

Oh, I loved it! I laughed until I cried at the telephone repairman dancing to this. Cooee is like no other CD you have heard. Suffice it to say that the entire CD is packed with talent stacked upon talent!

...prepare yourself for just over an hour of the finest entertainment to be found. -  
Written by Alicia Karen Elkins - **Rambles**



## CD Review

# COOEE

### Wow! What a CD!

Cooee was a surprise for me, sent from a musician whose work I have recently reviewed, Steven Eulberg. He had worked some of the sound effects on this CD and felt I would enjoy it. He was absolutely correct. Not only did I enjoy it, my telephone repairman was actually dancing to it (and he is roughly twenty years older than me, since he came out of the Navy when I was only three). Obviously this CD appeals to all ages.

Cooee is like no other CD you have heard. Aussie storyteller and didgeridoo player, Paul Taylor, teams up with one of Australia's leading children's performers, Don Spencer, to present songs, bush ballads, stories, humor, and Aussie sound effects to entertain every listener. From the traditional Aussie "Tie Me Kangaroo Down" to a lyrical folk song to a 60s "shu-bop" style to a herd of kids, the Kookaburra Kids, rapping and singing behind the lead singer. When I say "herd of kids," I mean 16 kids from Kruse Elementary and Pioneer School in Fort Collins, Colorado. This CD covers all the music tastes and styles. There is something for everyone.

The stories are, like the songs, of extremely diverse styles. From the sad story of how Taylor's ancestors were shipped to Australia to the mesmerizing folk tale about how the original bird people came to speak different languages to the haunting love tale of the swaggie Joe and Matilda to the hilarious tale of Mulga Bill's first bicycle.

The humor will get you laughing out loud. Paul Taylor explains how to make a didgeridoo. Although he says that you can even pick up the exhaust pipe when it falls off your car and play it, I would not advise trying it. Stick to the PVC pipe.

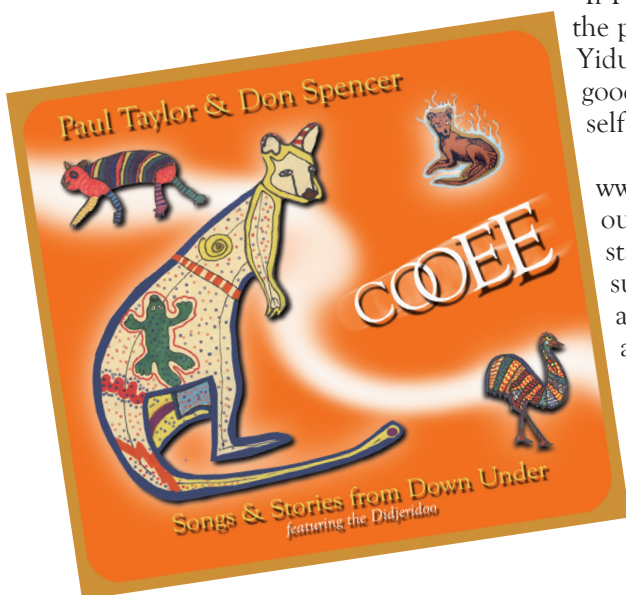
There is no way to credit all the musicians on this CD, 32 from America and Australia, in the standard length review. Suffice it to say that the entire CD is packed with talent stacked upon talent! Likewise, there is no way to select one track as the best or favorite. I sure did identify with "Home Among the Gum Trees" and share the opinion that a home with a veranda in the front, clothesline out back, and a front porch swing is the ideal life. I love the last song, "Kookaburra Song," where all the kids are doing different parts. I challenge listeners to figure out how many different parts are layered in this song.

This CD is a fascinating look at the Australian culture and heritage. It is educational as well as entertaining and will fascinate all ages. If it can get the telephone repairman and I to rap and dance, imagine what it can do for you! I commend Russ Hopkins, Director of Kiva Records, for releasing this CD. He also plays the guitar and percussion and does vocals in many of the selections.

If I have not convinced you to buy this one already, please consider that the proceeds from this CD go to the Aboriginal People of North Australia, Yidumduma Bill Harney and the Wardaman People. Now, you have a good cause, so order a copy of this marvelous CD today and prepare yourself for just over an hour of the finest entertainment to be found.

Visit Paul Taylor at: [www.paultaylor.ws](http://www.paultaylor.ws) and Don Spencer at: [www.donspenser.com.au](http://www.donspenser.com.au). On these sites, you will learn about these two outstanding performers and their own good causes. Don Spencer is starting to perform in America now, after having toured the UK with such groups as The Rolling Stones, The Four Seasons, and The Hollies, and having been a television celebrity with multiple shows in the UK and Australia. His bio is definitely worth reading. Be on the lookout for performances from either of these men. They are fantastic!

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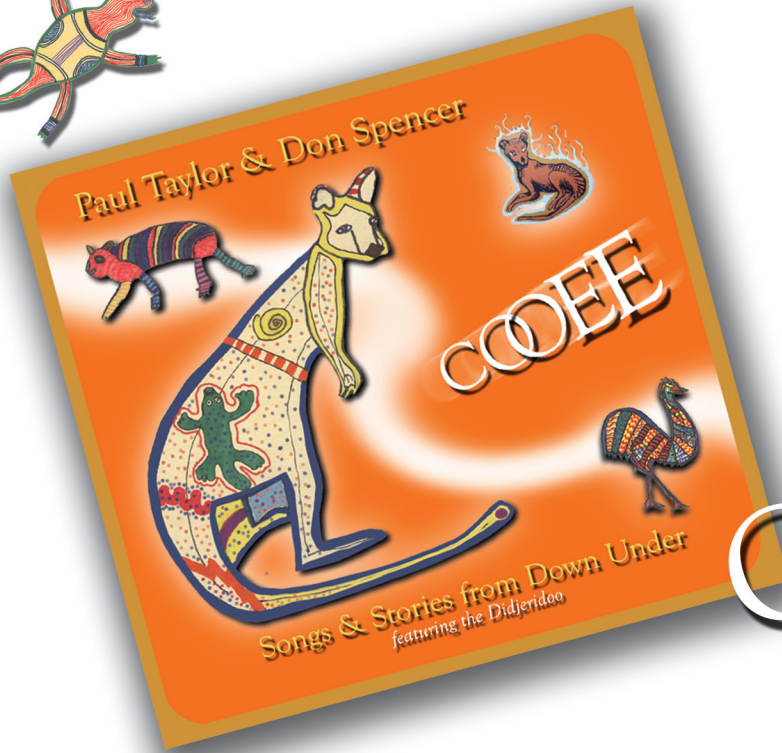
# Cooee Review

An Aussie/US collaboration



## Paul Taylor

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# COOEE



Hi Storytell folks, again not time for a complete review but in case you're having a festival, or national conference this should be a must in your resource store so hurry and get some for the national conference.

Cooee, Songs and Stories from Down Under is by acclaimed Aussie storyteller Paul Taylor and Don Spencer, Paul is the storyteller and fantastic didgeridooer and Don is one of Australia's most recognized children's performers. It's music, stories, songs and lots of fascinating Aussie history. Paul's narration and storytelling and the recording quality are all topnotch. Some outback aborigines are also featured.

What more could you ask, a whole hour of enchanting entertainment from Down Under. A must for libraries, media centers and storytellers who like to tell multicultural stories. I learned all about the meaning behind Waltzing Matilda. Now you can too. I can see you playing this CD into the loud speaker system while the kids are marching in-the sounds of the didgeridoo are awesome.

How do you get this CooeeCD? email pauldidj@juno.com, call 307-721-8853, website is www.paultaylor.ws. It's \$15.00 plus \$2.00 shipping and handling.

Linda Spitzer  
Just for the Tell of it  
<http://storybag.net/>