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Arvel Bird Pays Tribute to RMS Titanic with New Album: *Titanic Centennial: Commemorative Special Edition*

*Award-winning violinist and Celtic Fusion recording artist releases original scores to honor the 100th anniversary of the sinking of **Titanic**.*

NASHVILLE, Tennessee (January 25, 2012) -- On the night of April 14, 1912, the passenger liner RMS Titanic struck an iceberg on her maiden voyage and sank on April 15, resulting in the deaths of 1,517 people, making it one of the deadliest peacetime maritime disasters in history. On the 100th anniversary of that tragic event, world renowned violinist Arvel Bird pays tribute to the “unsinkable” ship and honors the survivors and those lost in a powerful new album ***Titanic Centennial: Commemorative Special Edition***. In ***Titanic Centennial***, Bird has created an hour-long musical journey dedicated to the passengers, crew and musicians aboard RMS Titanic in April 1912.

Titanic Captain Edward Smith, the radiomen, bandleader Wallace Hartley and a host of others who sailed on that fateful voyage come to life in a powerful, musically cinematic and an emotionally riveting performance that will immerse the listener in the sights and sounds of the tragic events in the North Atlantic in 1912. The album features eight original compositions, including a beautifully haunting violin solo and soul-stirring “a cappella” vocal song, along with three popular previously released songs. The album includes a 20-page booklet with factual stories and historic pictures of the people and the mighty ship **Titanic**. No doubt, this is Bird’s finest work to date.

“***Titanic*** is one of the most emotional albums I’ve ever recorded,” said Arvel Bird. “I felt like an actor preparing for each new role with each composition I wrote. Bandleader Wallace Hartley and three band members, for example, continued playing and doing what they loved best until the very end, comforting the distraught passengers. I hope that I would have been that brave and done my best to keep the scared passengers calm, but no one knows for sure until they’re in that situation. The music created an exciting range of emotions in me, and the studio musicians on the album experienced the same emotions in their performance of the scores.”

Traditional songs that were performed on the Titanic, “Nearer My God to Thee” and “Songe D’Automne,” are beautifully woven throughout the original arrangements “Adrift in the Dark” and “Over

the Airwaves.” In “Fire & Coal,” the Celtic violin melody pounds out a swift, lilting beat, in rhythm with the speed and intensity with which the 177 firemen and stokers worked to shovel 630 tons of coal a day to keep Titanic moving at her optimum speed. “Over the Airwaves,” begins with melodic Morse Code, recreating the frantic distress signals tapped by Marconi wireless operator Jack Phillips in attempt to summon help from passing ships.

This **Collector’s Item CD**, on the Singing Wolf Records label, includes a 20-page booklet of fascinating, factual stories and pictures to follow along on the voyage as the music unfolds. The booklet was developed by Pat Cummins, an authority on Titanic history and of the only known photos taken aboard Titanic by Father Francis Browne, who disembarked the Titanic in England, before it began crossing the Atlantic.

About Arvel Bird:

Celtic fusion recording artist, Arvel Bird, is known around the world for his dramatic connection between Celtic and Native American traditions, creating a musical experience that audiences love. Dubbed “Lord of the Strings” by fans and music critics, his music evokes the soul of North American history and is thoroughly entertaining, but also enlightening and humanizing. In a language and experience that captures the hearts and imagination of all audiences, he’s emotional without being condescending, intellectual without being pretentious. One measure of any art form is when the medium is so mastered that it becomes transparent, allowing its message to be seen, heard and felt. Arvel Bird has achieved that mastery.

Bird's 20 CDs and 2 DVDs reflect his continuously evolving music which is delighting audiences worldwide, and has earned him numerous music awards -- from Best Instrumental Album and Best Producer/ Engineer (with Grammy-winning producer Tom Wasinger and Nashville engineer Chas Williams) *Tribal Music Suite: Journey of a Paiute*, to Artist of the Year and Best Contemporary Album in Canada and the United States.

For more information about Arvel Bird, visit www.arvelbird.com. His music is available on his website or through Amazon.com, iTunes, and many other online sources. Bird enjoys interacting with his many fans on his social media sites: Facebook: www.facebook.com/thearvelbird; Twitter: www.twitter.com/arvelbird; and Myspace: www.myspace.com/arvelbird.

For More Information:

Photos and videos are available. Song samples are available at www.titaniccentennialmusic.com. Media, music reviewers and radio stations should contact Jody Roberts at jody@nativespiritpublicrelations.com for CDs or downloadable MP3s of the *Titanic* album.

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