

RECORDINGS IN NATURAL CAVES

GIBRALTAR **NOT RECORDED IN CAVE**

Saint Michael's Cave

Upper Rock

RIC-G11 United Kingdom 1974

THE ORCHESTRA OF THE CORPS OF ROYAL ENGINEERS

NOTRIC – Popular – Choral – Cave Pic Cover

Selections:

Side One – 1. March of the Peers (Sullivan) – 4:45/ 2. Two Spanish Dances (Granados) – 9:40/ 3. Eavesdropping (Trad.) – 2:43/ 4. Unrequited Love (Lincke) 5:10

Side Two – 1. A Flash of Strings (Binge) – 2:25/ 2. Six selections from Song of the Hebrides (Fraser) – 5:46/ 3. Tamboo (Gavez) – 2:43/ 4. The Czech Song (Hasler) 4:15/ 5. Ca C'est Paris (Padilla)/ 6. The Last Time I Saw Paris (Kern/Hammerstein)/ 7. La Seine (Lafarge)/ 8. Under the bridges of Paris (Scotto)/ 9. Mademoiselle de Paris (Durand/Contet)/ 10. April in Paris (Duke/Harburg)/ 11. Paris Metro (Bowen) – 6:40

Comp: (See above)

Arr: (Sd 1a & 1b) R. Annison; (Sd 2b) Baynes

Perf: **THE ORCHESTRA OF THE CORPS OF ROYAL ENGINEERS**

Cond: P.H. Sleep

Prod: Charles Berman

Prod. Co: Gold Star

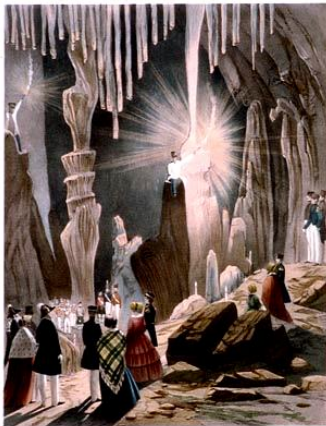
Time: (See above)

LP: THE ORCHESTRA OF THE CORPS OF ROYAL ENGINEERS

Gold Star 1 500 011 (stereo)

12" 33rpm (Sides 1 & 2)

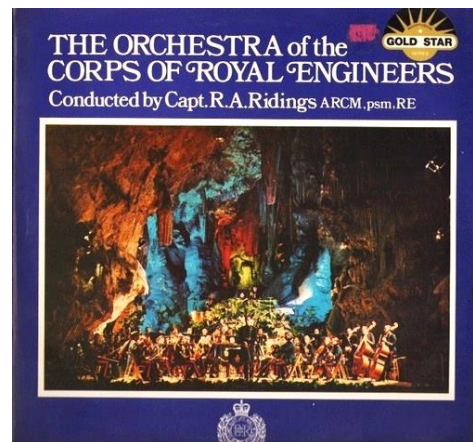
Notes: In the mid-19th century soldiers from the Garrison



organized illuminations with music in the old cave. We are told that while the ladies and their gallant partners descend into the cave “a military band of music, stationed in the inner Cave, plays: its sweet tones, rendered doubly impressive by its invisible position, reverberates through the vaulted cavern, and salutes the ears of the visitors as each enters.” (Carter 1846) A painting by J. M. Carter, engraved by Thomas Coleman Dibdin, shows officers and their ladies assisting at an illumination. (Carter 1846)

This is a studio recording of a military band and not a performance recorded in the cave, but these same compositions would have been performed live in the cave on different occasions by these same military musicians.

Concerts are held in the largest chamber, the Cathedral Cave, with a seating capacity of well over 400. Plastic chairs are set out on 15 broad terraced concrete steps that run the width



of the room. A thick calcite pillar stands at the very center of this grandstand seating area. The large concrete stage area is on two levels; the lower one where the orchestras usually set up and where dancing can take place and the other just behind, raised about 6 feet (2m) higher. During the 20th century concerts of classical music, opera, ballet, and rock were held there on several occasions.

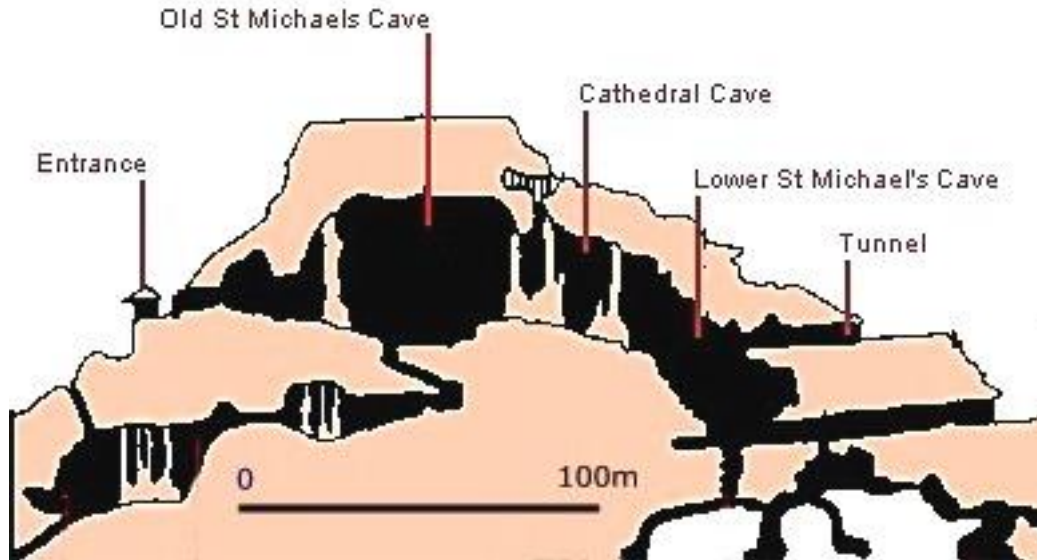
Ref: Anon. n.d., St. Michael's Cave – Gibraltar, Description & History, [Wikipedia](#)

Anon. 2005, St. Michael's Cave, York University Cave & Pothole Club, [yucpc](#)

Carter, J.M. 1846, Select Views of the Rock and Fortress of Gibraltar", Baily Brothers, London, plate 13, [culture.gov](#)

Shaw, T.R. 1955, Old Saint Michael's Cave, *Cave Science*, v. 3, n. 23, Jan. 1955, British Speleological Ass'n, p. 310

Shaw, T.R. 1955, The St. Michael's Caves, Gibraltar, *NSS Bulletin*, n. 18, Dec. 1956, National Speleological Society, p. 16-23



Profile of Old St. Michael's Cave – York University Cave & Pothole Club

caveinspiredmusic.com