



# NEWS

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## 100 Years of Recording

*Mormon Tabernacle Choir achieves milestone. Releases historic collection with vintage recordings and most-requested songs.*

SALT LAKE CITY, UT, June 10, 2010— The famed Mormon Tabernacle Choir has been recording longer than any other recording artist in the United States, marking 100 years of recording in 2010. To celebrate the milestone, this American icon today releases a landmark collection of songs, offering a window to historic moments with *100: Celebrating a Century of Recording Excellence* (Mormon Tabernacle Choir®, June 2010, \$29.98).

This three-disc celebratory set includes two audio discs with a total of 32 tracks made up of the Choir's most-requested songs, including "Consider the Lilies;" "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing;" "Battle Hymn of the Republic," for which they won a Grammy; "Climb Ev'ry Mountain;" and "Hallelujah" from *Handel's Messiah*.

There are four newly-recorded selections by the Choir on the two audio CDs including "Danny Boy," "Glorious Everlasting," "All People That on Earth Do Dwell" and their first-ever CD recording of "Betelehemu," the Nigerian song that has been a rave hit wherever they perform it.

In honor of this recording milestone, the Choir also opened its vault of vintage footage and archival audio and created a third disc for the set—a bonus CD/DVD with rarely seen or heard performances, including:

- The very first recording made by the Choir on September 1, 1910, "Let the Mountains Shout for Joy."
- The Choir's first electrical recording in 1927 ("Worthy is the Lamb" from Handel's *Messiah*) by the Victor Talking Machine Company.
- Video of the Choir at Mt. Rushmore singing "A Mighty Fortress is Our God," which was the first formal trans-Atlantic satellite television broadcast on July 23, 1962.
- Video of the Choir singing Beethoven's "Hallelujah Chorus" in Jerusalem, Israel in December, 1992.
- Video of the Choir singing "Battle Hymn of the Republic" at the Reagan Inaugural Parade on Jan, 20, 1981. (President Reagan later dubbed the Choir "America's Choir," a nickname that has stuck ever since).

Collectively, the bonus disc includes 11 historic videos and six vintage audio selections.

The Mormon Tabernacle Choir has recorded more than 175 albums over the past 100 years, with five gold records, two platinum records, and a Grammy. This latest recording, *100*, marks the 33<sup>rd</sup> recording project to come out on the Choir's independently-owned recording label. Since 2003, they have released 19 CDs, 10 DVDs and this latest release is the fourth CD recording package.

The Mormon Tabernacle Choir has been a witness to a century of memorable moments, performing at such historical events as presidential inaugurations, the American Bicentennial in 1976, the funerals of Presidents Franklin D. Roosevelt and John F. Kennedy, and the 2002 Olympic Winter Games. The Vienna Boys Choir (whose first recording was done in 1905) is the only other music artist in the world with a recording history as long as the Choir's.

The all-volunteer, 360-member choir is accompanied by the 110-member Orchestra at Temple Square. With a Grammy in 1959 for their famous "Battle Hymn of the Republic," an Emmy, and various major performances across the world, the Choir has become an American icon. The Choir's weekly *Music and the Spoken Word* program is the world's longest-running continuous network broadcast and airs on more than 2,000 TV, radio and cable stations across the country. For more information about the Choir, visit [MormonTabernacleChoir.org](http://MormonTabernacleChoir.org).