friends -- **in truth, this book is dedicated to all of you as well.**

July 21, 2017