Delve into the cultural study of music and explore the rise of ethnomusicology as a discipline with this essential digital collection.

Overview

Presenting content from across the globe, this diverse and comprehensive resource features thousands of audio field recordings and interviews, educational recordings, film footage, field notebooks, slides, correspondence and ephemera from fields of study around the world including sites in West Africa, North America, South East Asia, and more.

Produced in collaboration with the UCLA Ethnomusicology Archive, and with material from prominent ethnomusicologist, Robert Garfias, at the University of Washington Ethnomusicology Archives, the musical traditions, recordings and other source materials in this collection provide a unique view into the cultural and social lives of these communities.

About the Archives

Established in 1961, the UCLA Ethnomusicology Archive is one of the largest global ethnographic music archives in North America. It includes traditional folk, popular, and art musics from Africa, Asia, Australia and the Pacific Islands, Europe, the Middle East, and the Americas.

The University of Washington Ethnomusicology Archives has been collecting and curating unique ethnographic music recordings, videos and films since 1962. Its holdings include recordings and films documenting music traditions of all kinds from around the world.

“With this project these priceless records are not only safeguarded but are also taken out of the vaults and made available for new research and circulation of knowledge.”

Janet Topp Fargion, World and Traditional Music, Sound & Vision, British Library
Highlights

- Recordings from The Mantle Hood collection; including Javanese audio recordings, personal papers, and slides relating to the audio material
- The Ankica Petrović collection of Muslim, Christian and Jewish music from Eastern Europe (recorded in the 1980s), including extremely rare religious music
- Charlotte Heth’s collection of Cherokee music, offering a unique insight into the music of the Cherokee Nation
- The diverse Harold Courlander collection, featuring recordings from across South America, the Caribbean, South East Asia, and Africa
- Materials from Jacqueline Cogdell DjeDje’s numerous collections on African, African American and Jamaican music
- Several collections from Robert Garfias featuring musics recorded across Asia, the Americas, Africa, and Europe

Material Types

- Field Recordings & Notebooks
- Interviews
- Slides
- Photographs
- Receipts & Ephemera
- Correspondence
- Educational & Studio Recordings
- Contemporary Finding Aids
- Music Manuscripts

Additional features

- Essays and Collection Introductions from esteemed academics and ethnomusicologists
- Video Interviews from leading scholars in the field of Ethnomusicology
- Musical Instrument Map featuring photographs, audio and video of the musical instruments featured within this collection
- Bespoke audio player that allows users to view a waveform of each recording alongside both item-level and track-level metadata
Ethnomusicology: Global Field Recordings supports the study of cultural identity through the music of communities around the world.

Key Themes

- Education and the teaching of Ethnomusicology
- The interaction between music and art
- Religion and ritual
- Cultural identity and social norms
- Music and gender
- Music and conflict
- Musical traditions
- Musical material culture

Source archives

UCLA Ethnomusicology Archive

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