

# Ethnomusicology News

## A Profile:

### Anton Kolstee - Native Counsellor

Anton Kolstee works as a Native student counsellor and Native Studies teacher at Carson Graham Secondary School in North Vancouver. He teaches Squamish language, along with Chief Sekyu (Lawrence Baker), and works with Native students from across the province.

The Journal of Indigenous Studies (Gabriel Dumont Institute) will be publishing his paper entitled, "Teaching Along Shamanic Lines: a review of some metaphors and processes enfolded in Shamanism, Philosophy, and Education"; in its Summer 1990 issue. He has also completed a North-west Coast Indian music entry for the most recent edition of the Encyclopedia of Music in Canada.

His performance group, the Shaman Society Singers, is made up of about a dozen members of Haida, Tsimshian, Nuxalk, Heiltsuk, Kwakwaka, and Squamish heritage. They perform the central coast potlatch in miniature (40 to 60 minutes) while Anton explains the various dances and songs presented. The main dancer is Peter Smith who dances hámáča, Head-dress dances, and masked dances. All members of the group wear traditional costumes.

The group has made a 27 minute video with Shaw Cable of North Vancouver that demonstrates the main outline of the central coast potlatch song repertoire.

Watch for Anton playing guitar with the rock and roll group, the United Empire Loyalists, this fall on CBC. It's part of a retrospective on Vancouver popular music from the 1960's.

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## World Music Performances at York

Thanks to a monumental organizational effort by Professor Nina De Shane, the Departments of Music and Dance hosted the Hisor Ensemble from Tadzhikistan in the U.S.S.R. This was an historic occasion and represented the very first time that the Soviet Union has permitted a performance ensemble to reside and teach at a Canadian university.

Thirteen singers, dancers and musicians conducted workshops and performances for a two and one-half week period in November of 1989. The final performance was attended by representatives from the Soviet Embassy in Ottawa and televised by the Iranian Community Network here in the Metropolitan Toronto area. While in Canada the Hisor Ensemble also collaborated with members of the Dance Department in the production of the opera *The Fairies*, premiered at the conference of the Middle Eastern Studies Association.

