



Press Release



[Carols and Christmas Songs](#)

Bryn Terfel Celebrates the Holidays with Traditional Songs and Welsh Favorites out November 2nd

Orchestra of the Welsh National Opera led by Tecwyn Evans with guests Rolando Villazón, Catrin Finch, Only Men Aloud and Bing Crosby

***"Terfel's powerful vocal presence is born of physical presence and he harnesses words, in any language, like few others."* Gramophone**

NEW YORK, NY – The holidays conjure images of crackling fires, luminous trees, family gatherings and warm baked treats. This season, Welsh bass-baritone Bryn Terfel will provide the accompaniment to this joyful time with his new release *Carols and Christmas Songs* available from **Deutsche Grammophon** on **November 2nd, 2010**.

The highlight of the new album is a duet of "White Christmas" with the legendary Bing Crosby. The vocals were taken from the original recording as performed by **Bing Crosby** With The Ken Darby Singers & John Scott Trotter & His Orchestra. Terfel then focuses on his favorite traditional songs of the season including *O Holy Night*, *In the Bleak Midwinter* and *Away in a Manger*. Tenor **Rolando Villazón** joins Terfel in a performance of *El Nacimiento* while Welsh harpist Catrin Finch duets on *Silent Night* and *What Child is This*.

"Music is always a constant background accompaniment, and such an integral part of the festive period," says Terfel. "How excited I was at the prospect of recording some of these wonderful songs, especially knowing that the Welsh repertoire would also find its way onto the list." As a bonus, Terfel recorded a bonus disc of songs from his native Wales. He invited two Welsh singers and songwriters to contribute: **Gwarw Edwards** sings a duet with Bryn and **Caryl Parry Jones** has new Christmas songs for Bryn. Also included as guests are the chorus Côrddydd and the Nidus Children's Choir.

This release comes just as Terfel has finished his first Wotan at the Metropolitan Opera in their opening night performance of *Das Rheingold*. He continues to tour the US in recital throughout November, including performances at Carnegie Hall in New York on November 17th, Berkeley on November 20th and Walt Disney

Concert Hall in Los Angeles on November 22nd. His US appearances conclude with three concerts of Wagner with the Los Angeles Philharmonic under Esa-Pekka Salonen November 26th-28th.

For more on Carols and Christmas Songs, visit: www.deutschegrammophon.com/terfel-christmas.

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Praise for Bryn Terfel's recent release *Bad Boys*

“Spectacular.” NPR’s *All Things Considered*

“Ultimately, *Bad Boys* is a bit like Mae West: when it’s good, it’s good, and when it’s bad, it’s better.” *Parterre*

“The music is good sulfurous fun.” *The Boston Globe*

“There really is no one like Bryn Terfel- with his larger than life personality, extraordinary charisma, and dazzling array of vocal gifts.” *ConcertoNet*

“It communicates this artist's immense musical gifts, vocal prowess and charismatic artistry.” *Opera News*

“Terfel’s powerful vocal presence is born of physical presence and he harnesses words, in any language, like few others.” *Gramophone*

“It’s one dastardly ditty after another and totally entertaining.” *Kansas City Star*

“Bryn Terfel is a force of nature, a big, even overpowering, man in terms of voice, physique, and personality.” *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*



Bryn Terfel's *Carols and Christmas Songs* Tracklisting

O Come, All Ye Faithful attr. John Francis Wade (1711/12–1786)

English text: Frederick Oakley (1802–1880) arranged by Mack Wilberg

White Christmas Irving Berlin (1888–1989) arranged by Chris Hazell with BING CROSBY

Still, still, still (Hush, Hush, Hush) Austrian Traditional arranged by Mack Wilberg

In the Bleak Midwinter *Music: Gustav Holst (1874–1934)*

Text: Christina Rossetti (1830–1894) arranged by Mack Wilberg

El Nacimiento (The Birth) *Music: Ariel Ramírez (1921–2010)*

*Text: Félix Luna (1925–2009) from Navidad nuestra arranged by Mack Wilberg
with ROLANDO VILLAZÓN tenor*

O Holy Night *Music: Adolphe Adam (1803–1856)*

English text: John Sullivan Dwight (1813–1893) arranged by Chris Hazell

Shepherd's Pipe Carol *John Rutter (*1945) adapted by Chris Hazell*

Away in a Manger *Music: William J. Kirkpatrick (1838–1921) Text: anon. arranged by Mack Wilberg*

O Jesulein zart (O Gentle Little Jesus) *Music: Samuel Scheidt (1587–1654)*

Text: P.v.Brachel Songbook, Cologne 1623 arranged by Chris Hazell

Candlelight Carol *John Rutter adapted by Chris Hazell*

Mary's Boy Child *Jester Hairston (1901–2000) arranged by David Cullen*

Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas *Ralph Blane (1914–1995)/Hugh Martin (*1914) arranged by Chris Hazell*

Silent Night *Music: Franz Xaver Gruber (1787–1863) English text: John Freeman Young (1820–1885)*

arranged by Chris Hazell CATRIN FINCH harp

Wexford Carol *Irish Traditional arranged by Chris Hazell*

What Child Is This? *Traditional Text: William Chatterton Dix (1837–1898) arranged by Chris Hazell*

CATRIN FINCH harp

WELSH BONUS DISC

O Deuwch Ffyddloniaid (O Come, All Ye Faithful) *Welsh text: anon. arranged by Mack Wilberg*

Cwsg, Cwsg, Cwsg (Still, still, still) *Welsh text: John Ogwen arranged by Mack Wilberg*

I Orwedd Mewn Preseb (Away in a Manger) *Welsh text: William Nantlais Williams (1874–1959)*

arranged by Mack Wilberg NIDUS CHILDREN'S CHOIR/Chorus Master: Christian Jenkins

Carol y Gannwyll (Candlelight Carol) *Welsh text: author unknown adapted by Chris Hazell*

Tawel Nos (Silent Night) *Welsh text: Daniel John Davies (1885–1969) arranged by Chris Hazell*

CATRIN FINCH harp

Tua Bethlem Dref (To Bethlehem) *Edward Arthur [David Evans] (1874–1948)/Jacob David/Wil Ifan (1883–1968)*

arranged by Chris Hazell with GWAWR EDWARDS soprano

ONLY MEN ALOUD/Chorus Master: Tim Rhys-Evans

Pa Fab Yw Hwn? (What Child Is This?) *Welsh text: author unknown arranged by Chris Hazell*

CATRIN FINCH harp

Ganol Gaeaf Noethlwm (In the Bleak Midwinter) *Welsh text: Simon B. Jones (1894–1966)*

arranged by Mack Wilberg

Nadolig? Pwy a yr? (Christmas? Who Knows?) *Ryan Davies (1937–1977) arranged by Catrin Finch*

CATRIN FINCH harp

Gyl y Baban (The Baby's Day) *Caryl Parry Jones (*1958)/Myfyr Isaac (*1954) with CARYL PARRY JONES & BAND*