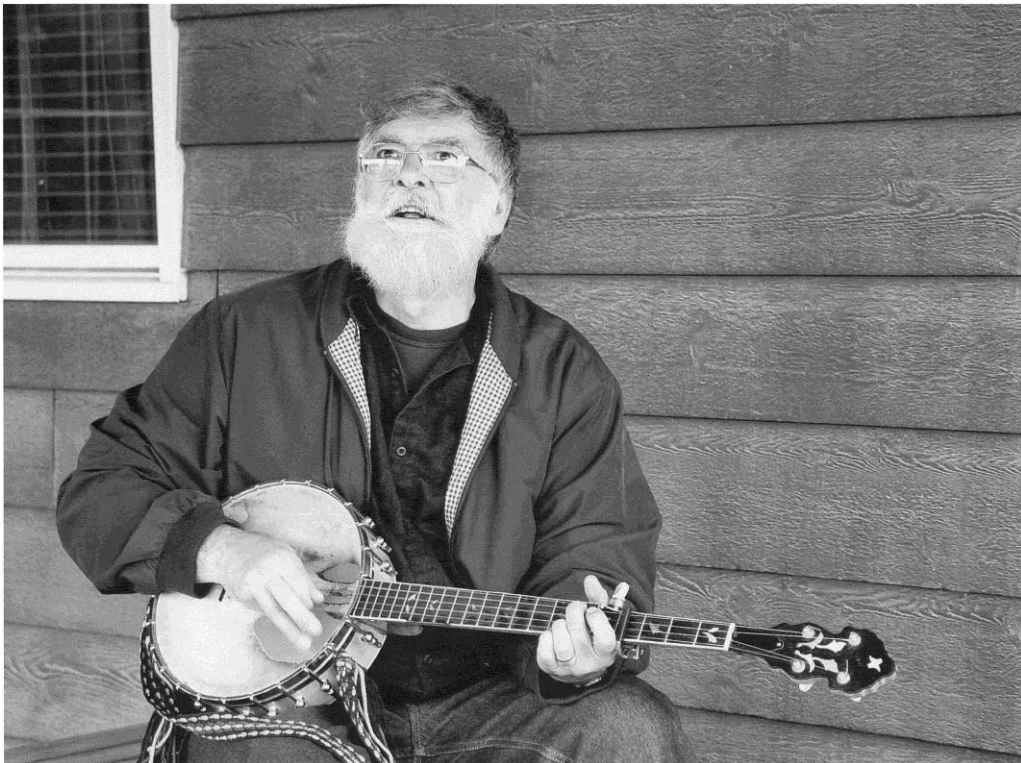


Canadian Folk Music

Musique folklorique canadienne



John Leeder

Special Issue on the Prairies

An Interview with John Leeder

For the Joy of Singing

Punchin' the Dough

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From the Editor

Many of us are in the midst of researching and writing about Canadian traditional music. While that work is always the focus of this magazine, sometimes important regions and traditions are a bit elusive, depending on the nature of our contributors' work.

With that in mind, I decided to make the 2013-14 publication year all about regions of Canada, some of which are deserving of concerted attention here. I sent out a call to our membership and beyond, and have received submissions on the East Coast, the North, Quebec, and the Western provinces. This year of *Canadian Folk Music/Musique folklorique canadienne* is one of the most diverse in terms of regions and musical traditions. This issue, we'll visit the Prairies.

As this issue came together, I realized that while those of us who study Prairie music-making are few, we are outspoken in our belief that it is a tradition that contributes in no small way to Canadian culture. But because we are few, we feel like family. This became more apparent as Mike Tod interviewed our review editor, John Leeder, for one of this issue's features, and then John contributed a song – a revision of "Forty Below in the Winter". John also compiled the reviews, in which I take a look at the *Calgary Collection*, a series of films about Calgary folk musicians produced by Mike that showcases Tim Rogers and John. Meanwhile, Tim has offered the other feature article in this issue, on a men's folk-singing group that meets regularly in Calgary.

We know this is not the only traditional music happening on the Prairies; the Spring issue is only a small window on the rich traditions that define this region. We hope you'll join our little family for this peek into the Prairies, and that you come away thinking about some of the Prairie music you love too.

Please enjoy the Spring issue of *Canadian Folk Music/Musique folklorique canadienne*, and continue to send ideas, articles, and letters to us.

Gillian Turnbull, Editor

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