

SANDY BAINUM

This Christmas



- 1 Happy Holiday/White Christmas
- 2 This Christmas
- 3 The Christmas Song
- 4 Christmas in the City
- 5 Be A Santa *duet with Guy Haines*
- 6 What Are You Doing New Year's Eve
- 7 I've Got My Love to Keep Me Warm
- 8 A Song for Christmas
- 9 Sleigh Ride
- 10 I Thank You for Your Love
- 11 Christmas Gifts/The Best Gift
duet with Euan Morton
- 12 The Man With the Bag
- 13 Peace/Silent Night
- 14 Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas
- 15 Blessings of the Season

Album Produced by **Bruce Kimmel**

Musical Director, Orchestrations and Arrangements: **Lanny Meyers**

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THE SONGS

Happy Holiday/White Christmas (*Irving Berlin*) | **This Christmas** (*Bruce Kimmel*) | **The Christmas Song** (*Mel Torme/Bob Wells*)
Christmas in the City (*Jay Leonhart*) | **Be A Santa** (*Styne/Comden & Green*) duet with **Guy Haines**
What Are You Doing New Year's Eve (*Frank Loesser*) | **I've Got My Love to Keep Me Warm** (*Irving Berlin*)
A Song for Christmas (*Carroll Coates*) | **Sleigh Ride** (*Leroy Anderson*) | **I Thank You for Your Love** (*Schmidt & Jones*)
Christmas Gifts/The Best Gift (*Raposo &Harnick/Lan O'Kun*) duet with **Euan Morton** | **The Man With the Bag** (*Taylor/Brooke/Stanley*)
Peace/Silent Night (*Horace Silver/Franz Xaver Gruber/ Joseph Mohr*) | **Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas** (*Hugh Martin/Ralph Blane*)
Blessings of the Season (*Lanny Meyers*)

The Meyers-Sullivan Orchestra

Woodwinds:
Lawrence Feldman
Chad Smith

Cellos:
Zoe Hassman
Christina Stripling

Trumpets:
Bob Millikan
Glen Drewes

Harp:
Lynette Wardle

French Horn:
Patrick Pridemore

Keyboards:
Lanny Meyers

Trombone:
John Lemke

Bass:
Jay Leonhart

Violins:
Bob Zubrycki
Todd Sullivan
Christopher Vuk
Angel Valchinov

Drums:
Buddy Williams

Violas:
Claire Bergman
Chen Lin

Guitars:
Jack Cavari

Percussion:
Sue Evans

Contractor: **Todd Sullivan**



Album Produced by **Bruce Kimmel**

Musical Director, Orchestrations and Arrangements:
Lanny Meyers

Album Mixed by **John Adams**

Mastered by **James Nelson** at Digital Outland

Orchestra tracks recorded at
Avatar Studios, New York
Engineer: **Roy Hendrickson**
Assistant Engineers: **Bob Mallory, Tyler Hartman**

Vocal Tracks recorded at:
Westlake Audio, Hollywood, CA
Engineer: **John Adams**
Assistant Engineer: **Matt Brownlie**

Guest Artists:
Euan Morton and Guy Haines

String orchestration for "Sleigh Ride":
Todd Sullivan


Studio Tapping performed by:
Patricia Lockery
of NYC's Dance Makers Inc.

Back Up Vocals
The Accidentals
Director:
Margaret Dorn

Sopranos: **Margaret Dorn**
Rosie Vallese
Tenors:
Jim Vincent
Matt Perri

Altos: **Emily Bindiger**
Marcia Pettitiere
Basses:
Dennis Deal
Bill Mitchell





I have always loved the holidays. As a child, I still remember waking on Thanksgiving morning to the smell of my mother's turkey stuffing, watching the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade on TV, and then pulling out my favorite Christmas albums - the Johnny Mathis Christmas album, Alvin and the Chipmunks, and my mom's Reader's Digest Christmas Collection. This was the signal that the Season had officially begun in my house. The holidays wouldn't be complete without music on the turntable.

What followed was a glorious month or so of tantalizing smells, twinkling lights, tree trimming, frenzied shopping and harried wrapping until all of our relatives would show up and somehow squeeze into my parents' small house. And of course, there would be music - usually the same Christmas songs played over and over again.

Now, as an adult, I admit I still get charged up by the holidays, starting the very moment I hear the first strains of Christmas music on the radio. I still pull out Johnny Mathis, and even the Chipmunks, and sing along as I trim my tree. As a mom, I loved watching my kids' excitement as the holidays approached. I'll never forget seeing their sweet faces as they awoke on Christmas morning, then rushed downstairs to see if Santa had come. And these days, I also get a good, warm feeling when the last pine needle has been vacuumed up and all the decorations are packed away and stowed up in the attic until next year.

All of these lovely holiday memories made me long to do this album, to create some holiday magic that was truly meaningful to me. There are so many wonderful songs of the season, and narrowing the choices was a difficult task. I've included a few classic favorites such as "Sleigh Ride," "The Christmas Song,"

"Happy Holiday," "White Christmas" and also some fun tunes, the kind Alvin and his Chipmunk clan used to sing.

Collaborating with my long time Musical Director, Lanny Meyers, made this project a celebration. Lanny's musical brilliance, orchestrations and advice have become staples in my life. In other words, it has been a great joy! And the addition of producer Bruce Kimmel to the mix was a blessing. He brought his fantastic ear, not to mention his wicked sense of humor. Both Lanny and Bruce contributed new songs for the album. Lanny's "Blessings of the Season" is a beauty and Bruce's "This Christmas" (which is also the title of my CD) is also perfect for any Hanukkah festivities. Just add a big bow and *This Christmas* becomes a wonderful gift of song from me to you. And I can only hope you enjoy listening to it half as much as I enjoyed making it!

In order to have this CD ready for the holiday season, we had to record it in August, during one of the hottest New York summers on record. The sessions both in New York and Los Angeles brought the holidays to life just little earlier than usual but I felt the same joyous anticipation usually reserved for December. A little eggnog and a garland of holly or two would have made the experience complete.

Finally, I want to thank "my guys" for all their love and support and offer a wish for you all: peace, joy and an unforgettable holiday season. I've already experienced some of the blessings and joys of the season by doing this album!

So, please enjoy my gift of holiday songs!

Peace!

Sandy

THIS CHRISTMAS

This Christmas
I'll be celebrating Hanukkah
With the Jewish man I'm dating
Won't be standing underneath the mistletoe this year
'Cause I'll be here with you

This Christmas
I'll be lighting a menorah
Singing Dreidel, Dreidel, Dreidel
Santa won't be coming to your house – but I'll be there
An honorary Jew

On the eighth day of Hanukkah my true love gave to me
Some latkes and a lot of chocolate gelt
No, he won't be saying "Merry Christmas, darling"
But when he says "shalom" I simply melt

This Christmas
Won't be roasting any chestnuts
Won't be mixing meat and dairy
Still we'll have a merry holiday, for me, for you
A Goy, a Jew
A Happy Hanukkah for two
This Christmas, Hanukkah is what I'll do.

(Written by Bruce Kimmel)









In Heartfelt Thanks:

Truly there should be laws against the number of talented people who helped make this album a reality and for the amount of fun we all had making it happen!

First and foremost a very special thanks to:

Lanny Meyers: My dear partner in music for your never-ending support, love and wonderful musical talents, orchestrations, and the song "Blessings of the Season."

Thank you for EVERYTHING.

Bruce Kimmel: My wonderful producer with magical ears and earnest but honest intent on making good music through the use of hilarious quips! And, for your song, "This Christmas"! Thank you for EVERYTHING.

The Meyers-Sullivan Orchestra: and every musician on this album.

My heart skipped a beat from the moment I heard your first notes.

Todd Sullivan: for your assistance in music preparation, arrangements and contracting – not to mention, your beautiful playing.

The Accidentals: for your lovely blend and charming voices in the choruses, thank you.

Euan Morton: for lending your gorgeous voice to the album and mostly for your friendship.

Guy Haines: for your fabulous singing and remembering your part beautifully.

Jay Leonhart, bassist: for your beautiful song, "Christmas in the City" and your fabulous playing.

Patricia Lockery/NYC Dance Maker's Inc.: for your long time friendship and great tapping.

Avatar Recording Studio NYC: the place where "This Christmas" came to life on those smoldering August days.

Roy Hendrickson, Engineer: for all of your NYC engineering brilliance, set up and managing 22 musicians plus singer on microphones/headsets and talkbacks - a feat in itself.

Tyler Hartman & Bob Mallory: Avatar assistant engineers, for your great efforts.
Westlake Recording Studios, West Hollywood: for your lovely environment and space for our vocal recordings.

more (and just as important)
thank yous

John Adams, Engineer: LA engineer extraordinaire:
for your heroic efforts in mixing this album.

Thank you for your patience and ears.

Matt Brownlie, Assistant Engineer:

for your assistance in LA during our sessions!

James Nelson: for your masterful mastering.

Cade Martin Photography, Kirsten Wyss and crew:

for your wonderful photographic talents in shooting the photos for
this album.

Pascale Lemaire, stylist: for your style advice – need I say more?

Dean Krapf, hair/makeup: for making me look like I have great
hair and makeup in all kinds of weather ...

even a snow storm in September.

Doug Haverty, Graphic Artist: for your creative talents

and the packaging and cover designs.

Wade LaBoissiniere, Designer:

for your wonderful red velvet dress design and forever long friendship.

John Kristiansen Designs: for making my gorgeous dress in a flash
and making it exactly as I envisioned it! I love it.

Douglas Retzler Art and Effects: just call him the Snowman,
for making it snow on a gorgeous September sunny day.

Matt Murphy: for your recording session photos.

Mona Finston, P.R.: for your friendship, guidance and efforts to get
me promoted out there through your hard work.

Cindy C. Oxberry: for organizing and running a tight ship on photo
shoot day and my concerts and for being my pal.

Stewart, Brad and Matt: The three most important men in my life!
Thank you for your love.

My friends and family: You are the best supporters in the world,
thank you!

Sandy



Cover and Portraits:
Cade Martin Photography
Hair and Makeup: **Dean Krapf**
Photo Stylist: **Pascale Lemaire**
Dress Design: **Wade Laboissonniere**
Dress Creation: **John Kristiansen NY Designs**
Frosty window pane close-up and recording session photos:
Matt Murphy at Murphyme.com, NYC

Art Direction and Package Design:
Doug Haverty for Art & Soul Design

PR: **Mona Finston**, NYC

