

Canadian Folk Music

Musique folklorique canadienne



Gnawa Musicians in Larache

Fieldwork in Cape Breton, Spain, and Newfoundland

The Many Versions of “Waiting for a Train”

An Interview with John Archbold

Summer 2013

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From the Editor

Summer is a time when many of us in the CSTM community take a breather. We learn new songs, maybe go to the jam that we missed throughout the year, go off on fieldwork excursions, or finally sit down to write up the results of our research.

With that in mind, I sent out a call to our editorial board and the CSTM executive, in the hopes of compiling an issue that highlighted their recent research and performance activities. They came through with a variety of great submissions, resulting in a more informal “newsletter” issue for Summer 2013.

Opening the issue is Heather Sparling’s interview with songwriter John Archbold, who documents his process of creating disaster songs. Another piece from Heather updates her discoveries about the “Captain Torres” song written by James Keelaghan (see Fall 2012 [46.3] for her interview with him). You might be surprised at what her recent research has uncovered! Next, Tim Rogers takes a different song, Jimmie Rodgers’s classic “Waiting for a Train”, and documents its changes as it moved through the Canadian folk tradition, revealing some unexpected transformations.

Highlighting their recent fieldwork, both Janice Tulk and Judith Cohen offer little pieces of their travels to Corner Brook, Newfoundland and Spain, respectively. Meanwhile, Chris McDonald provides us with a detailed summary of his extensive research on the Cape Breton piano accompaniment tradition. Finally, new CSTM member Linda Moroziuk is this issue’s featured student – and songwriter! – in Graduate Student Profile, and Norm Stanfield responds to “Three Perspectives on Teaching Music Online” (from Winter 2012-13 [46.4]) with a thoughtful commentary on his own blended courses.

John Leeder continues the extension of “Treasures from our Archives” back 30 years, and has collated reviews of albums by Qristina & Quinn Bachand and James Gordon, among others.

Please continue to send your ideas, articles, and reviews to us, and enjoy the Summer 2013 issue!

Gillian Turnbull, Editor

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