

Canadian Folk Music

folk song

- a song originating among the people of a country or area, passed by oral tradition from one singer or generation to the next
- often has several versions and is generally a simple melody consisting of verses and chorus

Four Strong Winds by Ian Tyson

Ian Tyson learned guitar in hospital, recovering from a bad fall in a rodeo. He moved from Vancouver Island and hitchhiked to Toronto, where he met a young singer from small-town Ontario called Sylvia Fricker. As Ian & Sylvia, they were the Canadian stars of the early '60s folk boom that gave the world Bob Dylan, Phil Ochs, Joan Baez, the Clancy Brothers and the Kingston Trio.

Married in 1964, the pair made almost a dozen albums — and wrote some of Canada's best-loved songs, including Ian's "Four Strong Winds" and "Someday Soon," and Sylvia's "You Were on My Mind" — songs that have all been covered countless times by some of the most famous artists of our time, including Dylan, Neil Young, Judy Collins, and a young Canadian singer the couple mentored in his early days, Gordon Lightfoot.

<http://www.iantyson.com/pages/biography.asp>