

PEERING THROUGH THE FOG

The IRTRAD user group was wonderful, but it occasionally needed help, really. No, really.

Zouki to the rescue. Uncharted depths of perhapsness hold few if any terrors for him. Follow him who dare!

%%%

Statement 1:

"The postprandial use of the Penurian and Apoplectic modes in the early Coleman hornpipes is, or ought to be, fraught with significance, especially in view of the transvestitial quasi-ornamentation that prevails."

Translation 1:

"There - THAT should keep the dolts from ever enjoying 'The Stack of Barley' again!"

* * *

Statement 2:

"Begod and who gives these academic types the right to chop up and spit out our Irish tradition? I say they should leave it be and not be poking and probing and analyzing it to death, sucking all the beauty out of it like so many vampires . . . we should play it the way it's been handed down all these years . . ."

Translation 2:

"I can't read music."

* * *

PEERING THROUGH THE FOG

Statement 3:

"In her singing, redolent of the exquisite sean-nós tradition of the Cul an t-Asail area of west-central Kerry, Maedbh Mhairithineach ni Bhfuairthisc - despite her advanced age - continually explores the subtle interplay between modalities that makes her music on this recording so unique."

Translation 3:

The old bat is out of tune 90 percent of the time.

* * *

Statement 4:

"Ah good on ya, Maedbh whatever your name is, sure my mother and her mother and her mother before that used sing that song in the same way . . . (tears, sniffing) . . . grand stuff altogether . . ."

Translation 4:

They couldn't carry a tune either.

* * *

Statement 5:

"You know who really get my goat? Those stuff-shirted pompous bastards who waste their time on concertos and quartets and all that high-brow junk . . . they should all get lives, learn a few REAL tunes . . . unless they're [snort] too good for the likes of 'The Boys of Blue Hill' . . ."

Translation 5:

"I will never, EVER, be able to play with the same degree of technical skill that a classical musician has."

PEERING THROUGH THE FOG

* * *

Statement 6:

"I feel of course a certain . . . sympathy for those dear primitive souls who fritter away countless hours in dark smelly little pubs playing that silly Irish music that, quite frankly, all sounds the same . . . but then again, none of them have [slight cough] my classical training . . ."

Translation 6:

"I will never, EVER, be able to play with the same depth of feeling that a traditional musician has."

* * *

Statement 7:

"Bodhrán players and banjo players suck."

Translation 7:

"Bodhrán players and, to an even greater extent, banjo players have almost single-handedly enabled the Irish tradition to thrive despite the continuing blatant mediocrity of other instrumentalists."

* * *

Statement 8:

"Wanky Cravin? Why, that little jerk thinks he's the greatest fiddler in the solar system . . . God's honest truth, I have no time for big egos like that - it just takes away from the music . . ."

Translation 8:

"I would crawl on my hands and knees over two miles of broken glass and donkey droppings to play at one of Wanky's sessions."

* * *

PEERING THROUGH THE FOG

Statement 9:

"On this CD, the hot new group FUNGAS revel in their individuality and play their own distinctive repertoire using a radical hyper-dynamic interpretation of the Irish tradition."

Translation 9:

- (1) You won't recognize any of the tunes.
- (2) They play them too fast anyway.
- (3) The male bouzouki player wears high heels and eye make-up.
- (4) They double-mike the bodhrán.

+++

When seeing this Statement on the list one day:

"Jim (*Zouki note: not his real name, or maybe it is*) is a mother-beating, drool-mouthed, crud-sucking fanatic who should be neutered by a palsied legally blind drunkard with a rusty Allen wrench before he befouls this user group any further."

IRTRADDER Number 1 says:

"He's right. I tend to disagree with Jim a lot. Jim should die horribly, the sooner the better."

IRTRADDER Number 2 says:

"Explain to me again how this Delete thing works . . . ?"

IRTRADDER Number 3 says:

"Jim, poor thing, is crying for help and I know it, I KNOW IT!! Why, oh god why won't he let me help him . . . ?"

PEERING THROUGH THE FOG

IRTRADDER Number 4 says:

"That sonofabitch Jim probably flamed himself under one of his many aliases so we'd all feel sorry for him. Screw him."

IRTRADDER Number 5 says:

"For heaven's sake, let's get all these bad vibes off-line and concentrate on good stuff like ABCs of 'The Butterfly'".

IRTRADDER Number 6 says:

"And I'm missing a Bruins game to read this drivel?"

+++

Between the perception

And the reality

Is

... me?

Ah cripes not again.

Domine non sum dignus

====

Cheers and thanks for your patience. Have a nice aeon!

- o o o -