

THE BROADSIDE

OF BOSTON

Volume III, No. 12

Cambridge, Massachusetts

August 5, 1964



FOLK MUSIC AND COFFEE HOUSE NEWS & TEN CENTS

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THE BROADSIDE

OF BOSTON

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Bessie Jones

Although the entire world has become familiar with American Negro music, most people are relatively unfamiliar with the old-time country Negro music which is the bedrock underlying jazz, gospel music, and the blues. Alan Lomax has helped to fill this gap in our education with the discovery and presentation of Bessie Jones and the Georgia Sea Island Singers.

Bessie Jones comes originally from the red hills near Albany, Georgia, and married onto St. Simon's Island near Brunswick, Georgia. Bessie brought with her a rich supply of tunes and games similar to those played by the people on the Island and, being by nature a leader and teacher, came to be the leader of the Sea Island Singers. This group was organized in the early twenties by Mrs. Maxfield Parrish, a musicologist, and they probably know more about the complexity of Negro country music as it originally existed

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than any other group of singers in the country. They remember between them work songs, ring-games, shouts, and spirituals as they were sung a century ago, and, what is more important, they have preserved the original style of performing them. It is a style that is polyrhythmic, involving all of the individuals as they sing, dance, clap, and shout against the basis of the melody of the song itself and against each other. The result is a beautiful swinging blend of singing, clapping, and dancing which literally casts a spell over any audience and suddenly makes all Negro music exciting and new all over again.

Thursday evening, April 8th, at 8:30 pm, the Newport Folk Foundation and the Club 47 are putting on the third in their series of concerts of traditional folk music. Like the others, it will be at the Stebbins Auditorium, Unitarian Church of Cambridge, 3 Church Street, around the corner from the Club 47 in Harvard Square. The concert will be hosted by Alan Lomax and will be devoted to Negro Country Music and will feature, in addition to Bessie Jones and the Georgia Sea Island Singers, Ed Young, a Mississippi fife player and dancer, and Fred McDowell, the great Blues singer and guitarist. Boston is lucky to get all of these people here at one time, and this surely promises to be one of the most exciting and rewarding evenings of folk music we've seen in a long time.

••• Ramblin' Round •••

w/dave wilson

About sixty of us piled into the bus. There were a number of immediately familiar faces; Pete Seeger and Toshi Seeger, Joan Baez, Almeda Riddle, Sonny Terry, Brownie McGhee, Jean Carigan, Bernice Reagon, the McPeake Family, Jackie Washington, and Dick and Mimi Farina. The bus made its way through rush hour traffic, with most of us looking out the windows, trying to figure out just where we were going. We turned right onto Commonwealth Avenue, and many of us figured right then that we had to be going someplace in Newton. One of the officials confirmed this.

The bus stopped in a residential area, we all climbed out, walked down the steps and into the house of Stanley and Hannie Myers, who greeted us at the door, saw to it that we knew where to put our coats, and invited us to make ourselves at home.

There was plenty of food, and even though we had to climb over, under, and around TV cameras and equipment, we managed to get from the kitchen to the living room without tripping over anything.

Well-fed and thirst quenched, we all sat on the living room floor, while Pete Seeger acted as host. He introduced the McPeake Family, they played for us, and soon we were

If you want to know
All there is to know
about

FOLK MUSIC

Read **SING OUT!** — the national folksong magazine. In each issue, traditional songs, songs of other countries, new songs. Articles on folksinging, book and record reviews, etc. Articles and songs by and about Pete Seeger, Leadbelly, Bob Dylan, Joan Baez, Woody Guthrie, Alan Lomax. Edited by Irwin Silber. Pub. bi-monthly.

One-year subscription: \$3.00

Two-year subscription: \$5.00

SING OUT!

The National Folksong Magazine

165 W. 46 St., N. Y. C.

all singing along with them. The cameras had started, but no one was paying any attention to them. Next Jean Carigan played a fiddle tune which had everyone, including the musicians, open-mouthed. The evening continued with songs and tunes by Pete, Joan Baez, Bernice Reagon, Sonny & Brownie, Almeda Riddle, and all of us, because there were not many songs on which we hadn't joined in by the second or third chorus.

WGBH-TV filmed a little over three hours of the party and when it is edited, it will be shown locally, and over the National Educational Television network.

Dave Schloss, who produces Folk Music USA for Channel 2, was the planner behind this show, and the idea was as magnificent in execution as it was in concept.

He told me that the original inspiration for the show came from WGBH's station manager, Hartford Gunn, and NET President, John White, both of whom, along with their wives, joined us for the bus ride and filming. Also along were Mr. & Mrs. Edwin Bayley, Mr. Bayley being the Administrative VP for the Network.

Greg Harney was the director, and because it was a remote, couldn't be in the midst of the fun.

As yet no date has been set for distribution of the edited film, but you can figure that it will be at least a month away from the time you read this. Present plans call for the three hours to be edited into a one-hour show. It should be a jam-packed hour. I'm willing to bet one thing for sure, it's going to beat hell out of any folk show you ever saw over the commercial networks.

VAN RONK BACK TO UNICORN

Dave Van Ronk, one of Boston's favorite performers, will open a two week engagement at The Unicorn Coffeehouse on Tuesday, March 30th. Dave's repertoire, for those who have not heard him, is primarily blues, although a wide musical interest has recently led him to experiment with several other forms including theatre songs of Brecht and Weill.

BOTTEGA, DIFFERENT KIND OF FOLK SHOP

The Bottega Wire Spool Art & Folk Shop, which has opened at 78 Kilmarnock Street in Boston, is a unique store. While their stock of merchandise includes guitars, banjos, and other instruments and accessories, it also includes hand-carved wooden objects, hand-made jewelry, pottery, and clothes. The atmosphere is informal, and you are invited to drop in and make friends with the proprietors, whether you are looking to purchase or not.

Ramblin' Round

w/dave wilson

At 8:30 this morning on the third day of my summer encampment with the USAF, I was summarily informed that I would be on duty from 6 tonight till 6 tomorrow morning, thereby throwing out my carefully worked out schedule for writing copy for the next issue of BROADSIDE and possibly preventing me from getting to Newport.

So here I am, wondering what the devil there is to write about - except my own resentments against the military establishment, which are of little import when matched against those which you aggregate readers must also have.

The only answer is to skittle a bit and see if you might not have traveled some of the same neuron paths.

First thing that comes to mind is a phone call I had last week from a member of a Boston Arts Festival committee who said that there had been a healthy response to our plea for a protest to the Arts Festival regarding the lack of Folk Music on this year's program. There is no word at this point as to what might happen, but I feel very grateful to you who took the time to write or call the Festival committee. It's good to know that there are a number of people willing to make some effort to keep supporting the music.

I have been wondering of late. Does it strike you at all strangely that Eric Von Schmidt has never appeared at the Newport Festival as a performer? Eric is probably the most respected of all the white blues singers in the Folk music profession and highly regarded by critics and critical audiences as well but, to my knowledge, has never been asked to take part in the Festival, except as a graphic artist (he designed the cover and emblem for last year's Festival.) Whether it is an oversight on someone's part, or a matter of politics, I think it's an outright shame.

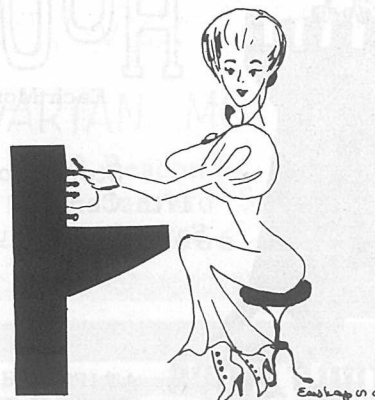
I listened to Elektra's release of the British Folk group, The Ian Campbell Folk Group, with much skepticism: and was immensely pleased! If the British folk group sound caught on here the way their rock & roll sound did, commercial Folk Music here would be greatly enriched. They do almost everything with great love and understanding. I'm looking forward to hearing the American release of another British group, The Spinners.

Did you know that the number 1 song on Great Britain's hit parade is "House of The Rising Sun"? It's done by a r&r group, The Animals. Frankly, I've kept my radio off for fear I might hear it.

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After the bomb which The Ballad & Banjo dropped on Folk Music in Hyannis two summers ago, it was with real pleasure that I spent an evening this past week at the Carousel. There are not many performers working the club yet - about a dozen perhaps - but it is as creative a musical scene as any we have seen or heard of on the Cape. It is well worth your attention if you are down in that area. #


JOAN BAEZ AT CASTLE HILL

Joan Baez will do a one night performance at Castle Hill in Ipswich on August 14th at 8:30. The setting is outdoors, for those who have never been to Castle Hill before (also for those who have been there), much like that at Freebody Park, Newport, and more picturesque - seats 10,000. For tickets to the concert, write Castle Hill Foundation, Box 228, Ipswich, Mass. (phone 356-4351)

STRANGE FOLK INSTRUMENTS AT LOC INC.

Loc Inc., the newest folk instrument shop in the area, is located at 114 Austin Street, near Central Square in Cambridge. It has for sale one of the most varied collections of old and odd instruments we have ever seen.

The Shop is owned and operated by balladeer Bill Lyons and his partner, Richard Cutler. Their stated intent is to provide the missing elements in service they feel are lacking in this area. They will be repairing as well as selling instruments and will include a line of accessories, song and music books, etc. BROADSIDE extends a welcome to Loc Inc. and Best Wishes for a successful venture.



FOLK MUSIC

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Mon Isabel Gardner
Folk & Freedom Songs
Tue Jack Grant
Originals
Wed Brian Rohsenow
Folk Songs
Thu Rogelio Reyes
Spanish Music
Fri Isabel Gardner
Folk & Freedom Songs
Sat Tex Künig
Folk Songs
Sun Joel Cohen, lute
Sandra Robbins, soprano



THE LOFT

August 6 Steve Koretz
7 Denise Kennedy
8 Ben Robertson
11 Mel Lyman O'Rooney
12 Jack Grant
13 Steve Koretz
14 Ben Robertson
15 Ben Robertson
17 Hoot
18 Mel Lyman O'Rooney
19 Jack Grant
20 Steve Koretz
21 Cook County Squires



BERKSHIRE MUSIC BARN

August 8* Judy Collins
John Hammond Jr.
Greenbriar Boys
August 9 Thelonious Monk
August 12 Miriam Makeba
August 15* Odetta
August 16 Dizzy Gillespie
August 22* Ian & Sylvia
August 23* Duke Ellington


* matinee performance

THE ORLEANS

August 5 Bob Ghatan
6 John Rowlingson
7 Ben Robertson
8 Jack Grant
10 Ben Robertson
11 Carol Gordon
12 Bob Ghatan
13 John Rowlingson
14 Ben Robertson
15 Al Sears
& Harry Palmer
17 Ben Robertson
18 Carol Gordon
19 Bob Ghatan
20 John Rowlingson
21 Carol Gordon



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OUCH, DAMMIT!

WHAT TIME IS IT?



DON'T DO THAT!

WHO'S GOT A
CIGARETTE?

*



SECOND BEACH OR
NO SECOND BEACH
SIX PEOPLE IN ONE
SLEEPING-BAG IS
TOO DAMN MANY!

THE KING'S ROOK

- August 5 The Folklores
6 Bob Copp
7 Bernice
8 ↓
9 Reagon
10 Hoot & Auditions
11 Jazz in the Evening
12 Dusty Rhodes & Sandy
13 Bob Copp
14 Dave
15 Van
16 Ronk
17 Hoot & Auditions
18 Jazz in the Evening
19 Loblolley Five



CLUB 47

- August 5 Jim Kweskin
6 to be announced
7 Geoff, Maria, & Mel
8 Eric Anderson
& Debbie Green
9 Hoot
10 Eric Von Schmidt
11 Paul Arnoldi
& Lisa Kindred
12 DOC
13 BOGGS
14 Taj Mahal
15 Sandy Bull
& Bobby Neuwirth
16 Hoot w/Ray Pong
17 Bernice Reagon (of
the Freedom Singers)
18 Eric Anderson
& Debbie Green
19 Lisa Kindred
20 PAUL
21 CLAYTON

THE POTTING SHED

- July 28 The Grandison Singers
thru &
Aug. 11 Don McLean

THE MOONCUSSER

- August 4 - 9 Country Gentlemen
Jerry Corbitt
August 18 - 23 Proper Bostonians
Tom Paxton
August 25 - 30 Charles River Valley
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Guest, John Hammond
Aug 14 Dog songs for Dog days
Aug 21 Record Reviews
Guests, Koerner, Ray
& Glover
Aug 28 Field Trip Collecting
Guest, Rita Weill



BOAR'S HEAD

- August 4-9 Mike Cooney
11-16 Bernice Reagon
18-23 Bobby Neuwirth



LAST MONTH							1964 AUGUST 1964							NEXT MONTH						
JULY														SEPTEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
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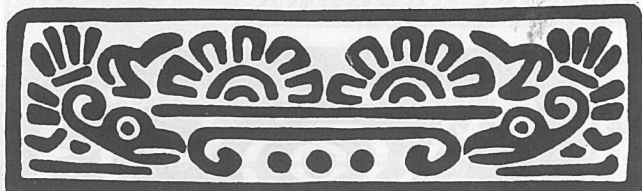
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be responsible for changes made by the clubs



CARLOS MONTOYA - MUSIC BARN ATTRACTION

Among the world's foremost flamenco guitar virtuosi, Carlos Montoya will be heard in concert Saturday afternoon, Aug. 1, at 3:30 at the Berkshire Music Barn. Montoya is one of the handful of masters of the instrument who is able to devote an entire program to the flamenco genre and the first ever to work without a singer or dancer.

Like the true flamenco performer that he is, Montoya creates as he goes along. The numbers he will play consist of his own arrangements and original compositions, which are based on the Spanish gypsy tradition.



TOM PAXTON AT KING'S ROOK

Tom Paxton, fresh from a successful appearance at the Newport Folk Festival, will be at the King's Rook on August 21, 22, and 23. Tom's first record on the Gaslight label will be soon followed by an Elektra release this fall.

THE BROADSIDE

OF BOSTON
FOLK MUSIC AND COFFEE HOUSE NEWS

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Next issue, we will present a feature article by Buffy St. Marie on music of the American Indian. We hope to fit it all in one issue, but due to space, it may have to run in two parts. Of course, all our regular columns will be with us; and we will present the first of a new series of columns by Ed Freeman.

COFFEEHOUSE OPENS IN HANOVER, N. H.

David Godine, a Dartmouth Junior from Boston, is the organizing force behind this one - the "Glee, Stomp and Perloo Society," a student-run, non-profit establishment which opened last week at 4 1/2 Allen Street in Hanover. In this college town, where there has definitely been a void for informal jazz and folk music, Mr. Godine and the 10-man board of directors feel that this coffeehouse should fill the gap. High quality art is now exhibited on the walls by such artists as Leonard Baskin, John Friedlander and Jose Ortega. Most of these, by the way, are for sale through a special arrangement with a Boston art dealer. Student art is planned for the future. Besides folk and jazz, special programs, such as old-time movies, concerts of recorded music and poetry readings will be on the agenda during the week. Incidentally, a "perloo" is a "sort of adventurous stew in which everything available is cooked up in one pot." But don't be alarmed: sandwiches, ice cream, and a variety of cold drinks comprise the menu. A cover charge of 75¢ will be charged on nights with entertainment.

BIT'S n' PIECES

BROADSIDE wishes to take this opportunity to extend its congratulations to MITCH GREENHILL and LOUISE RICE on their engagement to be married August 1st. *** Watch for blues package with SKIP JAMES, ROBERT PETE WILLIAMS & others coming to Boston early this fall. *** Tentative plans for a live recording of JACKIE WASHINGTON at the Club 47 have been made for sometime in September. *** The first Mississippi Folk Festival will be held in the Jackson Coliseum in Jackson, Miss. on Saturday, August 1st. Performers will include PP&M, the CHAD MITCHELL TRIO, the FREEDOM SINGERS, and others. *** JIM KWESKIN & JUG BAND will be at Tanglewood in Lenox, Mass. in a program of baroque music on August 8th at 2:30 pm. Appearing with them will be JOHN HAMMOND, Jr. *** Broadside of New York is now going monthly - issuing, we are told, five magazines a year - about double the size to include the news that originally goes into two issues. *** SON HOUSE, rediscovered bluesman, was one of the many performers to show up at the Club 47 last Sunday night (July 19th), which not surprisingly was another most comprehensive evening of folk music entertainment. *** JIM ROONEY will be back from Greece on September 8th, after a year of post graduate work there, which he won on a scholarship. Jim, an exceptional performer of bluegrass and country and western music, is well known for his work with Bill Keith.

1964

BOSTON ARTS FESTIVAL

1964

ANNOUNCES AN EXTENDED CONCERT SERIES

MONDAY, AUGUST 10 - SUNDAY, , AUGUST 16

Monday, August 10	GUS SOLOMONS, JR. - DANCE CONCERT
Tuesday, August 11	JOSH WHITE, JR.
Wednesday, August 12	HOOTENANNY - BONNIE DOBSON & Others
Thursday, August 13	"Sounds of the Country" with MIKE SEEGER JACK ELLIOTT THE LILLY BROTHERS
Friday, August 14	"Sounds of the Blues and Ragtime" MIKE SEEGER JIM KWESKIN and his JUG BAND SONNY TERRY
Saturday, August 15	JAZZ CONCERT with FATHER NORMAN O'CONNOR

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Sunday, August 16 Special Festival Benefit

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Reviews

THE CHAD MITCHELL TRIO & THE GATEMEN IN CONCERT Colpix CP-463

If the Chad Mitchell Trio are ridiculous, the Gatemens are absurd. The CM3 manage to remove most feeling from all the songs they do on this album, as per usual; and there is not even the sometimes saving grace of some of their original material. The Gatemens sing weakly, to weak accompaniment and tinkly piano. This record is a perfect example of what not to buy, if your interest is folk music.

dave wilson

DAVE VAN RONK: I CAN TELL A LIE, BUT I CAN'T SING ONE

Never before could anyone point to an album and say without hesitation, "This is THE finest album recorded by a contemporary American folk artist." JUST DAVE VAN RONK, a Mercury release, deserves that singular distinction.

Dave Van Ronk has repeatedly proven himself an outstanding artist in varied areas of vocal performances - ballads, spirituals, blues, jug band songs and traditional jazz numbers. In the past five years, his voice control has developed remarkably.

JUST DAVE VAN RONK is a composite album, drawing from such diversified stylists as Sammy Kaye, Woody Guthrie, Gary Davis and Billie Holliday. It excels for two reasons: first, Van Ronk has somehow learned to use his voice as a modern jazz instrument might, moving from note to note (even within a single word) with masterful transition; secondly, and more important, he conveys more concern for the words of a song and understanding of the implications of those words than most performers before him. On "God Bless the Child," he makes his voice chalky, on "House of the Rising Sun," the voice weeps and stings, making unusually credible the characters who might be singing these songs. "Wandering" is by far the most moving song on record in this decade.

JUST DAVE VAN RONK is not only the product of an accomplished performer: it is the voice of a heart that knows compassion and is sincere. Many years from now, when many of the contemporary releases will be forgotten, JUST DAVE VAN RONK will be remembered as the finest of this, our era.

Art Silbergeld

THREE NEWPORT REVIEWS

barry e. mushlin

JOSE FELICIANO at NEWPORT

Jose Feliciano walked away with the audience at the Sunday afternoon New Performers Concert. His presentation included "Walk Right

In," "La Bamba," "Flight of the Bumblebee," a banjo and mandolin duet, and a rendition of a twenties jazz band. This music should not be too hard to play; and it isn't, when you are operating with the proper instruments for each piece. But try doing it all with just one guitar. An encore and then a standing ovation. The shouts of MORE would not stop until they brought him back a second time. One person playing one guitar, strung with just six strings, using just two hands and one flatpick simply cannot play this much music. It can't be done. Jose Feliciano does it.

PETER CHILDS at NEWPORT

I guess that quite a few people in the Boston area have been wondering what happened to Peter Childs. Last we saw of him, he was on his way to New York to record his final album with the Knob Lick Upper Ten Thousand.

Yes, he was at Newport, and in a couple of private sessions that I had the honor and pleasure of sitting in on, I happily discovered that Pete is getting better and better. Pete has been accompanying Odetta these past two months and has just returned with her from a tour of Africa and Europe.

Sunday night was my first opportunity to hear Pete perform in some time, and I must say that I was impressed. It was quite impossible to hear him - impossible, that is, unless you watched his fretting hand. Pete was weaving notes around Odetta's guitar, filling her pauses and the spaces between notes. His timing was so perfect that the two guitars sounded as one, and you absolutely had to watch him to realize he was playing. Then you realize that the intricate patterns laced around Odetta's strumming were all Peter's. Peter Childs is more than just a fine musician; he is a musician who is constantly striving to better himself... and succeeding.

JOHNNY CASH at NEWPORT

Travelling from Nevada to Newport can be pretty difficult at times, and for Johnny Cash it was almost impossible; but he did make it, although he was 24 hours late. The crowd didn't mind the day's wait, however; and when he came on stage Saturday night, their reception of him surely showed their appreciation of his music. Not all the numbers he sang were in the country vein as exemplified by "Don't Think Twice" and Peter LaFarge's "Ira Hayes." "Ira Hayes," by the way, is on one side of Johnny's new 45 rpm single. He had the audience in the palm of his hand when he gave them one of his biggest hits, a song that sold well over a million copies: "I Walk the Line." (His version of "Rock Island Line" was quite different from the one we normally hear.) Johnny Cash closed with "Keep on the Sunny Side," and although it was night, the sun sure was shining all the way through his performance. #

THE PHILADELPHIA FOLKSONG SOCIETY
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MIKE SEEGER AND
TRACEY SWARTZ
BONNIE DOBSON
KOERNER, RAY AND
GLOVER
BEERS FAMILY

JUDY COLLINS
MISSISSIPPI
JOHN HURT
BERNICE REAGON
GIL TURNER
JUDY RODERICK
PHIL OCHS
MURV SHINER
HEDY WEST
and many others



Festival Committee,
Dept. G. Box 215, Philadelphia 5, Pa.

GRANDISON SINGERS OPEN AT LENOX SUPPER CLUB

The Grandison Singers will open a two-week engagement on July 28th at the Potting Shed, a supper club on the grounds of the Music Inn in Lenox, Mass. Appearing with Don McLean, they will give shows nightly (except Mondays) at 9 and 11 with the Bernard Peiffer Jazz Trio, in residence for the summer.

The Grandisons, a trio which had its beginning in the choir lofts of Norfolk, Va., are known for having brought gospel singing into the night club field. With an expanded repertoire, they now perform popular and folk songs, all with the particular gospel flavor. Their arrangements are largely the work of the entire group, but particularly Floyd Bibbins, who sings while playing a striding piano.

Don McLean, a young 18-year old folk singer and sharing the stage with the Grandisons, was virtually unknown a year ago. He started out playing small concerts for friends at schools in the east. Since then, he has appeared at the Gaslight Cafe and The Bitter End in New York with a repertoire that ranges from banjo ballads to Negro work songs.

KING'S ROOK PRESENTS DAVE VAN RONK

Dave Van Ronk, who recently turned out to be Mercury Record's hottest selling artist in several cities, including Boston, will be appearing at the King's Rook at Ipswich on Aug. 14, 15, and 16. Further proof of Dave's popularity is attested to by his winning of this magazine's annual poll of its readers for their favorite visiting performer.

ONE SAD NOTE: Son House, legendary delta blues singer, was taken ill Friday at Newport and confined to the hospital. He himself was unable to be present at the Blues Workshop and the Sunday afternoon concert; but he was there in the concern of his friends and fellow performers for him. Mississippi John dedicated his first number Sunday night to Son, an old friend of his from Tennessee. We hope that Son will be performing soon; but I'm sure he understands that we want him to just take it easy and fully repair his health before he even thinks of appearing on stage.

CANADA'S MARIPOSA FOLK FESTIVAL TO BE HELD THIS YEAR

The Mariposa Folk Festival, Canada's biggest folk music gathering, will be held this year on August 7, 8, and 9. Richard Ferriss, who took the controversial festival under wing this year, has promised to present a program which will keep its attendants talking about it throughout the year to follow. Riots and the city's disapproval of the audience's behavior had last year caused the cancellation of the yearly event.

There is no merrier music.....



than the music you will find

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with *Robert J Lurtsema*

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BROADSIDE

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THIS ISSUE'S COVER BERNICE REAGON

NEW TALENT IN AMERICAN FOLK MUSIC - BERNICE REAGON

Bernice Reagon is undeniably one of the most commanding new talents in American folk music. Combining intense inner emotion, a voice of rare power and range, and deep personal involvement with her song material, Bernice has generated a wave of excitement wherever she has appeared. While initial recognition came as a result of her role as musical spokesman for the "new generation" of Southern Negro youth - a role which remains unchanged - her ascendance as a folksinger of national importance seems inevitable.

Born and raised in Southwest Georgia, Bernice Reagon is deeply sooted in the traditional Negro folk music of the rural South. Play parties, work songs, blues, spirituals and gospel songs formed the musical environment in which she grew up and represent a basic part of her repertoire. At the same time, she is a leading exponent of the 'new music' of the New South - the moving, often disturbing freedom songs, born almost daily out of human struggle. Whether it be a field holler or a prison song, Bernice's singing bears the ring of truth. For she knew the heated labor of a Georgia cotton

field at the age of ten and the inside of many a Southern jail as a prisoner-for-freedom before she was twenty.

Bernice first came to national attention in September of 1962, when she appeared at Carnegie Hall on the annual Sing Out Hootenanny. She was the surprise hit of the evening, receiving a standing ovation from the capacity audience and unanimous raves from the critics. "She has a superb contralto voice, large, resonant, and powerful. One is immediately reminded of Odetta's singing," wrote Robert Shelton in the N. Y. Times, concluding that she stood on the threshold of "an extremely promising career as a singer."

Following this impressive debut, Bernice Reagon ignored the deluge of well-intentioned encouragement for her personal career, postponing it to join the original "Freedom Singers." The, now, near-legendary group was made up of four singing field secretaries of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC). The tour covered more than 50,000 miles and 100 performers, ending at the Newport Folk Festival. At the Festival, Bernice was invited on the program as a soloist; and once again, a memorable performance brought the cheering audience to its feet.

Now the original "Freedom Singers" group has stepped into history, passing an honorable legacy to its successors, and Bernice Reagon, folksinger, to all the listening, singing world.

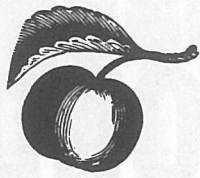
Although having finally embarked on the professional singing career so obviously awaiting her uncommon talent, Bernice Reagon's stature as a dedicated advocate of her people's struggle remains undiminished. Through her songs, old and new, are planted the seeds of a desperately-needed, clearer understanding between people of differing cultural, economic and racial backgrounds. In her warmth, power and humor, one beholds the essence of human dignity and the spirit of the New American Freedom.

Bernice Reagon presently makes her home in Atlanta, Georgia with her husband, Cordell Reagon, and their infant daughter, Toshi. Her most recent engagements include New York's Gerde's Folk City, Cafe Lena in Saratoga Springs, the Philadelphia Folk Festival, and the annual conference of the World General of Methodist Churches in Pittsburgh. She can be heard on several LP's including: "Freedom In the Air" - SNCC; "We Shall Overcome" - Mercury; and "Broadside Ballads" Vol. I - Broadside (dist. by Folkways).

Lori Turner

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SCRAPPLE FROM

THE APPLE

by Alex Lukeman

One of the drawbacks to a column of this sort is the gap of several weeks or so between the time it is written and the time it is published. This prevents me from reviewing current acts in New York with the idea that you will stop by and catch them if you are in the city. So I'll just have to recommend groups and performers whom you may not have heard and hope that you'll be able to see them somewhere. One good example is a group now working at the Village Vanguard. This is Max Morath's Original Rag Quartet composed of Max Morath on piano, Jim Tyler on tenor banjo, Barry Kornfeld on 5-string banjo and guitar, and Felix Pappalard on gittarron, a sort of bass guitar common in Mexico. This group is one of the best to come on the scene in quite a while, serious musicians having a lot of fun playing the old rags by Joplin and company as well as several hit tunes from the turn of the century. Max Morath is a sensitive and talented rag piano player, and provides a fascinating running commentary while he performs. In addition, a good part of the show is taken up by showing illustrated slides, hand-painted back around 1905 or so to go along with particular songs, such as "By the Light of the Silvery Moon", "Hello Central", etc., etc. It's really a gas. Other tunes include "Maple Leaf Rag", "The Cascades" (written for the 1904 World's Fair), "Dill Pickles Rag", a spoof on "12th Street Rag", and a "virtuoso" tenor banjo piece adapted from Brahms.

There are many others, all worth hearing, and if you get the chance, make sure you see the group.

At this writing, Jackie Washington is appearing at the Gaslight with Flip Wilson, a very hip and funny guy, and is being well-received by New York audiences. Phil Ochs has finally joined the swelling ranks of Martin guitar owners by buying a beautiful herringbone D-28. Israel G. Young has had it with MacDougal Street and is trying to negotiate a place on 6th Ave. right under Fretted Instruments for the Folklore Center. Fretted Instruments has fair prices and good banjos and guitars, so if you need one, drop in. You might also try Roger Sprung at 255 W. 88th St. if you are looking for an instrument, since he always has several available.

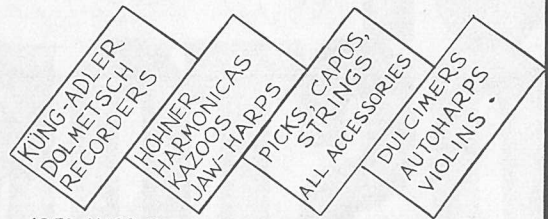
There's a new musical revue in town called "Dylan-esque", starring 1000 Queens folkniks. If I hear one more person tell me that Bob Dylan speaks for "our generation" I'll go mad. He does not speak for "our genera-

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tion". Nobody does. The voice of this generation is heard in the sum total of all of us. Although Dylan happens to shout a little louder than most, he is by no means the only one, nor is his the only correct interpretation. I'd like to refer you to a poem by Woody Guthrie called "Voice" in an Oak publication called American Folksong Woody Guthrie. "Woody had the right idea. Maybe Dylan does. But read this poem and you'll get an idea of what I mean; how you've got to do something yourself, not just set back and listen to one person, taking his word as gospel, but do a little listening on your own. Woody's poem is a statement that sums up everything a serious folk musician believes in. Listen to this world around you. You'll hear a lot more than one individual calling out, and you'd be amazed at how interesting it is to develop your own opinions. Try it and see. #

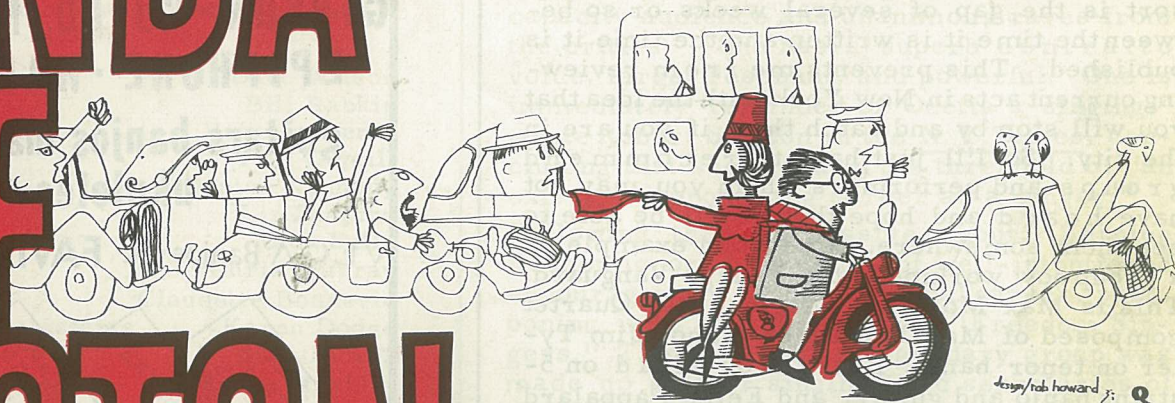
BROADSIDE TO SKIP ISSUE



The issue of BROADSIDE which is due to bear the publication date of September 2, 1964, will not be published. A two-week hiatus is being taken by members of the BROADSIDE Staff, and issue # 14 will be out with a publication date of September 16, 1964. Subscribers will be assured to know that they will receive a newsletter in lieu of that issue date which will provide the schedules for their convenience. The newsletter will not count as one of their 26 subscription copies.

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