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Music Downloads

The music samples are brief extracts taken from points throughout the work. We hope they will give you some impression of the basic sound and character of the music, and show you a few of the many types of soundscape and styles of performance that make up **Curly's Airships**. The samples are all Layer 3 MPEG, 64kbps, mono recordings and do not reflect the quality of the sound engineering on the CD.

Theme from Curly's Airships

Here's a sample of the first occurrence of *Curly's Theme* on track one. This musical motif re-occurs in the work, but this is the strongest arrangement, with soaring lead guitar, driving bass and relentless percussion!



[275 kb MP3](#)
[35 secs playback](#)

Walking Out The R33

Join Curly and the aircrew of the airship R33, or *Tiny* as she is affectionately known, as the 500 strong groundcrew, each holding a rope from the airship, walk her out of her hanger in preparation for a dawn flight.



[609 kb MP3](#)
[77 secs playback](#)

Airship Shanty

Many of the Airship crew came from the Royal Navy, bringing some of the maritime traditions to their new element. Here's a sample of the Liberty Watch singing one of their Airship Shanties in the sun. This version is the final mix which supercedes the version which was previously available on this site.



[434 kb MP3](#)
[56 secs playback](#)

Director's Song

Or perhaps The Director's Lament. The Director of Airship Development, Reg Colmore, ponders the impossible task before him - the construction of R.101, his design brief constantly changing and his planning undermined by premature announcements to the press. A very strong vocal performance by Paul Roberts as Colmore.



[614 kb MP3](#)
[78 secs playback](#)

Cutting The Lady In Half

Judge's sense of humour manifests itself throughout the work and here's a typical example. R-101 in its original configuration had insufficient lift and despite the removal of fittings and furnishings and the slackening of the the gas cell wiring, the fixed weight to lift ratio was too small. The only solution - cut the ship in half at its widest point and insert an additional gas cell. Hence the title of the track, after the Music Hall trick of the same name.



[417 kb MP3](#)
[53 secs playback](#)

The Last Minutes

The place: The town of Beauvais, France; the time: 2:00 in the morning on October 5th 1930. Curly is about to take his turn at the controls of R.101 on her maiden flight as she struggles to make headway against the battering gale force winds and soaking rain. One of the emotionally stongest pieces of the whole work, Judge's drumming set's the pace, Hugh Banton's sometimes soaring, sometimes manic organ work dominates the piece while John Ellis's guitar



[507 kb MP3](#)
[64 secs playback](#)

punctuates the growing sense that something is about to go horribly wrong...

Virtual Poster

R.101 Engineering Drawing

Exclusive to visitors to this site! This specially commissioned engineering drawing of R.101 can either be viewed online or can be saved to disk for printing out at up to A4 size. Clicking on the link at the left will open a new browser window containing the (large) GIF image. Scroll around in the Engineering Drawing using the browser's scroll bars, or save the file to disk, open it in your favourite graphics program and print it out landscape on A4 paper.



[143 kb GIF](#)
[3519 x 2305](#)



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