

News

A letter arrived at the Canadian Music Centre this summer and was passed on to us:

We are an instrumental-vocal ensemble, specializing in early music. At present, we are in the process of researching a project entitled (at present) "Folk Music Across Five Centuries." It intends to explore the transformation of Renaissance song texts and melodies over time and across to the New World. Some songs are well-known today, others are recognized by a varied retelling of a ballade or a familiar melody. The focus will be English and French folk music brought to Canada.

At this point in time, we are in need of organizations or individuals specializing in modern and traditional folk music. If you can think of anyone or a group who may be able to help us in our work, would be most grateful for it. If you know of someone who might suggest some examples — striking examples — of the evolution of songs from English and French roots, now part of our Canadian tradition, could you put us in touch? Research is a bit tricky from Paris.

Some examples of what we've collected thus far are:

- a Renaissance version of "Froggie Went A-Courtin'"
- a Baroque version of the story/ballade of "She's Like The Swallow"
- a 15th Century "Rossignol du bois joli"

Any thoughts? Names of songs? Sources?

Thank you!

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According to the current (as I write) **CBC Radio Guide**, Daniel Koulack's recording, **Clawhammer Your Way To The Top**, reviewed in the **Bulletin**, 26.3, was given an "honorable mention" in Jurgen Gothe's *Disc Drive Awards*, named for Gothe's cat, Herbie. These awards are apparently voted on by listeners, and I gather that Koulack's recording had not been officially nominated but was written in by satisfied listeners. Good stuff — now, if the **Radio Guide** had just spelled Koulack's name correctly. Koulack was also nominated for a Juno for the recording. I hope all this attention means that we'll see another recording before long.