


An illustration of a man with a beard and a blue t-shirt playing a mandolin. He is standing on the left side of the frame. In front of him, two young children are dancing. One child is a girl with curly hair, wearing a blue shirt and white shorts. The other child is a boy wearing a blue jumpsuit. They are holding hands and appear to be in a circle. The background is a soft, wavy, light-colored pattern. The overall mood is warm and joyful.

Andy May

# Dance of Life

A  
Mandolin  
Celebration

A photograph of a man with a beard playing a mandolin. Two children, a girl and a boy, are looking at the instrument. The background is a soft, light blue.

**Bluegrass and  
old-time  
tunes**

**Andy May:**

mandolin, guitar, vocals

**Fiddle:**

Ken Kosek, Van, David, &  
Cammy Kaynor

**Bass:**

Roger Mason, Rudi Weeks

**Banjo:**

Jim Heffernan, David Dick

**Resonator guitar:**

Jim Heffernan

**Piano:**

Ed Kaynor



*...where the current is timeless*

[www.swiftrivermusic.com](http://www.swiftrivermusic.com)

[www.andymay.com](http://www.andymay.com)

615-316-9479

1. *Dance of Life* (A. May) 4:10
2. *Soldier's Joy* (with vocal) 3:39
3. *Swallowtail Jig* 3:17
4. *Bill Cheatham* 3:20
5. *Morpath Rant* 3:09
6. *Devil's Dream* 2:48
7. *Blue Grass Stomp* (B. Monroe) 3:09
8. *Bay of Fundy Reel* (A. May) 3:33
9. *Saint Anne's Reel* 3:32
10. *Cripple Creek* (with vocal) 2:40
11. *Rachel* 2:59

Produced by Andy May

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*...It's hard to hold  
your seat as Andy  
and the boys  
beckon you to get  
up and dance.  
-Bluegrass Unlimited*

SRM CD-115



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# Dance of Life

Andy May

***Remastered edition!*** I recorded this project in the fall of 1986. It was first released on cassette in 1987 and then on CD in 1999. The musicians who appear on these tracks were friends and band mates. My admiration and thanks go out to them still. ~Andy

***Thanks!*** Karen Cannon's artwork is based on photographs by Deborah Robson and Lauren LeCroy May. Many thanks to them and to Evan Reilly, who encouraged me to record this project way back when.

***In fond memory of:***  
Loy Beaver, "Texas"  
Tabby Crabb, Wynn  
Fay ("The Ol' Ridgerunner"),  
Ed Kaynor, and  
Gene Ketelhohn

***The album artwork:*** Painter Karen Cannon ([KarenCannon.net](http://KarenCannon.net)) devotes her great talent to works that celebrate music in everyday life. Although Andy's daughters, Rebekah and Kaitlyn, are thirteen years apart in age, each loved to hear Dad play the mandolin when they were little. Karen used photographs of the girls as toddlers (and Andy, circa 1985!) to create the paintings on the front and back covers of the album, wonderfully capturing both the spirit of the project and the magnetism the mandolin holds for little ones.

***... the celebration continues!***



*...where the current is timeless*

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## Produced by Andy May

Recorded and mixed in 1986  
at Downtown Sounds Studio,  
Northampton, MA.

**Engineer:** Jim Weeks

Tracks 1 & 11 remixed and  
project remastered at Main-  
frame Recording Studio,  
Nashville, TN.

**Engineer:** Nathan Smith  
([MainframeRecordingStudio.com](http://MainframeRecordingStudio.com))

**Artwork:** Karen Cannon  
([KarenCannon.net](http://KarenCannon.net))

## Layout & design:

Lauren LeCroy May  
([LaurenLeCroyMay.com](http://LaurenLeCroyMay.com))

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*Dance of Life* ©1982 Andy  
May, Swift River Music (BMI)

*Bay of Fundy Reel* © 1987  
Andy May, Swift River Music  
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## 1. *Dance of Life*

(A. May)

Back in the early 1980's, I  
wanted to write a piece that  
captured the soulful sound  
of Bill Monroe's mandolin  
style and mix it with the feel  
of the old time repertoire  
that I played for New Eng-  
land country dances. This  
tune is what I came up with.

*Mandolin & Guitar: Andy May*  
*Fiddle: Kenny Kosek*  
*Banjo: Jim Heffernan*  
*Bass: Roger Mason*

## 2. *Soldier's Joy*

(Traditional, Arr. Andy May)

*Soldier's Joy*, like *Bill*  
*Cheatham* (Track 4), *Saint*  
*Anne's Reel* (Track 9), and  
*Cripple Creek* (Track 10), is a  
tune I've played since my  
teens back in the mid-  
1960's. Always loved them-  
still do!

*Mandolin & Guitar: Andy May*  
*Fiddle: Kenny Kosek*  
*Banjo: David Dick*  
*Bass: Rudi Weeks*

## 3. *Swallowtail Jig*

(Traditional, Arr. Andy May)

I learned this piece in the mid 70's  
after I moved to western Massa-  
chusetts to finish college. I played  
it for a lot of old time country  
dances with some wonderful tradi-  
tional bands all over New England.  
Later, it became kind of a signa-  
ture piece when my friend Tabby  
Crabb ([TabbyCrabb.com](http://TabbyCrabb.com)) and I  
formed a country rock band in  
that region in the late 70's. This is  
my more traditional arrangement.

*Mandolin & Guitar: Andy May*  
*Fiddles: Van, David, & Cammy Kaynor*  
*Piano: Ed Kaynor*  
*Banjo: Jim Heffernan*  
*Bass: Rudi Weeks*

## 4. *Bill Cheatham*

(Traditional, Arr. Andy May)

See note for track 2.

*Mandolin & Guitar: Andy May*  
*Fiddle: Kenny Kosek*  
*Banjo: David Dick*  
*Bass: Roger Mason*

### **5. Morpath Rant**

*(Traditional, Arr. Andy May)*

Another piece from the Northeast. I can still feel the floorboards gently bouncing as a room full of folks danced to this tune, in one of those old time halls that are scattered around in the old New England towns.

*Mandolin & Guitar: Andy May  
Fiddles: Van, David, &  
Cammy Kaynor  
Piano: Ed Kaynor  
Bass: Rudi Weeks*

### **6. Devil's Dream**

*(Traditional, Arr. Andy May)*

This tune always reminds me of hearing Bill Keith and Jim Rooney's music when I was a kid.

*Mandolin & Guitar: Andy May  
Fiddle: Kenny Kosek  
Banjo: David Dick  
Bass: Roger Mason*

### **7. Blue Grass Stomp**

*(B. Monroe)*

Bill Monroe knew how to mix swing and blues into the old time country style. I'm still tipping my hat to him.

*Mandolin & Guitar: Andy May  
Fiddle: Kenny Kosek  
Banjo: David Dick  
Resonator Guitar: Jim Heffernan  
Bass: Rudi Weeks*

### **8. Bay of Fundy Reel**

*(A. May)*

I spent some time up in Nova Scotia in the 80's. I sat by the Bay of Fundy and let the tide help me come up with this tune.

*Mandolin & Guitar: Andy May  
Fiddle: Kenny Kosek  
Banjo: David Dick  
Bass: Rudi Weeks*

### **9. St. Anne's Reel**

*(Traditional, Arr. Andy May)*

See note for track 2.

*Mandolin & Guitar: Andy May  
Fiddle: Kenny Kosek  
Banjo: Jim Heffernan  
Bass: Rudi Weeks*

### **10. Cripple Creek**

*(Traditional, Arr. Andy May)*

See note for track 2.

*Mandolin & Guitar: Andy May  
Fiddle: Kenny Kosek  
Banjo: David Dick  
Resonator Guitar: Jim Heffernan  
Bass: Roger Mason*

### **11. Rachel**

*(Traditional, Arr. Andy May)*

When we were in our teens, Ken Kosek and I had the good fortune to get to know and play a lot of music in New York City with Harold Wilson, a fine fiddler from North Carolina. He was like an uncle to us. I still think of Harold when I play this one.

*Mandolin & Guitar: Andy May  
Fiddle: Kenny Kosek  
Banjo: Jim Heffernan  
Bass: Roger Mason*



# Andy May

## Dance of Life

## A Mandolin Celebration

SWIFT RIVER MUSIC

...where the current is timeless

[SwiftRiverMusic.com](http://SwiftRiverMusic.com)

**Produced by Andy May**

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