SPIRITED PEOPLE CD • Festival Singers • 2007

About the CD

$25.00 + p&p*

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Spirited People takes you on a spiritual and musical journey through a selection of new works by New Zealand composers that offer praise to God, set against the challenge to take the model of Jesus' life of service and sacrifice seriously. This is their first commercial recording.

The cantata *The Spirit Within*, by popular hymnwriter **Colin Gibson**, is the major work on the CD. In it he explores God the majestic and awe-inspiring, but also provokes us to respond to poverty and injustice. His music draws on both classical and popular musical forms and influences. The lyrics are poetic and set us firmly in the rural and urban landscapes of Aotearoa. Readings of poems by five other NZ writers linking the music tracks enhance the recording. The CD also includes short settings by Colin Gibson of Joy Cowley's poem *The Virgin Birth* and John Donne's *To Enter That Gate*.

Jonathan Berkahn, organist and Celtic band enthusiast, writes music that is spiritually uplifting to sing and captures a feeling for intimacy with God. His works are underpinned with a rhythmic joy founded in jigs, reels and other Irish folk styles. Jonathan also draws on church tradition and classical music forms, with settings of text from the Anglican prayerbook or directly from Scripture. A highlight of this CD is Jonathan's *Te Deum* for choir accompanied by Celtic folk band. Audiences have enthusiastically applauded its public performances. We also feature Jonathan's up-tempo *New Song*.

Two pieces by **Rosemary Russell** complete the selection. *Its How You Live* urges us to be faithful, positive and to treasure our relationships with those around us. The lilting song *Psalm 63*, written in collaboration with choir member Philip Garside, explores the depths of our spiritual longing.

This beautifully packaged CD will make an ideal Christmas gift for friends and family. Buy another copy for your personal listening pleasure.

Festival Singers

Festival Singers is a Christian community choir based in Wellington. Over its 30 years' existence, the choir has both sung traditional music, and promoted new styles of church music.

Many people today are questioning the shape of the Christian church and seeking new ways of expressing faith through music. This imaginative CD combines choral music, art songs and spoken word in a fresh contemporary genre.

For more about the choir and our CDs, visit:
www.festival-singers.org.nz

Buy *Spirited People*

Spirited People is priced at **$25.00** per copy plus p&p.* See **special price** below for **three or more** copies.

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Our 25th anniversary CD *Tell My People* is also available for $25.00 plus p&p.*

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