

## October 2009

### **BFE 2009 Membership Survey**

The British Forum for Ethnomusicology and Routledge are pleased to announce details for a 2009 membership survey. This survey has been created to allow you to feedback and comment on your experience of being a BFE member. Understanding the thoughts and opinions of our members is invaluable to us and we appreciate you spending a few moments of your time to provide us with your views on the society, the journal Ethnomusicology Forum and the BFE website. Your feedback will enable us to further address the needs of our members. The survey takes only a few minutes to complete and is completely anonymous. Most of the questions can be answered with a one click selection but there is also the opportunity throughout the survey for you to provide us with any comments you may have. Click "Next" to get started with the survey. If you'd like to leave the survey at any time, just click "Exit this survey". Your answers will be saved and you will be able to continue where you left off at a later time if you wish. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch. **The survey can be found here: [BFE 2009 Membership Survey](#).**

### **Notable Achievements in SOAS's Music Department**

The year 2008-9 marked some notable achievements for members and associates of the Music Department at SOAS. For example, in the Research Assessment Exercise, 80% of Music's submission was graded 3\* (internationally excellent) or 4\* (world-leading quality): the highest result across the school. Lucy Duran and her team of scholars were awarded a grant of £496,872 for the three-year project "Growing into Music: a multicultural study of musical enculturation in oral traditions." On the teaching side, the Music Department has developed new courses on popular music in Atlantic Africa, pop and politics in East Asia, and music and religion in South East Asia. Our Masters and PhD students are increasingly producing performance-centred "practice-based research" projects which this year have included contemporary composition for Japanese shakuhachi, a comparison of Turkish and Arabic ney, and the evolution of the Cuban drum kit. The SOAS Musicology Series, published by Ashgate, has issued six new titles this year, including *The Making of a Musical Canon in Chinese Central Asia* by Rachel Harris, and *Touraj Kiaras and Persian Classical Music* by Owen Wright. For more details, download the [2009 Music Annual Report](#).

### **Congratulations to Muriel Swijghuisen Reigersberg!**

Muriel was awarded her PhD in July 2009, from University of Surrey, Roehampton University, London. Her supervisors were Dr Barley Norton and Prof Andree Grau and her external examiners Prof Gregory Barz and Dr Fiona Magowan. The thesis title is: 'Choral Singing and the Construction of Australian Aboriginal Identities: an applied ethnomusicological study in Hopevale, Northern Queensland, Australia.' ***Many congratulations!***

## **BFE Member on Fieldtrip to Australia**

Muriel Swijghuisen Reigersberg has just returned from a field trip to Australia in September 2009, to the Lutheran Australian Indigenous community of Hopevale where she repatriated two archival recordings as part of a project supported by the Society for Education, Music and Psychology Research (SEMPRE) and their Gerry Farrell Travelling Scholarship 2009. The repatriation of the 1966 field recordings led Hopevalian elders to re-introduce the linguistic and musical material into their local musical practices and e-teaching materials which are being developed using specialised, culturally appropriate software [www.miromaa.com.au](http://www.miromaa.com.au). The musical materials in particular were well received as the songs recorded in 1966 had not been performed for quite some time as a result of previous missionary intervention. Elders felt that this historical musical material was an important part of their heritage which needs to be reclaimed.

## **New Publication by Marina Roseman**

Roseman, Marina. 2008. *A four-fold framework for cross-cultural, integrative research on music and medicine*. In Benjamin Koen, ed. *The Oxford Handbook of Medical Ethnomusicology*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 18-45.

## **New Book by Barley Norton**

Norton, Barley. 2009. *Songs for the Spirits: Music and Mediums in Modern Vietnam*. Urbana and Chicago: University of Illinois Press. Please click the link for further information:

<http://www.press.uillinois.edu/books/catalog/39nhy8fx9780252033995.html>.

## **SOAS Music Department Public Seminars**

Information about the SOAS Music Department Public Seminars, TERM 1, 2009 are available for [download here](#).

## **New Appointment in Ethnomusicology**

Frederick Moehn is delighted to join the faculty of the Institute for Ethnomusicology - Music and Dance at the Universidade Nova de Lisboa, under the direction of Salwa Castelo-Branco, as a Research Associate in the Ciência 2008 program. He is currently teaching Theory and Methods in Ethnomusicology to 14 graduate students there. His article, "A Carioca Blade Runner, or How Percussionist Marcos Suzano Turned the Brazilian Tambourine into a Drum Kit and Other Matters of (Politically) Correct Music Making," was published in the latest issue of *Ethnomusicology*. He will be conducting new ethnographic research on LusAfrican music cultures while in Lisbon.