Radio Column for which a Clever Title will be Chosen Soon

Although many of us don’t live in an area where a local radio station provides folk music programming, all of us Canadians (and many of our American readers as well) are in a position to receive the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, and our kind of music is included in a great many CBC programs. This time we’re indebted to Les Siemieniuk, a producer with CBC Calgary and former producer of the radio show “Simply Folk,” for this rundown of shows on CBC Radio which often include folk music in their programming.

At this moment, the CBC has no programs that are solely dedicated to “folk” music, but a great number of programs feature “folk” music as part of their music programming.

Daily Programming

On CBC Radio (A.M.), most of the 4:00-6:00 afternoon programs across the country, in varying degrees, feature music that would fall into the folk music category. They also feature a look at local performers who may not be heard elsewhere.

Morningside (9:00-12:00 a.m., CBC A.M.): besides recordings, musicians frequently appear live to talk about their work as well as to perform.

Best of Morningside (10:08-11:00 p.m.): highlights from the show aired that morning.

Arts National (8:00-10:00 p.m., CBC F.M. Stereo): along with classical music, world music is occasionally featured.

Late Night (10:00-12:00 p.m., CBC F.M. Stereo): a program of contemporary music featuring world beat and folk along with jazz, country, and blues.

Weekly Programming

Swinging on a Star (Saturday at 4:08 p.m. on CBC A.M., 11:05 a.m. on CBC F.M. Stereo): informal studio sessions with singer-songwriters, taped before live audiences around the country, with host Murray McLauchlan.

Coast to Coast (Saturday at 6:15 p.m. on CBC A.M.): new Canadian contemporary music.

A Propos (Saturday at 10:08 p.m. on CBC A.M.): a look at the Quebec music scene, both francophone and anglophone.

Saturday Night Blues (11:08 p.m., on CBC A.M.): blues, blues and more blues.

Max Ferguson Show (Saturday 9:00-10:35 a.m., CBC F.M. Stereo): an eclectic mix of music from around the world.

As well, there are always specials and limited-run series that pop up. The best way to keep informed is to check the CBC Radio Guide, available by subscription from: National Radio Guide, Subscriber Service Department, P.O. Box 48417, Bentall Centre, Vancouver, B.C. V7X 1A2; phone 1-800-663-354.

Les Siemieniuk

[In addition to the programs outlined above, readers might hear folk music occasionally on Gilmour’s Albums, Sunday noonish on A.M. (I know because he played one of my songs the other week.) Also, a Bluegrass Corner is part of Country Style, Saturday around 5:00 on A.M.]

[Peut-être nos lecteurs nous fourniront des renseignements sur la musique folklorique à Radio-Canada. -- J.L.]

Magazine Column Requiring a Clever Title

Numerous magazines trade issues with the Canadian Folk Music Bulletin. The editors subscribe to some other magazines as individuals as well. There are lots of magazines out here dedicated to various aspects of folk music, each occupying its own niche in the folk music community. This column will endeavour to describe a few of these publications in each of our upcoming issues.

This might be a good time to remind fellow publishers to update their mailing lists, and now send trade copies to: CSMT, Box 4232, Station C, Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2T 5N1. Let’s give Lynn Whidden a little room in her mailbox!

A magazine which I’ve subscribed to for a few issues, and find chock-full of information, is Dirty Linen. It started life as a fan magazine for Fairport Convention, but somewhere along the line broadened out to devote itself to “Folk, Electric Folk, Traditional and World Music” -- quite a vast mandate! It is just about the most glossy folk music magazine I’ve come across, and has a large circulation and a seemingly endless supply of writers and workers. Every issue has numerous columns, several feature articles and interviews, and many, many reviews of recordings, books, live performances and videos. Most of the reviews are more of the “capsule” sort than the Bulletin’s, but
there are so many of them that space is obviously a consideration. In addition, each issue includes touring schedules of a large number of performers, plus a directory of festivals and other events, plus lots of advertising of folk-related companies, plus contests (one of which my daughter won!), plus ... seemingly I could fill a lot of space and not cover all the services which the magazine provides. About the only thing they don't include is songs.

Dirty Linen tries to cover the entire North American and British folk music world and more, and seems to be succeeding handsomely. A drawback could be that people with interests in a narrow field would find themselves searching through lots of extraneous material to find their own special niche. But people with broad tastes will quickly come to find the magazine invaluable. Also, the tone of the writing can be lighthearted and modern, which some old fogies like me might have trouble coming to terms with. (Not!)

The magazine is published six times per year. The subscription rates are: for one year, US$20.00 for U.S. and Canada, US$24 for overseas surface and US$30 for overseas airmail; for two years, the corresponding rates are $38, $46, and $59. The address is: Dirty Linen, P.O. Box 66600, Baltimore, MD 21239-6600, USA.

As a final note, we get a couple of German magazines which neither of us can read! Perhaps a German-speaking reader could volunteer to be the recipient of some issues and give us an assessment for this column.

--J.L.

News

(Please send items for this column to: News Editor, Box 4232, Sta. C, Calgary, Alta., Canada T2T 5N1.)

Muséoconseil inc. are undertaking a summary inventory of collections within Canada related to the performing arts; see their letter at p.12 of this issue. This project, encompassing the identification and acquisition of all pertinent information concerning the performing arts in Canada, is being undertaken for the Society for the Development of the Museum of Performing Arts ("S.D.M.A.S.V.").

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Artists, writers and performers are urged to participate in an environmental project, The Earth Chronicles Radio Project, emanating out of McMaster University. The project is described in more detail in their letter at p.12 of this issue.

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Lynn Whidden, our former editor, strongly recommends the International Peace Garden Music Camp, and sent us this description:

"The International Music Camp is situated in the picturesque Peace Garden between North Dakota, U.S.A., and Manitoba, Canada. Besides weekly (usually free) concerts throughout June and July, the camp now has sessions of interest to folk musicians: guitar, piping and drumming, and barbershop singing for men and women. Instruction is for persons of all ages, and classes are divided according to ability rather than age. Prices are reasonable. For example, the $65.00 (U.S. funds) tuition for the barbershop workshop July 25 to 28, 1992, included tuition, good meals and lodging.

"For additional information contact: Joseph T. Alme, Director, International Music Camp, 1725 11th St. SW, Minot, North Dakota 58701, USA; phone (701)-838-8472."

Lynn also suggests that we list folk music camps, perhaps even publish a guide to folk music camps in Canada. We're all for this idea, of course, and know of a few such camps in Canada; we hope organizers will keep us posted on when, where and what.

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Suzanne Myers Sawa sent along a clipping from the October 1992 issue of International Musician describing the formation of a unique new local of the American Federation of Musicians, known as "Local 1000". The local is unusual because it is not based on a geographic region, but instead represents "musicians who play most of their engagements outside their home jurisdiction, who play solo or in small, self-contained ensembles, and who play in what is commonly known as the acoustic music scene. These are musicians who play casual engagements in non-rock, non-country clubs, concert halls and coffeehouses -- essentially 'folkies', as Canadian Vice President Ray Petch once referred to them. Interested musicians may contact Local 1000 at 1025 Locust Avenue, Charlottesville, VA 22901, or call 804-977-6321. Sounds made to order for some of our readers!

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We note from a short article in The Celtic Connection (a publication from Vancouver that no doubt sometime will show up in our magazine column) that a seisún takes place on the last Friday of each month at Legion #44, 530 West Broadway in Vancouver. Celtic-style musicians, singers, dancers (no experience necessary) and spectators (especially no experience necessary!) are welcome. Information can be had from Kevin Dooley at (604)-873-9948.

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