
Introduction

This catalogue contains descriptions of over 250 records, books and cassettes of Canadian folk music. All of these titles were in stock when the catalogue was published (May, 1895), and efforts will be made to maintain a supply. You may purchase these titles by using the Order Form that is enclosed with this catalogue.

This catalogue represents Phase One in what we hope will be an on-going activity of CFMS. To be sure it is nowhere near complete at this point, but we are continuing to try and track down more titles. Any suggestions of relevant materials would be welcomed.

Given my druthers, I'd prefer to experience folk music live in a small, intimate setting. But this is not always possible. Current life styles, the size of our country, and the very fact that there is so much folk music in Canada, mitigate against a live and intimate performance context. This is where recordings come in. They provide an alternative. It is now possible to hear folk music from virtually every region of Canada and thereby come to know its people — without ever leaving your living room! To be sure, recordings lose some of the "adrenalin of a live audience" and oftentimes lose some of the precious contextual nuance that is part of the group in which the music lives, but they do provide access to incredible materials and performances that we would otherwise miss. It is in this spirit that the Canadian Folk Music Society has embarked on its Mail Order venture.

On the following pages you will find descriptions of 250 albums, books, and cassettes of Canadian folk music. All of these are currently in stock and available, and they provide a wonderful overview of the various regional folk music traditions of our country.

ORGANIZATION OF THE CATALOGUE

The catalogue is divided into a number of different sections: Traditional Songs, New Songs, Children's Recordings, Instrumental Music, Multicultural Communities, Native Music, Folk Festivals and Concert Music. Each section contains a number of recordings, each with a brief description and details of cost etc. The sections are organized differently, pending the material involved. For example, the New Songs segment is arranged alphabetically by

performer, while the Traditional Songs section is organized by region. The rationale for the organizational scheme used is presented in the introductions to each section.

With a collection of recordings as large as this it is not surprising that some albums do not readily fit into any one single category. Efforts have been made to indicate these at the end of the relevant sections.

To assist with access to material in the catalogue a number of "Indexes" have been included. There is a "Personnel Index" which lists every performer appearing on the recordings in the catalogue. The titles of the recordings on which the artists appear are listed with their names. In addition, there is an "Album Title Index" which relates recording title to the page in the catalogue where the description appears. Using these two indexes together makes it possible to locate information about any and all albums on which a specific performer (or group) appears. Finally, plans are in place to produce several song and instrumental title indexes that will further facilitate access. Watch for these in upcoming issues of Canadian Folk Music Society publications.

IS THE CATALOGUE COMPLETE?

We have done our best to locate as much material as we can. However, there are a number of areas where we haven't been as successful as we had hoped. These are noted in the introductions with each section. In all cases, we welcome any suggestions or information you might have about new titles that we could include. Please write us at PO Box 4232, Station C, Calgary, Alberta T2T 5N1.

The overall goal of this Mail Order Catalogue is to provide you with access to as many of the fine recordings of Canadian folk music as we possibly can. We encourage you to order some records from us and to let your friends, local libraries, and the media know about us. The more people hear this music, the more they will come to realize how wonderful it truly is.

Additional copies of this catalogue are available by sending \$2.00 to CFMS, Box 4232, Station C, Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2T 5N1. Persons ordering the catalogue will receive a \$2.00 rebate on their first order.

Tim Rogers