

28th ARSC National Conference

So far, there are no last-minute changes in the program, the preliminary version of which everyone should have received by now. This was mailed from New York along with the pre-registration form and information about New York and events planned. Anyone who has not received the mailing is asked to contact Mark Tolleson, Rodgers & Hammerstein Archives of Recorded Sound, The New York Public Library, 40 Lincoln Center Plaza, New York NY 10023-7498 (212 870-1662; fax: 212 787-3852; e-mail: Tolleson@nyplgate.nypl.org.

Finalists for the 1994 ARSC Awards for Excellence

Finalists have been announced in the competition for the 1994 ARSC Awards for Excellence in Historical Recorded Sound Research. The following were chosen from a large field of nominees. Winners will be selected by a seven-member Blue Ribbon Awards panel, consisting of experts in several fields of study, and will be announced at a banquet to be held at the conclusion of the ARSC Annual Conference in New York from June 8 to . The winner of the annual ARSC Lifetime Achievement Award will also be announced at this ceremony.

RECORDED CLASSICAL MUSIC

- Adelina Patti: Queen of Hearts*, by John Frederick Cone, with
"The Buxtehude Cantatas: A Discography" by Jerome F. Weber, in
17th Century Music, Vol. 2 No. 2 (Spring 1993)
Elliott Carter. A Bio-Bibliography, by William T. Doering (Greenwood Press, 1993)
"Georges Barrere" by Susan Nelson, in *ARSC Journal*, Vol. 24 No. 1 (Spring 1993)
The Recordings of Edvard Grieg: A Tradition Captured, by Robert Matthew-Walker (St. Austell, U.K.: DGR Books, 1993)
"Vilhelm Herold" by Peter Bergmann, in *The Record Collector*, Vol. 38 No. 4 (Oct/Nov/Dec 1993)

RECORDED ROCK, RHYTHM & BLUES OR SOUL

- Elvis: *The Sun Years - The Story of Elvis Presley in the Fifties* by Howard A. DeWitt (Popular Culture Ink, 1993)
Eric Clapton: The Complete Recording Sessions, 1963-1992, by Marc Roberty (St. Martin's Press, 1993)
Louie, Louie, by Dave Marsh (Hyperion, 1993)
Save the Last Dance for Me: The Musical Legacy of the Drifters, 1953-1993 by Tony Allan with Faye Treadwell (Popular Culture Ink, 1993)

RECORDED GENERAL POPULAR MUSIC

- Alec Wilder: A Bio-Bibliography*, by David Demsey and Ronald Prather (Greenwood Press, 1993)
Discographie der deutschen Tanzmusik, by Rainer E. Lotz, Volume 1&2 (Bonn: Birgit Lotz Verlag, 1993)

Frank Munn: *A Biodiscography of the Golden Voice of Radio*, by Rodney Steiner and Thomas A. DeLong (Southport, CT: Sasco Associates, 1993)

That's All: Bobby Darin on Record, Stage & Screen, by Jeff Bleiel (Popular Culture Ink, 1993)

RECORDED JAZZ, BLUES, OR GOSPEL

- The Duke Ellington Reader*, Mark Tucker, ed. (Oxford Univ. Press, 1993)
Going to Cincinnati: A History of the Blues in the Queen City, by Steven C. Tracy (Univ. of Illinois Press, 1993)
"The Great Goz: The Conrad Gozzo Story" by Harold S. Kaye, *IAJRC Journal*, Vol. 25 Nos. 2-4, Vol. 26 Nos. 1-2 (Spring 1992-Spring 1993)

Nothing But the Blues, Lawrence Cohn, ed. (Abbeville Press, 1993)

Pee Wee Speaks: A Discography of Pee Wee Russell, by Robert Hilbert, in collaboration with David Niven (Scarecrow Press, 1993)

Swing, Swing, Swing: The Life and Times of Benny Goodman, by Ross Firestone (W.W. Norton, 1993)

Sylvester Ahola: The Gloucester Gabriel, by Dick Hill (Scarecrow Press, 1993)

RECORDED COUNTRY MUSIC

- "The Browns: The Three Bells" by Chris Skinner and Richard Weize, notes to Bear Family CD set (1993)
Finding Her Voice: The Saga of Women in Country Music, by Mary A. Bufwack and Robert K. Oermann (Crown, 1993)
"Galloping Guitar" by Rich Kienzle, Dave Samuelson and Richard Weize, notes to Bear Family CD set (1993)
The Stonemans, by Ivan M. Tribe (Univ. of Illinois Press, 1993)

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Please note the new ARSC address: P.O. Box 543, Annapolis MD 21404-0543. The reason may be had by reading the President's Message on page 2.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



In this, my final President's Message, I want to thank quite a few people for their devotion to and hard work for ARSC. Also, it is my pleasure to announce some personnel changes in our administrative structure. As you know, I will be completing my term as president in a time of some crisis. I think my major memory of this period will concern the many positions that had to be filled for various reasons.

ARSC goes on with an increasing membership and some new officers. Phillip Rochlin has been Executive Director since the fall of 1985. He had asked to retire at the beginning of 1993, but it has taken a long time to find a replacement for Phil. During his eight-and-a-half years Phil has reorganized the entire operation of the office, devised formats for the various types of correspondence such as welcoming letters for new members, drafted agendas for meetings and scripts for the President, and generally coached the President. He has explained the formalities of elections procedures and other duties, kept him informed about timely notifications of meetings, reports, and agendas. Of equal importance, has been the information services which he provided for ARSC to non-members as well as members. The Executive Director is ARSC's spokes-person, dealing with requests for information on the value of specific records, collections, dealer information, and even occasional help with term papers from students. Through it all, Phil has been a stalwart of our organization and a particular help to me in coping with organizational problems. Long may he continue to be a member and a participant in ARSC affairs. Along with Phil, Elwood and Joan McKee had also asked to be relieved of various duties in support of the Executive Director. Between the resignation of the then Executive Director and Phil's appointment in 1985, Elwood McKee was chair of an ad-hoc Executive Director Transition Committee. During that period, membership records were converted to a fully computerized system which the McKees have maintained. Mailing lists and labels, dues statements and reminders are thus produced, as well as membership statistics reports. It has been an excellent way of dealing with our receivables. All of these activities, of course, were reported to the Treasurer and Board of Directors. Joan and Elwood's dedication and serious expenditure of time and energy will be missed. They deserve a vote of thanks from the membership. Elwood continues on the Board as Secretary, Joan will probably give a huge sigh of relief.

It gives me great pleasure to announce that Peter Shambarger has agreed to take over as Executive Director, and I hope all of you will have a chance to meet him at the New York meeting. Peter is a long time member of ARSC, a librarian, teacher and collector who lives in Annapolis, Maryland. He has been active in the Washington Metropolitan Area Chapter and is probably known to many of you through his collecting interests in jazz and rhythm & blues. He is taking over all the above duties from Phil, as well as the McKees, and should be fully operational by our meeting.

Jerome Weber will be assuming the presidency the conclusion of our June meeting at Lincoln Center. Jerry has participated in ARSC for many years and has been our Treasurer, chair of the Publications Committee, and been involved in just about every important aspect of ARSC. He is an extremely well known discographer and writer who needs no introduction to you. Barry Ashpole, as previously reported, is the new Editor of the *ARSC Journal*, succeeding Ted Sheldon. Ted has done a wonderful job for ARSC—putting the Journal back on schedule and redesigning its appearance to great effect. He has agreed to succeed Jerry Weber as Publications Committee chair, because Jerry, obviously, will be busy with other things.

I want to thank you all for your help during these last two years. I will have some more words for you all in New York soon.

Martin Silver

ARSC NEWSLETTER

The *ARSC Newsletter* is published seasonally four times a year. Submissions should be **TYPED (DOUBLE-SPACED)** and be clearly understandable by and sent to the editor: David Sommerfield, 101 G Street, S.W., #A-618, Washington DC 20024. E-mail: Internet SOMMERFI@MAIL.LOC.GOV or CompuServe 73740,1527.

The Newsletter policy statement is published in the Winter issue.

Claims or other notification of issues not received should be addressed to the Executive Director of ARSC. His address serves as the return address of every issue of the *ARSC Newsletter*.

The summer deadline for
No. 68 is July 5, 1994.



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Gospel and Calypso Transcriptions

Ray Funk is interested in radio transcriptions of African-American gospel quartets for the 1940s and 1950s and calypsonians, especially Sir Lancelot (Pinard), from the 1950s on. If anyone has transcriptions or high quality copies to sell, please contact him at: P.O. Box 2387, Fairbanks AK 99707 (907 479-8995).

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RECORDED FOLK OR ETHNIC MUSIC

Barrio Rhythm: Mexican American Music in Los Angeles, by Steven Loza (Univ. of Illinois Press, 1993)

Calypso Calaloo: Early Carnival Music in Trinidad, by Donald R. Hill (Univ. Press of Florida, 1993)

Cassette Culture: Popular Music and Technology in North India, by Peter Manuel (Univ. of Chicago Press, 1993)

Lydia Mendoza, A Family Autobiography, compiled and introduced by Chris Strachwitz and Jim Nicolopoulos (Arte Publico Press, 1993)

Polka Happiness, by Charles Keil, Angeliki V. Keil and Dick Blau (Temple Univ. Press, 1992)

RECORD LABELS OR MANUFACTURERS

Liberty Records: A History of the Recording Company and Its Stars, 1955-1971, by Michael "Doc Rock" Kelly (McFarland, 1993)

The Mercury Labels: A Discography, by Michel Ruppli and Ed Novitsky (Greenwood Press, 1993)

Das Schallplattenunternehmen ODEON in der Schweiz (1904-1928), by Hans Peter Woessner and Frank Erzinger (Zurich: Druck der Buchdruckerei a/d Sihl AG, 1993)

RECORDING TECHNOLOGY

Hand-Cranked Phonographs, by Neil Maken (Promar Publishing, 1993)

Playback Equalizer Settings for 78 RPM Recordings, by James R. Powell, Jr., and Randall G. Stehle (Gramophone Adventures, 1993)

REFERENCE IN THE FIELD OF RECORDED SOUND

The Banjo on Record: A Bio Discography, by Uli Heier and Rainer E. Lotz (Greenwood Press, 1993)

Encyclopedia of Recorded Sound in the United States, Guy R. Marco, ed. (Garland Publishing, 1993)

A Guide to Pseudonyms on American Records, 1892-1942, by Allan Sutton (Greenwood Press, 1993)

RojaRo Index, Kjetil Maria Aase, ed. (New York: See Hear magazine, 1993) A four-volume index of 300 fanzines and other non-mainstream popular music periodicals.

The Rolling Stone Index, compiled by Jeffrey N. Gatten (Popular Culture Ink, 1993)

Ray Tump

Longtime member and former member of ARSC's Technical Committee Ray Tump died on Milwaukee on February 11 of pneumonia. Ray was like most members, an ardent ARSC enthusiast; it was evident in the time I knew him which was in his last years. He was 65 when he died and by occupation had been a printer and member of the ITU printers' union. Unfortunately, rapid technological change in his trade caused him to lose his job, a condition which caused him serious material and psychological hardship. Further, the recent loss of a longtime friend and ARSC member in a fore was additionally disturbing. But his enormous love for old time recordings,

building his fabulous collection of acoustical era entertainers, and his devotion to ARSC all gave him sufficient solace to weather the situation. He would always find enough money to attend the annual ARSC meetings wherever they were held. I myself will be eternally grateful for his help and encouragement both to become an active ARSC member and to complete my book on polka music. Unmarried, Ray is by a brother, Richard of Endeavor, Wisconsin, and a sister, Carol McCune of Milwaukee. We all will miss him.

Victor R. Greene

Edison NHS Recording Project

Major steps are being taken to improve the storage conditions and accessibility of the sound recordings at Edison National Historic Site in West Orange, New Jersey. National Park Service funding enabled the start of the Edison NHS Sound Recording Project last October.

The Site has in its collection about 25,000 Edison disc records, about 10,000 Edison cylinders, and several hundred discs and cylinders made by competitors. The large majority of these records have been at Thomas Edison's West Orange research laboratory since the early decades of this century. The collection is intact at the place of its origin along with extensive archival documentation and artifacts from the Edison record and phonograph companies. Most of the sound recordings in the collection were commercially released, and many exist in other collections. However, about 6000 of the discs and cylinders are experimental test pressings or "one-off" recordings not intended for commercial release and exist nowhere else.

In past years a majority of the disc records have been stored on the second and third floors of the main laboratory building. The lack of a temperature, humidity, and air filtration system in this historic structure made for poor environmental conditions. The remainder of the collection has been kept in historic storage vaults under only marginally acceptable conditions. In addition to inadequate storage, the sound recordings have not been cataloged, making retrieval for research difficult.

The Edison NHS Sound Recording Project began in 1993 with the creation of a new staff position to manage the project and the construction of an environmentally controlled, fire- and intrusion-alarmed storage facility designed to house the entire sound recording collection. The first phase of the project is to clean every disc and cylinder, place each in an archival storage sleeve or box, and move all the records to the new storage facility. In 1993 curatorial staff cleaned and

resleeved a total of 17,643 discs, about 70% of the disc collection. Last November all the discs from the third floor of the laboratory were moved to the new storage area. Relocation of the discs and the cylinders will be completed in the fall of 1994. Phase two of the project, which began in January this year, is to catalog fully each record into a computer database and up-load the catalog into RLIN (Research Library Information Network), a national bibliographic database. This way the holdings information of the Edison NHS sound archive will be publicly available in research libraries throughout the United States. The final phase of the project will be to make duplicate recordings of all the unique unreleased and experimental recordings onto an archival audio medium. The last phase will not begin until 1997 at the earliest.

Jerry Fabris

Curator of Sound Recordings
Edison National Historic Site

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ARSC NEWSLETTER
association for recorded sound collectors

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Sound and Moving Image Workshop

"Sound and Light: Administration of Sound Recording and Moving Image Materials in Archives" will be held September 5-6, 1994, in conjunction with the 58th Annual Meeting of the Society of American Archivists (SAA) in Indianapolis.

In this two-day workshop, the instructors, experts in sound and moving-image archives, will address the history of recording formats; the types of recording media and technologies used, from cylinder recordings through film and videotape; the aging and deterioration characteristics of each medium; ways to extend the life of non-archival formats, including proper storage and handling of the materials; and the types of equipment

needed for staff and patron use of audio-visual recordings.

Instructors will be Christopher Ann Paton, Archivist of the Popular Music Collection at Georgia State University, Barbara Sawka, Head of the Stanford Music Library, and Maxine Fleckner Ducey, Archivist for the Wisconsin Center for Film and Theater Research at the University of Wisconsin.

For more information on this workshop or on the SAA Annual Meeting in general, please contact Jane Kenamore, Education Officer, Society of American Archivists, 600 South Federal, Suite 504, Chicago IL 60605 (312 922-0140).

PAID ADVERTISING

Want to buy: a complete turntable, or a quality tonearm (e.g. SAME 30123 R), for quality reproduction of 16" records. Thomas Loader, 816 Rome Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90065 fax: 213-225-0166.

Sound Librarian(tm) database software. Superb "no-compromises" application to professionally catalog and shelve

all sound recording collections. Supports every medium and format, unlimited numbers of titles, artists, tracks, sections/movements, full cast/ensemble listings, and more. Special collector features include matrix, issue, appraisal, condition, etc. Automatically creates ANSCR labels. Optional import

of information from All-Music Guide CD eliminates many keystrokes. Two versions: Access add-on or standalone. Minimum Windows 3.1, IBM PC '386, 6 megs RAM (8 megs better), mouse. Inquiries: Five Points Technology, 1884 Langview Drive, Dept AR, Dayton, OH 45433 or CompuServe 71026,1407.

Classified advertising is \$1.50 per line, prepaid (eight words per line, three-line minimum). Deadlines are January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1. Make checks payable to **Association for Recorded Sound Collections** and mail along with advertising copy to Gary Thalheimer, ARSC Advertising Editor, 31 East 72nd Street, Apt. 9B, New York NY 10021.