



Quotes

"Zentz sings with the salt-cured voice of Hampton Roads' seafaring past."

Sam McDonald, 'The Daily Press'

"Zentz has it all ... a bag of strikingly attractive songs ... a pleasing voice ... and mastery of a variety of stringed things."

The Scotsman, Scotland's Newspaper

"Zentz' enthusiastic style, anecdotal comments and unique humor delighted the audience and kept them involved ... a consummate teacher, (whose) songs rang true, because his approach was legitimate."

Bob Ruegsegger, Virginia Beach Sun

"Bob Zentz... performs his own reflective, freshly honest and beguiling songs."

Nat Hentoff, Cosmopolitan Magazine

"With a spark in his eye, and bottomless repertoire of songs at his disposal, it's easy to see why early captains wanted men like him aboard!"

Thomas Yocum, Outer Banks Sentinel

"We need songs like this, and people like Bob, more than they'll ever need us to describe them."

Gordon Bok, Maine Poet & Singer

"A local treasure, with an encyclopedic knowledge of songs, musical instruments and things nautical."

David Simpson, 'The Virginian Pilot'



Appearances

Mystic Sea Music Festival
San Diego Festival of Sail
Dana Point CA Tall Ships Festival
Segel Och Sang Finland
Smithsonian Folklife Festival
Champlain Valley Folk Festival
Ocracoke Fest, NC
Philadelphia Folk Fest
Harborfest, Norfolk VA
Down Rigg'in' Days, MD
Australian National Folk Fest
Auckland NZ Maritime Museum
Tall Ships, Bay City MI
Chicago Maritime Festival
Pirate Fest, Beaufort NC
Hampton Bay Days, Va.
Old Songs
OP-Sail 2000 & 2012

Songwriting

Bob's original songs, tunes and poetry settings have been recorded & performed by such artists as GORDON BOK, MAGPIE, PINT & DALE, TOM LEWIS, and the SHERINGHAM SHANTYMEN

B O B Z E N T Z

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Bob Zentz



Songs & Tales of "The Sea, the Ship, and the Sailor"

Concerts – Lectures –
Workshops
for
Festivals – Museums –
Libraries – Classrooms



Of Ships and Sailors ...

Our seas, bays and rivers weave a spell about our very lives, and to understand the "ways of the waters," it is essential to also understand the lives and times of those who have tried to tame, explore, navigate and harvest them...



The Sailors ...

From the "Age of Sail" to the "Age of Sonar," the sailor has always been a mysterious folkloric figure, veiled in the mists and magic of the sea, and returning home with treasures of the heart, mind and soul. The songs and stories of these voyagers give us an intimate glimpse into their minds, lives and experiences as well as the "nature" of those "liquid highways" upon which they travel.

Photographs by Jerry W. Kelley

"The Sailor's Songbag" ...

features:

- Traditional Sea Chanteys (work songs)
- Dance Tunes
- Sea Poetry (set to music)
- "Forebitters" (for off-watch entertainment)
- Contemporary Nautical Ballads

... all linked by lively commentary based on literature, folklore and personal experience, and presented with a sense of *"History, Humanity and Humor."*



This "Informance" ...

... in the form of an ocean voyage demonstrates the cycle of sea travel, from weighing anchor, setting sail and the customs of ship-board life, to pumping the bilges at journey's end, with audience participation, to the accompaniment of a variety of usual and unusual imported and domestic instruments, including sailors' favorites like the UKE, BANJO and CONCERTINA!



Programs and Themes ...

- Poetry Set to Music
- Sea Songs and Chanteys
- Songs of Nelson's Navy
- "Titanic" and other Sea Disasters
- Lighthouses and Stormy Weather
- Tales of Whales and Sails
- A Brief History of Grog
- Songs of the Chesapeake
- A Sailor's Life (at sea and ashore)
- Civil War Sailors in Song and Story
- From River and Bay to Deep Blue Sea
- "Foc'scles & Forebitters"
- Nautical Fishermen and Watermen's Songs and Yarns
- "Outward Bound/Homeward Bound"
- Contemporary Songs of the Sea
- Singin' Pirates and Privateers
- The Season of the Sailor

Nautical Recordings

"Hove-to & Drifting"

"Tall Ships" with "Scuttlebutt"

"Closehauled on the Wind of a Dream"

