

# *A Nocturne of Nightingales*

*Jean C. Roché*



This compact disc "A NOCTURNE OF NIGHTINGALES" is the first of a series devoted to the extraordinary musical beauty of bird song. In selecting for it, I have simply chosen the thirteen best recordings of nightingales that I have made since 1958, the year I first started field recording.

The first nine tracks are of the Nightingale (*Luscinia megarhynchos*), which is found throughout Western Europe. Arriving at the end of April, it sings until the first days of July and then falls silent until migrating back to Africa a few weeks later.

The other species, the Thrush Nightingale (*Luscinia luscinia*), arrives in Spring in the eastern half of Europe. It is slightly heavier than the Nightingale and its song is usually slower, deeper and there is more contrast between pure and harsh notes.

Now follow details of the thirteen recordings.

## NIGHTINGALES

1. In a mountain forest in northern Greece, May.

**Duration : 6'04"**

*Background* : Blackbird, another Nightingale, Chaffinch, Nightjar, Blackcap.

2. Woodland edge in Bourgogne, May.

**Duration : 4'04"**

*Background* : A second rival male with adjoining territory.

3. In a small copse in an Alpine valley, June.

**Duration : 5'49"**

*Background* : Blackbird, Robin, Song Thrush, Blackcap.

4. A wood on the Ile de France, June.

**Duration : 3'13"**

*Background* : Cuckoo, Blackbird, Cockerel, Woodpigeon.

5. At the edge of a small lake, Bresse, June.

**Duration : 6'20"**

*Background* : Edible frogs, Reed Warbler, Blackcap.

6. Beside a marsh in Bresse at the end of April, .

**Duration : 6'06"**

*Background* : Little Grebe, Moorhen, Chiffchaff calls, Grey Heron.

7. At the edge of a forest beside a lake, Bresse, May.

**Duration : 6'14"**

*Background* : Edible frogs, Song Thrush, Reed Warbler, Blackbird.

8. In waste ground beside a stream in Provence, June.

**Duration : 1'20"**

*Background* : Cetti's Warbler, Field Cricket, Scops Owl.

9. On the edge of a wood, in Provence, June.

**Duration : 4'57"**

*Background* : Scops Owl, Great Green Bush Crickets, Italian Crickets.



## THRUSH NIGHTINGALES

10. In boggy moorland, southern Finland, June.

**Duration : 6'01"**

*Background* : Redwings, Willow Warbler.

11. In willows beside a lake, southern Finland, May.

**Duration : 6'11"**

*Background* : Garden Warbler

12. In willows at the edge of a marsh, Danube Delta, Rumania, May.

**Duration : 3'17"**

*Background* : Fire-bellied Toads, Wryneck, Green Toad, Garden Warbler.

13. Beside a stream in central Rumania, May.

**Duration : 6'14"**

*Background* : Many Green Toads.





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