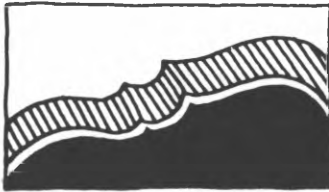


**The  
Folklore  
Society  
of Greater  
Washington**



Box 19303, 20th Street Station, Washington, DC 20036

**NEWSLETTER**

VOLUME ~~XXI~~, No. 9

MAY 1976

*XII*

Nan Goland, Editrix

MAY PROGRAM BRINGS FARAWAY PLACES TO YOU

Washington is probably the best city in the country in which to find music from other parts of the world, yet the Folklore Society, in its 11 years, has seldom strayed from America and the British Isles. Last year provided brief samplings from Japan, India, the Middle East, Paraguay (remember the harp?), and, at our May program, the list will grow with a truly spectacular evening featuring the sounds of AFRICA AND INDONESIA:

AKYAABA KWABENA ADDAI-SEBO comes from Kumasi, in Ghana, but his songs, stories, and music on the talking-drum (atumpen) represent traditions from many parts of the continent. A journalist and social commentator in his own country, he is here as part of the Experiment in International Community at the Polycultural Institute in the Adams-Morgan area of Washington. His performances often include things for children, so feel free to bring some along. Addai-Sebo cares about cultural identity in music as in other things, so don't expect the plasticized, nightclub version of anything. Set yourself instead for the joy of another tradition.

And then, be prepared for an absolute visual as well as auditory astonishment: **GAMELAN MUSIC OF JAVA.** A gamelan is the traditional orchestra of Indonesia, composed almost entirely of various gong-chime instruments whose very names--saron, bonang, etc.--seem to display their metallic resonances. Appearing for our May program, in full costume, will be one of the largest musical groups ever to tread an FSGW stage: more than a dozen musicians, trained by Mr. Minarno, a gamelan master and Assistant Cultural Attache of the Indonesian Embassy. The musicians are students at the University of Maryland, where they are part of the World Music Program under ethnomusicologist Karl Signell, who will also be on hand to talk a bit about this fascinating music. Mr. Minarno is also mentor of the embassy's own resident gamelan, one of the most exciting--and all to little-known--ensembles in the city.

It all begins at 8:30 p.m. on Friday, May 14, at the Washington Ethical Society auditorium, 7750-16th Street N.W. at the corner of Kalmia Road, north of Walter Reed Hospital and south of the Maryland-DC line. FSGW members get in free, as usual, and admission for non-members is only \$2. For an enthralling evening--and if you've never heard a gamelan, it's an absolute must--bring everyone you can think of for an experience that just may (hint, hint) reach your very taste buds.

-Jonathan

## OTHER FSGW HAPPENINGS...

### *OPEN SING/MAY 7*

The Open Sing this month will be led by Al Kehs, who will start things off with "Colors" as his topic. You should be able to find lots of rainbow-hued references to bring to this one--songs from the green rolling hills or the deep blue sea, maybe? The Open Sing is held at the Ethical Society, 7750-16th Street N.W., starting at 9:00 p.m. on the first Friday of every month, though THERE WILL BE NO OPEN SING IN JULY. Donation of \$1 at the door includes refreshments inside.

-Nan

### *SACRED HARP SING/MAY 23*

Singing from the *Sacred Harp* and pot-luck dinner will be held this month on Sunday, May 23 at 4:00 p.m. at the home of Mel and Cheryl Mitchell in Hyattsville. Call them at 559-3766 to get directions and to coordinate food. Everyone is welcome. I have ordered more *Sacred Harp* books, and they will probably have arrived by the 23rd.

-Arlene

*Did someone leave a blue handkerchief or scarf at my house during the February Sacred Harp sing? If so, please call me at EM2-3053.*

-Joann McLaughlin

### *EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING/MAY 4*

The May board meeting will be Tuesday, the 4th at 8:00 p.m. at the office of the National Folk Festival Association, Suite 1118 of the Dupont Circle Building, 1346 Connecticut Avenue N.W. Meetings are held on the first Tuesday each month, and will continue through the summer. Members of the Society are welcome to attend board meetings.

## OTHER FSGW MATTERS...

### *BALLOTS MAILED TO MEMBERS*

Ballots have been sent to all members of the Society (family memberships receive two) for our election of 1976-77 officers. If you haven't returned yours yet, you should put it in the mail right away, or bring it with you to the May program, where ballots will be tallied and results announced. Call me at 656-7634 if you have any questions. Thanks to members of the Nominating Committee, and to the folks who helped us send out the ballots.

-Caroline

### *FSGW POLICY ON MAKING TAPES*

It is the policy of the Folklore Society that only one tape shall be made at any and all concerts. This is done primarily to protect the artist (some don't want tapes of themselves bandied about uncontrolled), but it is also done to protect the audience against the interference of stray microphones and wires, clicking buttons, whirring sounds, and hearing little bits of the tapes played back during the program "just to make sure it worked". Remember, the Archive tape is better quality than one you can make with a small recorder at your seat, and will be more listenable and enjoyable in the long run. Copies of the tapes (3-3/4 ips mono on 7" reels) are available for rental to members at a charge of \$2 per month. You can arrange to pick one up at a monthly program and bring it back the next time. Copies to keep can be made for members in any reasonable format, including cassettes, for \$2.50 per hour (which usually means \$5 a program) plus the tape. If you just want to learn a song or two, you needn't pay for a whole tape. Make arrangements with archivists Mike Rivers, Bob Clayton, or Don Nichols. They're glad to help. Call the FSGW hotline, 920-2067, to arrange for rental or duplication.

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FSGW PHONE NUMBER: (703) 920-2067

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## WHAT SOME FOLKS ARE DOING...

### *BOB CLAYTON & ROBIN JOHNSON CONCERT/MAY 8*

On Saturday, May 8 at 8:30 p.m. BOB CLAYTON and ROBIN JOHNSON will pick and sing their way through a variety of American folk styles using guitar, banjo, fiddle, dulcimer, and autoharp. Most of their music is old timey songs and tunes from the 20s and 30s, but they include a few oddities taken from both sides of that tradition, too. Both Bob and Robin have performed around Washington quite a bit, and for the past few years have given demonstration programs of the folk instruments in the Smithsonian's collection. The concert is sponsored by the Ethical Society and will be held in their Meeting Room at 7750-16th Street N.W. Admission at the door will be \$2 adults and \$1 children.

-Nan

### *DANCE LIST UPDATED*

Here are the promised additions and corrections to the dance listing printed in last month's Newsletter. Do call me at 935-5412 if you have more information.

-A1

### WEDNESDAY

INTERNATIONAL 8:30-10:30 \$1.25  
Rosemary Hills Elem. School  
call Larry Weiner 565-0539

ISRAELI 8-10:30 beg-int.  
Jewish Comm. Center, Rockville  
call Ben Hole 966-2470

### THURSDAY

INTERNATIONAL  
Univ. of Md. Student Union  
call Steve Sklarow 322-7322

### FRIDAY

INTERNATIONAL 8:30-11:45  
Wheaton Rec. Center  
call Larry Weiner 565-0539



### *SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS AT THE BERWYN CAFE*

The Berwyn Cafe at 5010 Berwyn Road in College Park features live entertainment every Saturday evening at 9:30. There is no admission--the hat is passed for performers. Now, in addition to our regular Saturday entertainment, the Berwyn Cafe is pleased to announce that beginning this month we'll be hosting Sunday dinner concerts. Soups, sandwiches, and desserts will be served to the tunes of more of your favorite artists. Dinner starts at 8:00, so does the music. The hat will be present. Call the Cafe at 345-2121 for more information, and the Sunday schedule. The Saturday schedule for May is:

1st - Michael McConkey - A prettier voice you'll not hear too often, doing original and contemporary folk.

8th - Kinfolk - Bluegrass by one of the finest groups around. I hate to say it, but they sound a lot like a certain band whose initials are S.S.

15th - Mark Greenhouse - Outstanding original material deftly done on piano, guitar, and vocal.

22nd - Becky Carter and Jeff Deitchman - Two sevenths of "Those Awkward Years". Others just might be in attendance.

29th - Magpie - Back by popular you-know-what. I'll say it again, a very tight folk group worth a listen.

-Jeff

### *MONDAYS AT THE RED FOX*

The Red Fox Inn at 4940 Fairmont Avenue in Bethesda has an open stage for traditional folk music each Monday at 8:30 p.m. Twice monthly guest sets give us a chance to hear more than the customary two songs from a performer. A cover of \$1 is taken at the door until the guest set is over, about 10:30. There is open stage before and after the set, and there is still no cover on nights with no guest set. Coming our way in May are: HELEN SCHNEYER on May 3, belting out ballads, hymns, shanteys, mining songs, and more. On May 17th, JOEL AND KATHY SHIMBERG will play a variety of American old timey songs and tunes on fiddle, guitar, banjo, and dulcimer.

*BLUEGRASS OPEN SING/MAY 21*

Another Bluegrass Open Sing will be held on Friday, May 21 at 9:00 p.m. at the Ethical Society. All pickers, singers, listeners are welcome. Donation of \$1 at the door includes refreshments inside; bring your own beer, if you like. Starting in June the Bluegrass Open Sing will be combined with the first Friday Open Sing--folk music upstairs, string band music downstairs.

-Nan

*If anyone is interested in having a grad student boarder for the summer, or needs to sub-let their apartment (from early May till early August) please contact me. I'd like to return to D.C. for the summer, but don't have a place to live. I'm quiet, friendly, well-behaved--great with record players. I'm also a traditional music lover.*

*Merle Schlesinger  
63 Oakwood Avenue  
Livingston, N.J. 07039*

**OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST...**

*FREDERICK CRAFT FAIR/JUNE 3-6*

The second annual Frederick Craft Fair will be held Thursday through Sunday, June 3-6, at the Frederick, Maryland Fairgrounds. The Fair will feature the work of 500 craftspeople, including weavers, leatherworkers, furniture builders, goldsmiths and silversmiths, potters, bonecarvers, musical instrument makers (including one who makes oboes and bagpipes). Many crafts will be demonstrated, as will glassblowing, blacksmithing, and pewter-spinning. Performances will be given at noon and 3 p.m. by None of the Above on June 4, Hickory Wind on June 5, and Bryan Bowers on June 6. Music will be presented informally during the day by members of FSGW. Food will be available, too. The Frederick Fairgrounds are at the junction of interstate highways 70 and 270. The Fair is open from 10 to 6 each day. Admission is \$2.50 for adults and \$1 for children under 12.

*HIGHWOODS STRING BAND/MAY 16*

On Sunday, May 16, from 3 to 5:00 p.m., there will be a free concert in Wyman Park in Baltimore featuring HIGHWOODS STRING BAND. Wyman Park is located on Charles Street, between 29th and 31st Streets. In case of rain, the concert will be held at Sts. Phillip and James Church, Charles and 29th Streets. This concert is cosponsored by the Baltimore Folk Music Society and the Charles Village Civic Association.

-Bob

*WORLD MUSIC INTRO COURSE/MAY 18-JULY 1*

Expand your ear: Introduction to World Music II (MUSC 133), a survey course in Balkan, African, Caribbean, North and South American music, will be taught by Prof. Karl Signell at the University of Maryland's University College on Tuesday and Thursday nights from May 18 through July 1. The course, which meets from 7 to 9:30 p.m., will include recordings, films, live performances, readings, and probably chances to make some music yourself. The three-credit course costs \$93, and pre-registration by mail is open until April 28. Walk-in registration is May 12. For more information, call University College at 454-5735.

-Jonathan

*CAVALIER DAYS FESTIVAL/MAY 29-31*

Was it an English ballad, an Irish jig, a Scottish reel, an old time banjo or fiddle tune, a spiritual, shantey, madrigal, hymn, canon, chant? Perhaps it was bluegrass, or classical music for military band, woodwind or brass quintet. You may ask, "Where can such a grouping of musical styles be found?" The answer is: Cavalier Days Historical Folk Festival, to be held Saturday through Monday, May 29-31 in Prince Frederick, Maryland. Being a recreation of colonial living in tidewater Maryland with 500 costumed participants, the Festival brings together all the above types of music as they relate to America's musical experience. Musical groups and individuals are invited to participate. Call soon to be on the schedule (1-301-535-0292) or just come on down to Prince Frederick for a walk through history and music.

-Ben

*NATIONAL FOLK FESTIVAL/JULY 16-18*

The 38th National Folk Festival will be held Friday through Sunday, July 16-18 at Wolf Trap Farm Park in Vienna, Virginia. Don Reno, Bill Harrell and the Tennessee Cutups, Buddy Moss, the Phipps Family, Joan d'Arc Charlebois, Mike Seeger, Sweet Honey in the Rock--these folks among many others will continue the National's tradition of representing the diversity of American music. This year's craft area will focus on doll makers of the Southeastern U.S. demonstrating the making of gourd-head, nut-head, apple-head, cornshuck, and other types of dolls. Two evening concerts will be held in the Filene Center at 8:00 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. On all three days the craft area will be open from 11 to 5; workshops and mini-concerts will be scheduled from 1 to 5. Tickets for the evening concerts are \$6 in the Filene Center and \$4 on the lawn. Day admission is \$2, but a concert ticket will admit you to that day's events, too. If you'd like more information, or if you can volunteer some help in the office before the Festival, call the National Folk Festival Association at 296-0068.

*SMITHSONIAN FESTIVAL/JUNE 16-SEPTEMBER 6*

The Smithsonian Institution and the National Park Service present the 10th annual Festival of American Folklife from June 16th through September 6th on the National Mall in Washington. The Festival is a celebration of the folk traditions from 36 foreign countries and all corners of the U.S. Musicians, dancers, craftspeople, cooks, and many other participants will demonstrate their skills and talents throughout the summer.

The Festival is in need of volunteers for work in all aspects of the festivities. The only requirements are that you be at least 12 years old, and that you be willing to work a minimum of five full days. More would be appreciated. Volunteers get free lunches and a chance to spend the summer in an exciting, creative environment. If you are interested, contact Doris Indyke, by calling 381-6517, or writing her at the Smithsonian's Division of Performing Arts, 955 L'Enfant Plaza, Washington, D.C. 20560.

**--CONCISE CALENDAR OF EVENTS--**

- MAY 4 - BOARD MEETING  
7 - OPEN SING  
8 - CLAYTON & JOHNSON CONCERT  
14 - PROGRAM & ELECTION RESULTS  
16 - HIGHWOODS (BALTO)  
21 - BLUEGRASS OPEN SING  
21 - GORDON BOK (BALTO)  
23 - SACRED HARP  
29-31 - CAVALIER DAYS  
JUNE 1 - BOARD MEETING  
3-6 - FREDERICK CRAFT FAIR  
4 - OPEN SING  
11 - PROGRAM  
16 - SMITHSONIAN FEST. STARTS

MONDAYS - RED FOX OPEN STAGE

SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS - BERWYN CAFE

*GORDON BOK CONCERT/MAY 21*

For their May program, the Baltimore Folk Music Society is featuring GORDON BOK on Friday, May 21, at 8:30 p.m. at St. John's Church at St. Paul & 27th Streets in Baltimore. Admission is \$1 for members of BFMS, \$2 for non-members. Doors will open at 7:45 and we recommend that folks from D.C. come early since seating is limited. For information and directions, call Michael Quitt (toll free, weekdays) at 621-1650.

-Bob

Thanks to the folks who contributed to this issue of the Newsletter: Bob Dalsemer, Jeff Deitchman, Jonathan Eberhart, Caroline Hoover, Debbie Hutton, Al Kehs, Mike Rivers, Arlene Rodenbeck, Ben Williams.

Deadline for the June Newsletter, the last one of the season, will be Monday, May 17. You may give items to me at Society events or mail them to me at 2853 Ontario Road N.W., #504, Washington, D.C. 20009.

-Nan

This Newsletter is published by the Folklore Society of Greater Washington, a non-profit, educational organization dedicated to preserving and promoting traditional folk arts in the greater Washington, DC area. Membership in the Society is open to all who wish to help pursue these goals. Membership benefits include free admission to programs, reduced admission to special events, the Newsletter by first class mail, plus workshops, sings, and more. To join, fill out the form below, enclose your check and send to the Folklore Society, PO Box 19303, 20th Street Station, Washington, DC, 20036.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

I/we want to join! Enclosed is:

\_\_\_\_\_ \$6 - One year, Individual

\_\_\_\_\_ \$18 - Three year, Individual

\_\_\_\_\_ \$9 - One year, Family

\_\_\_\_\_ \$27 - Three year, Family

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK ONE: New Membership \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ Is this a change of address? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you interested in helping the Society in some way? \_\_\_\_\_

NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION FORM

Enclosed is \$2 for a one-year, out-of-town FSGW Newsletter subscription:

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

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Washington, DC 20036



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Andy