

# Canadian Folk Music

Musique folklorique canadienne

*Balladeer*  
**Moira Cameron**



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## From the Editors



Very late but hot on the heels of our double issue on the Princeton Traditional Music Festival comes this regular-sized issue devoted mainly to ballads and other folksongs. In the many years that we have edited *Canadian Folk Music* we have often thought of putting together an issue of the magazine that would be comprised entirely of songs: traditional ballads and folk lyrics that could benefit from renewed exposure, and new songs written in the traditional folk style that we have recently come across and that have particularly impressed us. Well, we've never done it before, and this issue only comes close, since it does include some other items such as our regular "Treasures from Our Archives" column, some book and CD reviews and the cumulative index for 2009. But there are many, many songs in these pages, and some particularly fine ones at that.

Dave should perhaps apologize for including five of his own efforts but this was probably the last opportunity to fit them in and it seemed the right occasion. No apology is needed for such excellent creations as Barry Truter's "Ballad of Robert Harkness", John Leeder's "Roseberry Lake" and Country Joe McDonald's setting of Robert Service's extraordinary poem "The Man from Athabaska" (which we owe to the singing of Simon Trevelyan at the Princeton Traditional Music Festival). You will also find four particularly beautiful English traditional songs in Rosaleen's column: "Bonny at Morn," "Blow the Candles Out," "The Water is Wide" and "The Queen of Hearts". This, then, is an issue especially for singers, and hopefully you will find something that you will feel compelled to add to your active repertoire.

*David & Rosaleen Gregory*

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