

The Presentation of

THE VALLEY OF GREEN AND BLUE

This presentation of story and song performed by Don Freed draws students into the human drama that is the story of the Métis. From the cruel and oppressive regimes that inspired courageous and hearty souls to emigrate to the new world, through the emergence of a new race and the importance they played in the development of North America. From their heroics to their eventual tragic downfall and re-emergence as a proud people, Don Freed's finely researched songs tell the story.

The CD, which was produced by Danny Greenspoon (Ian Tyson, Great Big Sea, Jane Bunnette) contains fifteen songs touching on key points in the history of the Métis. They range in styles from the mirthful jigs to moving elegies to informative ballads (did you know that more women and children died from respiratory infections they caught while hiding in cold riverbank caves than combatants at the Battle of Batoche) The final song was recorded live with a choir of Métis people in the old church at the Batoche National Site, the anthemic "When This Valley".

When your students experience this presentation, they will have garnered a clear understanding and an appreciation for the historic Métis. The story of the Metis, is a story of Canada.

