

EAT Shanties
The Allegheny Bilge Rats Shanty Choir
Album Notes



The Allegheny

Bilge Rats

Shanty Choir

All you need to be is loud.

EAT SHANTIES

Old Hole & Crown

TRACKS

1. Blood Red Roses 02:03
2. Hanging Johnny 02:30
3. John Kanaka 03:08
4. South Australia 03:00
5. Shenandoah 03:11
6. Roll the Old Chariot Along 03:50
7. Cape Cod Girls 03:12
8. Haul Away Joe 04:50
9. Lowlands Away 03:11
10. What Shall We Do With a Drunken Sailor 02:40
11. John Kanaka (with Kids) 02:00
12. Donkey Riding 02:15
13. Mingulay Boat Song 02:17

SEA SHANTIES are work songs first heard aboard early 19th century packet and clipper ships. They once accompanied the hard labor and coordinated effort necessary to make the big boats stop and go. No musical instruments were used. When it came to anchors both hands of all hands required occupation. There were no free digits about for plucking ukuleles or fingering the chance ocarina. Gusto spiced with wit had to be enough. And it was. That is, until steam-powered vessels smoked utility, propelling the raucous noise landward to new roosts where even today joyous yobbos and monkey-jacketed dreamers of corsair dreams, their mouths full of cackle fruit and bellies of bumboo, bellow full-heart, just as they like, till they be in Davy's grip. (Mark Ari)

about

Central Pennsylvania hasn't been underwater since the pre-Cambrian era. And the founder of the Allegheny Bilge Rats Shanty Choir has never been on an oceangoing boat. But the enthusiastic response, of the singers, to the old sailor songs is clear and infectious. Our shanty choir is growing, in number and volume, in and around the Penn State Altoona campus.

Props go out to artist, musician, and musicologist Art Rosenbaum for offhandedly introducing Steven Sherrill to the genre. And to the rowdy crew who jumped onboard without hesitation when asked "want to come to a sea shanty party?"

In a world where everything is judged, commodified, packaged, and marketed, opportunities to come together for the sake of nothing other than the joy of making community noise are hard to find. The Allegheny Bilge Rats Shanty Choir sings for each other. We'd be happy to let you join us.

Steven Sherrill

Contact info for Steven Sherrill can be found at www.stevensherrill.com

Credits

Chanteymen

Sam Findley on *Shenandoah*; Jordan Heitkamp on *Haul Away Joe*; Sarah Jenkins on *South Australia* and *Lowlands Away*; Hal Kunkel on *Blood Red Roses*, *Cape Cod Girls*, and *Mingulay Boat Song*; Christian Reifsteck on *Hanging Johnny*; Steven Sherrill on *Roll the Old Chariot*, *John Kanaka*, *John Kanaka (with kids)*, and *Donkey Riding*; and Mike Weiland on *What Shall We do with a Drunken Sailor*.

Crew

Paul Bilger, Chas Brua, Tom Burk, Christie Charles, Eric Charles, Tyler Cousart, Sam Findley, Jordan Heitkamp, Sarah E. Jenkins, Matt Kresch, Hal Kunkel, Jordan Ley, Nathaniel McCartney, Timothy Melbinger, David F. Parry, Lee Peterson, Julie Piotti, Christian Reifsteck, Steven Sherrill, Jordan Shumaker, Chris Sickenger, Mike Wieland

Kid Crew

Merryn Charles, Renna Charles, Esmee Sherrill, Josephine Squillante

Recorded by David Villani of Data Music Services < <http://www.datamusicsvcs.com/> >

Production and album design by Mark Ari / Find EAT at <http://www.eatwords.net/>