Small companies and organizations produce the greatest number of traditional music recordings, many of which result from field research projects. Although these folk music and folklore recordings elude mainstream distribution networks and seldom appear in record shops and catalogs, they have been instrumental in preserving U.S. heritage and encouraging performers in local communities. The recordings are also valuable resources for students, teachers, and libraries. The 37 recordings in this list, selected by a panel of specialists in U.S. traditional music, were all released in 1987 and are conveniently available to U.S. purchasers. In addition, they all feature cultural traditions found within the United States, emphasize "root traditions" over popular adaptations of traditional material, and include well annotated liner notes or accompanying booklets. The recordings are arranged under four broad headings: (1) Afro-American, (2) Anglo-American, (3) Anthology, and (4) Ethnic and Regional. Annotations are provided for each recording. The document concludes with names and addresses of the publishers of listed recordings, the major mail order distributors of folk recordings, and the names of publications that review this type of recording. (JB)
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AMERICAN FOLK MUSIC
AND FOLKLORE
RECORDINGS 1987
A SELECTED LIST

Jennifer Cutting and Carl Fleischhauer,
Project Coordinators

American Folklife Center
Library of Congress
Washington 1988
SELECTION PANEL FOR 1987

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Available free of charge from the American Folklife Center,
Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540
INTRODUCTION

Since 1928 the Archive of Folk Culture at the Library of Congress has been preserving America's folk cultural heritage by collecting sound recordings, manuscripts, motion pictures, and photographs; and for the last forty years the Library has published a series of phonograph records and audiocassettes that provide highlights from the Archive's holdings. In keeping with this effort, since 1983 the Library's American Folklife Center has published *American Folk Music and Folklore Recordings: A Selected List* to help promote the best recordings of American folk music and folklore issued by various companies and organizations the previous year.

Small companies and organizations produce the greatest number of traditional music recordings. Many recordings result from field research projects that have received support from state arts councils, state humanities committees, and the Folk Arts Program of the National Endowment for the Arts. Although these folk music and folklore recordings elude mainstream distribution networks and seldom appear in record shops and catalogs, they have been instrumental in preserving America's heritage and encouraging performers in local communities. The recordings are also valuable resources for students, teachers, and libraries. We hope that the publication of the selected list will foster an increased awareness of such recordings and of the forms of expression they present.

Each year a panel of specialists in American traditional music meets to select a group of outstanding recordings from the approximately two hundred phonograph records, audiocassettes, and compact disks submitted by producers and manufacturers or suggested by various interested parties. The resulting list is not comprehensive but is intended to make known to libraries, educators, and others important recent sound recordings. To be eligible for consideration for the 1988 list, a recording must:

1. have been released in 1987,
2. feature cultural traditions found within the United States;
3. emphasize "root traditions" over popular adaptations of traditional materials;
4. be conveniently available to American purchasers;
5. include well-annotated liner notes or accompanying booklets relating the recordings to the
performers, their communities, genres, styles, or other pertinent information.

The American Folklife Center hopes that this list will encourage the continuing production of documentary folk recordings, which in turn will help conserve our country's rich folk heritage. We also hope that the list will stimulate record companies to include sufficient documentation with each recording to make it an effective tool for education.

The recordings in the following annotated listings are produced by the companies and organizations listed at the end of the booklet. None of the recordings listed is manufactured, distributed, or offered for sale by the Library of Congress. The booklet also lists other publications that review folk music and folklore recordings, and major mail-order distributors of folk recordings. We have included Library of Congress catalog card numbers for the convenience of librarians; they need not be used when ordering these recordings from the particular company.

To suggest suitable 1988 recordings for next year's panel or to receive additional copies of the list, please write to: Selected List, American Folklife Center, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540.
National Downhome Blues Festival: Volumes One through Four. Southland Records SLP-21, 22, 23, and 24 LP Selected live performances of traditional blues artists recorded in October 1984 at the National Downhome Blues Festival in Atlanta, Georgia. Instrumentation ranges from the one-string “diddley-bow” to full electric blues band. Artists represent many regional blues styles and their ages span a wide range. Jacket notes give full biographical information. LCCN 88-743126

The New Bluebloods: The Next Generation of Chicago Blues. Alligator AL 7707 LP A sampler of the newest generation of Chicago blues musicians performing in the city’s thriving club, festival, and recording scene. Selections show how they merge contemporary instruments and rhythms with traditional blues blue grooves. Adult subject matter. Jacket notes by Bruce Iglauer and Bill Dahl give background and biographical information on each of the ten individuals or groups featured, photos. LCCN 87-753754

New York Grassroots Gospel: The Black Sacred Quartet Tradition. Global Village: The No Name Gospel Singers (C207) LCCN 88-743119, The Heavenly Tones (C 208) LCCN 88-743120, The Faithful Harmonizers (C 209) LCCN 88-743121, Charlie Storey and His All Stars (C 210) LCCN 88-743122, The Golden Jubilee (C 211) LCCN 88-743123 A series of five separate cassettes that present the music of five of New York City’s active gospel quartets. Some groups sing a cappella and some with instrumental accompaniment, but all feature the close vocal harmonies central to this singing tradition. Each cassette contains a brief informational insert. In 1988, Global Village released a compilation album (GVM 206) that features selections by these groups and an extensive booklet.
Emry Arthur: I Am a Man of Constant Sorrow—Volume 1. Old Homestead OHCS-190. LP. Arthur was the first to record the title track, later made famous by the Stanley Brothers and Bob Dylan. Restores to print after fifty years some of this Kentucky old-time singer’s best work, recorded between 1928 and 1935. Repertoire is a mixture of traditional songs, Tin Pan Alley favorites, and gospel, some accompaniment by brothers Sam and Henry on banjo, guitar, and harmonica, some vocals by Frank Owens, William Rexcoat, and the Cedar Crest Singers. Jacket notes by Charles Wolfe. LCCN 88-743135

Chris Bouchillon: “The Original Talking Blues Man.” Old Homestead OHCS-181. LP. A retrospective of 1920s country comedian Christopher Allen Bouchillon, the South Carolinian who first popularized the “talking blues” genre. Nine songs on each side, including some minstrel-derived selections, with guitar accompaniment by Chris and his brother Utis. Notes and transcription of “Talking Blues” by Charles Wolfe. LCCN 88-743135

Luther Davis, Roscoe Parish, and Leonc Parsh: The Old Time Way. Heritage Records CIO LP. Field recordings spanning twenty-five years of old-time fiddle and banjo music from influential players of the Galax, Virginia, area. Side one is devoted mainly to Luther Davis’s solo fiddle but includes one vocal and some auction-calling; side two features the Parishes on fiddle, banjo, and guitar with occasional vocals and pump organ accompaniment. Intermittent accompaniment by record editors Andy Cahan and Alice Gerrard. Includes fifty-four-page booklet with extensive notes, photos, and other documentation. LCCN 88-713131


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Dykes "Magic City" Trio: String Band Classics—Volume 1. Old Homestead OHCS-191 LP. Contains the entire recorded output of influential East Tennessee fiddler John R. Dykes along with autoharp player Myrtle Vermillion and guitarist and singer G.H. "Hub" Mahaffey. The entire body of material was recorded in three days in a New York City studio, where the trio was joined by banjoist and singer Dock Boggs. Selections include ballads, fiddle tunes, and gospel songs. Jacket notes by Charles Wolfe. LCCN 88-743137

Home in West Virginia: West Virginia Project—Volume II. Old Homestead OHCS-177 LP. A second volume of reissues of 1920s and 1930s recordings by Mountain State musicians, including widely recorded artists like Frank Hutchison, the Kesanger Brothers, Blind Alfred Reed, and Roy Harvey as well as lesser-known musicians. Jacket notes by Ivan Tribe provide background information. LCCN 88-743134

Jim & Jesse & The Virginia Boys: In the Tradition. Rounder 0234 LP/cassette/CD. A bluegrass album reminiscent of Jim and Jesse's classic Epic albums of the 1960s, including some of the same songs and featuring banjoist Allen Shelton, joined here by Glen Duncan on fiddle. Jacket notes by journalist Thomas Goldsmith. LCCN 88-751306

The Johnson Mountain Boys

Let the Whole World Talk
Johnson Mountain Boys: Let the Whole World Talk. Rounder 0225. LP/cassette/CD. Traditional stylings by a contemporary group from the Washington, D.C., area, known for their powerful singing and skillful instrumental work. A typical bluegrass mix of love songs, gospel selections, and instrumentals. LCCN 87-753921

The Louvin Brothers: Radio Favorites '51 to '57. Country Music Foundation CMF 009-L/CMF 009-C. LP/cassette. Classic radio recordings (mostly from the Grand Ole Opry's network-broadcast "Prince Albert Show") from the best years of Ira and Charlie Louvin's radio career. Side one is gospel; side two secular. Jacket notes contain a chronology, photos, and instrumentation for each song in sleeve notes. LCCN 88-743128

The McCoury Brothers. Rounder 0230 LP/cassette. Strong duet performances by two Pennsylvania-born brothers more often heard apart than together. In traditional bluegrass style with instrumental backing by three members of the Johnson Mountain Boys. Jacket notes with biographical information and song histories by Neil V. Rosenberg. LCCN 88-743138

Harvey Sampson and the Big Possum String Band: Flatfoot in the Ashes. Augusta Heritage Records AHR 004 LP. Old-time fiddle music of central West Virginia played in standard and cross tunings by Harvey Sampson, born in Clay County in 1906. Roughly half of the tunes are unaccompanied, on the others, Sampson is accompanied by Frank George (fiddle), Charlie Winter (guitar), and Larry Rader (banjo). Photos and biographical information in jacket notes and accompanying booklet. LCCN 88-743127

Charlie Walden with Emily and Dennis Buckhannon: Traditional Fiddle Music of Missouri. Marimac Recordings 9011 Cassette. Waltzes, hornpipes, reels, and breakdowns played by Charlie Walden on the fiddle with piano and guitar accompaniment by Emily and Dennis Buckhannon. Informational insert gives keys and sources for each tune. LCCN 88-743132

Bob Wills Fiddle. Country Music Foundation CMH 0101-L (CAMF 010-C). A cassette is an attempt to recapture the old-time, blues, and jazz tunes on the fiddle. In the recordings, which date from 1935 to 1912 and include a few previously unreleased takes, Wills’s accompaniment ranges from a single guitar to a band with rhythm section, brass, and banjo. Includes a full discography and jacket notes by Charlie Seemann. LCCN 88-743129

ANTHOLOGY

African-American Gospel Music. World Music Institute WMI-002 Cassette. Features traditional and contemporary African-American gospel music. Includes the older, unaccompanied jubilee and gospel quartet style as well as the more modern choir style with piano accompaniment. Musicians include The Badgett Sisters, The Faithful Harmonizers, The Fairfield Four, and the Mount Zion Pentecostal Young People’s Choir. Brief informational insert LCCN 88-743141. This and the following three releases are all part of the World Music Institute’s “Voices of the Americas” series. The remaining four cassettes and an accompanying booklet are scheduled for release in 1988.

Cajun and Creole Music
Music of the World T-110
Extended-play cassette Side one presents Cajun mardi gras and Creole traditions. Features Dennis McGee and Sady Courville, Alphonse "Bons-Sec" Ardoin, Canray Fontenot, Billy Ware, and Beausoleil. Brief informational insert. This title is also available from Music of the World. LCCN 88-743143

CUBAN AND PUERTO RICAN MUSIC

Cuban and Puerto Rican Music from the African and Hispanic Traditions.
Music of the World T-111
Extended-play cassette Side one presents Cuban santería, sacred music of the descendants of the Yoruba, side two, Puerto Rican bomba, plena, and jíbaro music. Musicians include Orlando "Puntilla" Ríos y Nueva Generación, Israel Berrios y su Sexteto Criollo, and Los Pleneros de la 21. Brief informational insert. This title is also available from Music of the World. LCCN 88-743143

CANTATE CON NOI: CHORAL SONGS FROM ISTRIA AND THE ALPS AND VINTAGE POPULAR MUSIC FROM SOUTH-CENTRAL ITALY.
Global Village Music GVM 678/C 678
LP/cassette Social music recorded from Italian Americans in the Buffalo area of New York State and Southern Ontario. Side A features song text. This title is also available from Music of the World. LCCN 88-743143

CUBAN AND PUERTO RICAN MUSIC
Clifton Chenier: The King of Zydeco Sings the Blues. Arhoolie 1097/C-1097 LP/cassette. 1969 recordings of southwest Louisiana accordionist and singer Clifton Chenier. All but one selection are blues, including Chenier originals and old favorites from Memphis Minnie, Fats Domino, and Glenn Miller. Notes by Chris Strachwitz. LCCN 88-743144

Ironwood Singers: Live at the 106th Rosebud Sioux Fair. Indian House 1H 4322. Cassette. Recorded in 1982 at Rosebud, South Dakota. The group sings traditional Sioux songs and has become known in recent years for the "track" songs they use to challenge the skill of the dancers during contests. Informational insert describes the specific context for many of the songs and provides English translations by Sandi Black. LCCN 88-743152

Louisiana Cajun and Creole Music 1934: The Lomax Recordings. Swallow LP-8003-2 Two-LP set. Field recordings made by John and Alan Lomax in 1934 as part of a nationwide survey for the Archive of American Folk Song in the Library of Congress. Contains songs from the French ballad tradition, laments, and drinking songs, fiddle and accordion waltzes, two-steps, and songs, dance accompaniments, and the more Afro-Caribbean influenced zydeco (or zanko) and blues. Twenty-five-page booklet includes transcriptions of Cajun French with English translations. Introduction by Alan Lomax notes and translations by Barry Jean Ancelet. LCCN 88-743155

The Moostash Joe Polka Band Presents Our Favorite Music—Volume IV. Czech Records SCR-80. Polkas, laenders, and waltzes from Nebraska. Czech-polka style polka band. Instrumentation includes button accordion, trumpets, tuba, tenor sax, baritone horn, and drum sets. Four button accordion solos, some vocals (Czech and English). LCCN 88-743145
Na Mele o Paniolo: Songs of Hawaiian Cowboys. Hawaii State Foundation on Culture and the Arts, catalog number 1. 2-cassette set. Field and studio recordings of panalo (cowboy) music from ranching areas on the islands of Hawaii, Maui, Moloka'i, O'ahu, and Kaua'i. Includes characteristic male falsetto singing, yodeling, and hymn-influenced harmony singing, as well as different ukulele styles and the uniquely Hawaiian slack-key guitar. Sixteen-page booklet by Lynn Martin and Ricardo Tiñullos describes the music, the community, and the musicians. LCCN 88-743148

Nova Domovina/A New Homeland: Balkan Slavic Music from the Industrial Midwest. Ohio Arts Council OAC 601. 1LP/cassette. Field recordings sample the music of Northern Ohio's Balkan Slavic communities, including Croatian and Serbian tambura groups and accordion orchestras. Mediterranean-Bulgarian clarinet orchestras, individual instrumentalists, and a variety of vocal groups. A booklet describes the instruments and traditions, provides transcriptions with English translations, and offers biographies of the musicians. LCCN 88-743154

Los Reyes de Albuquerque con Los Violines de Lorenzo: Tradición y Cultura. MORE Records MO-0811 LP/cassette. Hispanic music from Northern New Mexico and Southern Colorado. Side one shows the influence of the Mexican ranchera tradition on New Mexico's popular music, featuring both old "standards" and more recent compositions. Side two features the group's violinist Lorenzo Martinez backed by the Los Reyes rhythm section playing the traditional dances of a New Mexican fiesta, including a marcha, an indita, a chotiza, a valsa, polkas, and redondos. Jacket notes and insert by James K. Leger. LCCN 88-743153


Taos Pueblo Round Dance Songs—Volume 1. Indian House IH 1006, Cassette. The round dance, a traditional social dance song genre of Plains origin, has been popular at Taos since the early 1900s. This recording presents a mixture of old and new songs with the name of the composer and date provided where known. Brief informational insert. LCCN 88-743149
The Wisconsin Patchwork. Wisconsin Public Radio, no catalog number. Seven cassettes, each side contains a half-hour radio program. The programs are organized according to the subjects or social roles of the music, and present field recordings made during Helene Stratman-Thomas's 1940s collecting trips. Secular songs, dance tunes, and hymns from twenty-four ethnic groups across Wisconsin. Sixty-nine-page companion booklet by James P. Leary contains extensive notes, bibliography, and discography. Distributed by the University of Wisconsin's Department of Continuing Education in the Arts. LCCN 88-743156

Publishers of Listed Recordings

- Alligator Records
  P O Box 60234
  Chicago, Ill. 60660

- Arhoolie Records
  10341 San Pablo Avenue
  El Cerrito, CA 94530

- Augusta Heritage Records
  Davis & Elkins College
  Elkins, WV 26241

- Country Music Foundation Records
  4 Music Square East
  Nashville, TN 37203

- Czech Records
  Route 2, Box 344-9
  Fremont, NE 68025

- Global Village Music
  Box 2051
  Cathedral Station
  New York, NY 10025

- Hawaiian State Foundation on Culture and the Arts
  335 Merchant Street
  Room 209
  Old Federal Courthouse Building
  Honolulu, HI 96813

- Heritage Records
  Route 4, Box 280
  Galax, VA 24333

- Indian House
  Post Office Box 172
  Taos, NM 87571

- Marimba Recordings
  Post Office Box 5
  Little Ferry, NJ 07643

- Minority Owned Record Enterprises

- MORE Records
  1205 Lester Drive, N E
  Albuquerque, NM 87112

- Music of the World
  P O Box 258
  Brooklyn, NY 11209

- Ohio Arts Council
  727 East Main Street
  Columbus, OH 43205

- Old Homestead Records
  Box 100
  Brighton, MI 48116

- Rounder Records
  1 Camp Street
  Cambridge, MA 02140

- Rosetta Records
  115 West 16th Street
  New York, NY 10011

- Southland Records
  1206 Lavatta Street
  New Orleans, LA 70116

- Swallow Records
  Drawer 10
  Ville Platte, LA 70580

- University of Wisconsin-Madison
  Dept. of Continuing Education in the Arts
  726 Lowell Hall
  610 Langdon Street
  Madison, WI 53703

- World Music Institute
  109 West 25th Street
  Room 9C
  New York, NY 10001

- Wyoming Arts Foundation
  Post Office Box 2015
  Laramie, WY 82070
I'm rut titer listings and reviews ul folk reunds. consul 1 thInations sot h as American Maui, 11 lueeras, Unlimited. 13/

Mail-Order Sources for Folk Recordings

Altazata Records
Box 129
Waterbury, VT 05676
(802) 241-8657

Andy's Front Hall
Worner Road
Post Office Box 307
Worchester, NY 12180
(518) 763-4193

County Sales
Box 191
Floyd, VA 24091
(703) 715-2001

Down Home Music
10311 San Pablo Avenue
Ple Cerrito, CA 94550
(415) 525-1944

Elderly Records
1100 North Washington
Box 11210
Lansing, MI 48901
(517) 372-2800, 372-1161

Global Village Music
Box 2051
Cathedral Station
New York, NY 10025
(212) 749-2281

In the Tradition
P.O. Box 223
Deer Isle, ME 04627
(207) 348-6334

Note-Ably Yours
6863 Staff Road
New Carlisle, OH 45341
(513) 815-8232

Original Music
R D 4, Box 190
Lasher Road
Tivoli, NY 12583
(914) 736-2767

Rooster Blues
2615 North Wilton Avenue
Chicago, IL 60614
(312) 281-3385

Roundup Records
Box 51
Cambridge, MA 02140
(617) 351-0700

World Music Institute
109 West 27th Street
Room 9C
New York, NY 10001
(212) 206-1050

World Music Press
P.O. Box 2565
Danbury, CT 06813
(203) 748-1131

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For further listings and reviews of folk records, consult publications such as American Music, Bluegrass Unlimited, Blues Unlimited, County Sales Newsletter, Devil's Disc Collector, Ethnomusicology, Folk Songs, Frets JEMP Quarterly, Journal of American Folklore, Living Blues, Musical Traditions, Old-Time Herald, Old-Time Music, Record Roundup, Sing Out! and Western Folklore Ethnomusicology, the journal of the Society for Ethnomusicology, publishes a "Current Discography" feature in each issue. In addition, the free guide Folklore and Ethnomusicology Serial Publications in North America is available from the Archive of Folk Culture, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540

Folklore Sourcebook, a directory of folklore resources in the United States and Canada, can be obtained by sending $10.00 to the Folklore Sourcebook, American Folklore Center, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540