

= Maybe This Christmas Too ? =

Maybe This Christmas Too ? is a holiday compilation album released in October 2003 through Nettwerk Records featuring contemporary musicians performing both classic and original Christmas songs . The compilation served as a sequel to Maybe This Christmas (2002) and preceded Maybe This Christmas Tree (2004) . A portion of the proceeds from the album went to Toys for Tots , a charity supported by the United States Marine Corps . Critical reception of the compilation , which failed to chart in any nation , was mixed .

= = Background and composition = =

Maybe This Christmas Too ? is a sequel to the 2002 compilation album Maybe This Christmas , which reached a peak position of number thirty @-@ eight on Billboard 's Top Holiday Albums chart . Maybe This Christmas Tree , released in 2004 , became the third installment to the series . A portion of proceeds from all three albums went to Toys for Tots , a charity supported by the United States Marine Corps . Maybe This Christmas Too ? features fourteen tracks recorded by various artists , most of which were associated with the Nettwerk record label during its release . Ten of the tracks were recorded specifically for this compilation album . Darin Harmon served as the album 's executive producer and Ianthe Zevos served as the project manager . Mastering for the compilation was donated by Louie Teran . In August 2003 , MTV reported on the possible inclusions of The Used 's " Alone This Holiday " , The Flaming Lips ' " Winter Wonderland " and The Polyphonic Spree 's " Winter Wonderslumber " , none of which ended up on the final release .

The album opens with Rufus Wainwright 's " Spotlight on Christmas " , an acoustic @-@ based original track recorded exclusively for this set . " Spotlight on Christmas " was written and produced by Wainwright ; among other guests , the song features Teddy Thompson and Martha Wainwright on backing vocals and bells as well as Thompson on electric guitar . " The Winter Song " was written , arranged and produced by members of Eisley . " O Holy Night " , based on a poem by Placide Cappeau , was composed by Adolphe Adam and translated by John Sullivan Dwight . The song is performed by Avril Lavigne and Chantal Kreviazuk , the latter of which also produced the track . " Silent Night " , performed by Lisa Hannigan , was originally recorded by Damien Rice for his 2002 studio album O . The song is less than two minutes in length and features original lyrics .

The band Rilo Kiley contributed " Xmas Cake " , a song originally written by group members Jenny Lewis and Blake Sennett . The track was produced and mixed by Mike Mogis and features " jazzy guitar chords and a piano @-@ led wintery feel " to address poverty and conflict . " ¿ Dónde Está Santa Claus ? " (Spanish for " Where Is Santa Claus ? ") is performed by the band Guster and was produced , recorded and mixed by Peter Katis . The track contains castanets , " bouncing " rhythm , and " silky " backing vocals . " Rudy " , a song about " Rudolf the red @-@ nosed wino " , was originally written by Danny Dolinger ; the version appearing on the compilation album was arranged and performed by The Be Good Tanyas . Instrumentation included guitar , mandolin , organ , piano , percussion and the twelve @-@ string guitar . " Christmas Song " was written by Dave Matthews and performed by the Dave Matthews Band . The " organ @-@ tinged , gospel rendition " of " Go Tell It on the Mountain " , originally written by John Wesley Work , Jr. with traditional music , was arranged and given additional lyrics by Suzie Ungerleider (also known as Oh Susanna) .

The Barenaked Ladies ' " Green Christmas " , a song credited to Steven Page and Ed Robertson about experiencing Christmas in a location where snow never falls , was originally recorded for the soundtrack to the 2000 film How the Grinch Stole Christmas . The acoustic studio version that appeared on Maybe This Christmas Too ? differed from the soundtrack version as well as a third version appearing on the band 's 2004 studio album Barenaked for the Holidays . Martina Sorbara performs a " vampish , bluesy " rendition of Edward Pola and George Wyle 's " It 's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year " . The track was produced and recorded by David Matheson . " Donna & Blitzen " was written and performed by Badly Drawn Boy and features " bouncy vintage rock piano " . Irving Berlin 's " White Christmas " is performed by The Flaming Lips . Sixpence None the Richer performs " It Came Upon a Midnight Clear " , the album 's final track . The song contains music by

Richard Storrs Willis and lyrics by Edmund Hamilton . The version was arranged by Matt Slocum , produced by Sam Ashworth and Taylor Harris , and engineered and mixed by Harris . Leigh Nash performs vocals , Slocum features on guitar , pedal steel and Wurlitzer , Rob Mitchell plays drums , and Justin Cary plays bass . Ashworth also contributed on ebowuitar and percussion , and Harris on percussion and programming .

= = Reception = =

Allmusic 's MacKenzie Wilson wrote that Maybe This Christmas Too ? would appeal to " both casual and die @-@ hard music fans of all ages " . Wilson called Wainwright 's performance " classic chamber pop with a warm spirit " and also noted the " fetching " graphic design work for the album 's cover art by Brian " Goatpillow " Brooks of Cosmic Debris . Andrew Gilstrap 's review for PopMatters also complimented " Spotlight on Christmas " , calling the song a " clever piece of class @-@ conscious commentary " that provides a " perfect example of [Wainwright 's] meticulous toyshop brand of pop " . Simmy Richman of The Independent considered The Flaming Lips ' rendition of " White Christmas " to be the " strangest " he had ever heard . Gilstrap used the same adjective (" strange ") to describe " O Holy Night " , and thought " Silent Night " was " incredibly potent " despite its short length . The New York Times 's Kelefa Sanneh called " White Christmas " " spooky " and wrote that the album " brings to the world something more ambivalent than joy " . Gilbert concluded that Maybe This Christmas Too ? " feels just about right " and " does a fine job of representing the less than stellar aspects of a wintry , commercialized holiday like Christmas . " In 2008 The A.V. Club included " Spotlight on Christmas " as number thirty @-@ nine on its list of " 42 holiday entertainments that don 't make us want to claw our eyes out with rage " .

= = Track listing = =

" Spotlight on Christmas " (Rufus Wainwright) , performed by Rufus Wainwright ? 3 : 22
" The Winter Song " (Eisley) , performed by Eisley ? 4 : 34
" O Holy Night " (Adolphe Adam , Placide Cappeau , John Sullivan Dwight) , performed by Avril Lavigne and Chantal Kreviazuk ? 4 : 22
" Silent Night " (Lisa Hannigan , traditional) , performed by Lisa Hannigan ? 1 : 48
" Xmas Cake " (Jenny Lewis , Blake Sennett) , performed by Rilo Kiley ? 5 : 22
" ¿ Dónde Está Santa Claus ? " (Alvin G. Grenier , Gordon Rod Parker , George Scheck) , performed by Guster ? 2 : 21
" Rudy " (Danny Dolinger) , performed by The Be Good Tanyas ? 4 : 33
" Christmas Song " (Dave Matthews) , performed by Dave Matthews Band ? 5 : 33
" Go Tell It on the Mountain " (John Wesley Work , Jr . , traditional) , performed by Oh Susanna ? 3 : 48
" Green Christmas " (Steven Page , Ed Robertson) , performed by Barenaked Ladies ? 2 : 37
" It 's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year " (Edward Pola , George Wyle) , performed by Martina Sorbara ? 2 : 45
" Donna & Blitzen " (Badly Drawn Boy) , performed by Badly Drawn Boy ? 3 : 29
" White Christmas " (Irving Berlin) , performed by The Flaming Lips ? 4 : 20
" It Came Upon a Midnight Clear " (Edmund Hamilton , Richard Storrs Willis) , performed by Sixpence None the Richer ? 3 : 46

Track listing and song lengths adapted from album liner notes .

= = Personnel = =

Credits adapted from Allmusic and album liner notes .