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News

## News

To submit a news story or item, please email the [website co-ordinator](#).

November/December 2010

### **Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!**

The BFE wishes all its members a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



### **Call for new Co-Editor and Reviews Editor**

The British Forum for Ethnomusicology (BFE) is seeking to appoint a new Co-Editor for its journal *Ethnomusicology Forum* which is published by Routledge Journals (Taylor and Francis Group). The appointee will replace Dr Laudan Nooshin, who completes her term in the Autumn of 2011. The BFE also invites applications for a new Reviews Editor to replace Dr Hwee-San Tan who completes her term in September 2011. The new appointees will start in September 2011 and will work alongside Dr Simone Krüger, the current Co-Editor.

In its twenty years of existence, the journal (known until 2004 as the *British Journal of Ethnomusicology*) has established an international reputation for excellent academic and production standards, and is regarded as one of the leading journals in the field. We are looking for committed and proactive individuals to help the editorial team take the journal forward, building on the strengths we have established and taking advantage of the

possibilities afforded by our association with Routledge Journals. From 2011, the journal will be moving from two to three issues per year.

The editorial appointment will be for a period of at least three years and a maximum of five, starting on 1st September 2011 (with an induction period over the summer).

For further details, see [HERE](#).

### **BFE Tea Party at SEM Conference**

By Trevor Wiggins



Society for Ethnomusicology meetings tend to be large, and this year's gathering in Los Angeles (11-14 November 2010) was vying to be the largest yet with around 1200 delegates. Within the welter of up to nine parallel sessions at any time, various interest groups (such as those focusing on African music, Music Education, Medical or Historical Ethnomusicology) arrange meetings shoehorned into spaces in the timetable, often when delegates are most desperate to revive themselves with a drink and/or some food. By far the largest and most successful meeting this year was the British Forum for Ethnomusicology High Tea Party at 5.30 on 12th November. Organising the event with the hotel took Ruth Hellier-Tinoco around 7 months and over 100 emails (don't ask for the details) and even then various members of the BFE smuggled packets of English biscuits into the USA to authentically supplement the menu. Although we had catered for 80+ delegates sharing our tea, the space was packed and overflowed into the lobby, with more people attracted by both the noise of conversation and the traditional English 'Palm Court Orchestra' music we played to support our ironic take on the 'tea party' (with its USA meanings as well). Having pulled in at least double the number of attendees of any other interest group meetings, Chair Caroline Bithell was able to plug the serious side of the gathering, making our international colleagues more aware of the work that the BFE does—and making sure they knew what the acronym really stands for and there is also an online usage to describe something wacky and out of sight as 'Beyond F\*\*\*\*\* Egypt.' Trevor Wiggins was also able to plug the next annual conference in Falmouth and show the conference website at [www.bfeconference.org.uk](http://www.bfeconference.org.uk) <<http://www.bfeconference.org.uk>> . The event was very successful in raising our profile—the tea and cakes certainly helped—so there are plans to consider a similar event next year in Pennsylvania. Anyone for tea?



### News from Sheffield

Jonathan Stock will be leaving Sheffield where he has been since 1998 to take up the post of Associate Dean, Research at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, which is part of the University of Sydney. The BFE is sad to hear that Jonathan will be leaving the UK but wishes him all the best in his new job. We're sure you will wish to join us in sending Jonathan our warmest congratulations and sincere thanks for all that he has done for ethnomusicology in the UK over many years! We look forward to continuing our association across the globe.  
Caroline Bithell, BFE Chair

### Call for Contributions

The new website of the ICTM Study Group "Anthropology of Music in Mediterranean Cultures" will be ready and visible before the end of the year. It is meant as the continuation, in spirit, of Tullia Magrini's electronic journal "Music & Anthropology" which remains visible as a document in the history of the Study Group at the following address: [http://www.levi.provincia.venezia.it/ma/ma\\_mast.htm](http://www.levi.provincia.venezia.it/ma/ma_mast.htm). "Music and Anthropology" has been in existence for fifteen years, and now a website that is better tailored to the present needs of the Study Group becomes necessary. One significant novelty is its name, Mediterranean Music Studies (MMS). It is meant to indicate that although the anthropological approach is surely prevalent in the Study Group, all other approaches to Mediterranean music are welcome, from history, psychology, geography, pedagogy, etc. – no one excluded. MMS is not a periodical but, rather, a location permanently open to publish suitable scholarly contributions as they become available, with a rapidity that periodicals do not allow. Research articles will be located in a peer-reviewed section, based on initial editor screening and refereeing by at least two anonymous referees. The Editorial Board of MMS is made up of Philip Bohlman, Martin Stokes, Ruth Davis, Franco Fabbri and the present writer as General Editor. We very much wish to receive research articles in Mediterranean ethnomusicology, music history, and popular music that take advantage of multimedia (sound and video), as well as of the possibility to incorporate links to external websites. Picture photographs are, of course, no a problem at all. I am very pleased to tell scholars in the process of writing research articles relying multimedia complements, that Mediterranean Music Studies will be very eager to consider them for publication. Please, send such contribution to Marcello Sorce Keller: [mskeller@ticino.com](mailto:mskeller@ticino.com). Marcello Sorce Keller, Study Group Chair, University of Malta.

### New Publication on Afghanistan by Veronica Doubleday

I cried on the mountain top: Images from the Afghanaid archive (1980-2010) with traditional Afghan poetry, selected and translated by Veronica Doubleday. 64pp with Introduction, Notes and Further Reading. Price £10. The publication supports ongoing Afghanaid projects in Afghanistan.

The book combines stunning archive images with evocative song texts to present a portrait of Afghanistan of the past three decades, and it is complemented by beautiful calligraphy in the original Persian. In selecting the poetry, Veronica has drawn on her authoritative knowledge of an important orally transmitted singing tradition also discussed in a forthcoming Ethnomusicology Forum article. Copies will be available at this Saturday's BFE conference, or directly from Veronica ([vdoubleday@ukonline.co.uk](mailto:vdoubleday@ukonline.co.uk)).

### News from Christine Dettmann, University of Essex

#### "The Angolan Roots of Capoeira"

The AHRC-funded project "The Angolan Roots of Capoeira" explores the transatlantic links between the Afro-Brazilian martial art capoeira and particular Angolan traditions. An extended period of civil war made it difficult to carry out fieldwork in Angola until recently. So this research is about to enter exciting new territory. It will not only fill a significant gap in scholarship but also disseminate its outcomes in a documentary and journals available to the wider public. See further: [http://www.essex.ac.uk/history/research/Angolan\\_Roots/home.aspx](http://www.essex.ac.uk/history/research/Angolan_Roots/home.aspx).

### New Ethnomusicology Website

Prof. Dr. Barbara Alge, Musikhochschule fuer Musik und Theater Rostock has set up a new ethnomusicology website of the German speaking world. Please see: [www.musikethnologie.org](http://www.musikethnologie.org).

### Special subscription rates for FRoots Magazine

It might be useful for students on the BFE list to know that the monthly roots and world music magazine fRoots has special very much reduced subscription rates for students, for both the print and online editions. See <http://www.frootsmag.com/>.

## Music, Indigeneity & Digital Media

### Symposium Report by Thomas Hilder

The symposium Music, Indigeneity & Digital Media took place from 15th to 16th April 2010 at the Music Department, Royal Holloway, University of London (RHUL). Organised by Thomas Hilder, Shzr Ee Tan and Henry Stobart, the event brought together leading scholars from five continents engaged in research on music and the role of digital media in negotiating and transforming the politics of indigeneity in a range of contexts around the world. Consisting of paper presentations, a roundtable discussion and a film showing, the symposium set out to explore the issues of representation and revival, production and consumption, archives and outreach, place and environment, authorship and ownership, through indigenous musical performance. The event was supported with generous funding from Indigeneity in the Contemporary World: Politics, Performance, Belonging (European Research Council) and the Arts Faculty of Royal Holloway. Click [HERE](#) to read the full report.

## Annual BFE Conference: Call for Papers

### 7-10 April 2011 University College Falmouth, Tremough Campus, Cornwall, UK

Following a highly successful 2010 conference in Oxford, the annual conference moves to the rural south-west of the UK for 2011. The conference will take place in the new Performance Centre in Cornwall, built by University College Falmouth in 2010. This area of the UK is noted for its coastal scenery and mild climate and is also the location of an under-represented Celtic community with its own language, traditions and culture but little functional autonomy (unlike Wales or Scotland). UCF is a specialist arts college with schools of Art & Design, Media & Performance. The conference theme is chosen to provide an opportunity for cross-disciplinary links between Ethnomusicology and Media, Writing, Theatre and Dance. Download the [call for papers](#) here.

**IMPORTANT UPDATE:** The initial Call for Proposals closed on 15th October 2010. This early date was set so that proposers could be notified in November and encouraged to book accommodation asap in Falmouth because this area is a popular holiday destination. We have already received proposals from researchers/musicians in 20 different countries. If you would like to join this lively debate in a beautiful location, you can still submit a proposal by email to [trevor.wiggins@bfe.org.uk](mailto:trevor.wiggins@bfe.org.uk) and we will include it if at all possible.

## Call for Papers

ICTM Ireland Annual Conference, 25-27th February 2011, Magee College, University of Ulster, Derry/Londonderry

'LISTENING'

Keynote Speaker: Professor Thomas Turino, University of Illinois

As has been made clear by Small (1998), Turino (2008), Keil and Feld (1994) amongst many others, there is no such thing as a 'passive' consumption of music. Each musical experience involves stimulation, recognition, interpretation, evaluation, and often provokes a socially meaningful response. These processes are influenced by both the listener's own 'musical background' and shared cultural meanings.

The central focus of this conference will be the nexus of musical audition on the one hand and the listener's responses on the other. Themes we will attempt to investigate may include;

- Listening and memory
- Learning to listen
- The role of media in dislocating music from a fixed social context
- Cross-cultural listening
- Differences between musicians' and non-musicians' modes of listening
- The cultural politics of public audition
- Age, gender and interpretation

Conference convenors welcome submissions of 200 word abstracts from all relevant academic fields. ICTM Ireland promotes the international study of Irish music and dance and the study of all music and dance by researchers based in Ireland. This year we particularly welcome short (10 minute max) video extract submissions, which will be shown between panel sessions. For the first time, we also invite field audio recording extracts (max 5-minutes) accompanied by a slide presentation, from research in progress, which will be presented in a slide installation. Further details regarding submissions and registration are available at [www.ictm.ie](http://www.ictm.ie). The closing

date for ALL submissions is December 1st 2010. Submissions and general queries should be sent to: [tony.langlois@mic.ul.ie](mailto:tony.langlois@mic.ul.ie).

### Upcoming Symposium

Techno-soundings  
Acousmatic Methodologies of the Ear  
25-26 March 2011  
The University of Hong Kong  
Organiser

Department of Music, School of Humanities, The University of Hong Kong  
Theme This symposium intends to interrogate and reflect on various methodologies for investigating the means by which members of a society evolve as communities of listening in different locales. Moreover, it focuses on those who are exposed to the same music through historical experiences such as colonialism, for instance, and through applied technologies such as the radio, records, cassettes, and the internet. Leading questions include: how do these disparate communities articulate and share their versions of a style of music in renditions where the sound is removed from its original source and made local through taste yet global through their experience with music technology; how are communities of listening mobilized; how do these disparate communities of listening fit into a world of interconnectedness and difference; how can the senses of hearing and listening assist the observer in learning a culture and develop an understanding of the way members of a society know one another? These are but a few of the questions the symposium will address. We welcome papers in all fields dealing with recorded music, senses of hearing, and the acoustemologies of various technologised sound cultures.

#### Speakers

Speakers include Andrew F. Jones (UC-Berkeley), Michael Denning (Yale University), Earle Waugh (University of Alberta), and Andy J. Hamilton (Durham University).

#### Submissions

Speakers will have 20 minutes for their presentations and 10 minutes to respond to questions. Abstracts of no more than 250 words should be submitted by 30 November 2010 to Lee Watkins at [leeww@hku.hk](mailto:leeww@hku.hk). Each abstract should include the presenter's name, institutional affiliation, telephone numbers, and email address. Presenters of approved submissions will be notified by 14 January 2011. Proceedings will be conducted in English.

#### Contact

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