# **Ethnologies**



Anna Kearney Guigné. *Maud Karpeles (1885-1976): A Retrospective of Her Newfoundland Fieldwork 1929, 1930.* (St. John's, NL: 2012, Research Centre for Music Media and Place, Memorial University in association with the International Council for Traditional Music. Pp. 18. http://www.mun.ca/mmap/publications/karpeles/)

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Maud Karpeles (1885-1976): A Retrospective of Her Newfoundland Fieldwork 1929, 1930 documents Maud Karpeles' Newfoundland folksong collection trips in 1929 and 1930. Karpeles was mentored by Cecil Sharp and notably wrote his biography. She was well respected in her own right, receiving the Order of the British Empire, as well as an honorary doctorate from Memorial University. This book accompanied an exhibit by the same title that coincided with a conference held by the International Council for Traditional Music in St. John's, Newfoundland in 2011. The book draws extensively on archival holdings, including field journals from the Memorial University of Newfoundland Folklore and Language Archive.

The text is written by Anna Kearney Guigné, who has extensive knowledge of the history of folksong collection in Newfoundland (see Guigné 2008), and this is clear throughout this well-researched and accessible publication. My only reservation about the book is an aesthetic one. In an attempt to give an archival feel to the publication, there are layered texts and a number of contrasting colours and images. This detracts from the text at times, but no doubt tied into a very effective display; unfortunately, I did not have the opportunity to see the exhibit that this small book was originally designed to accompany.

This book could be used in a variety of ways; in preparation for comprehensive exams, as a primer or entry point into the history of ballad scholarship in Newfoundland, or even in secondary school to help facilitate discussion of local history and culture. This book also contributes to the growing body of work which documents women's contributions to the collection and study of folklore in Atlantic Canada, making it appropriate for use in undergraduate Newfoundland Folklore classes or Atlantic Canadian Folklore courses, or as a prompt for discussion in a Gender and Women's Studies Course.

This book is a great example of the potential for folklore outreach activities and a good representative of the "knowledge mobilization" strategies that folklorists can make use of given the often ephemeral nature of our research. The archival pictures highlighted within the book are fascinating in and of themselves. Consequently, the book could also be used as a primer for advanced projects in archival courses, digital humanities,

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museum studies, or public folklore to illustrate potential ways to increase access to archival research.

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W. F. H Nicolaisen and James Moreira, eds. *The Ballad and the Folklorist: The Collected Papers of David Buchan.* (St. John's, NL: 2013, Memorial University of Newfoundland Folklore and Language Publications. Pp. 474, ISBN 978-0-88901-433-6.)

The renowned and sometimes controversial ballad scholar and folklorist, David Buchan (1939-1994), enjoyed a varied and distinguished academic career in Scotland and North America. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Aberdeen in 1965 and, after fairly brief stints teaching at the University of Victoria in British Columbia and the University of Massachusetts, returned to Scotland in 1968 to take up an appointment at the University of Stirling. Eleven years later he was appointed head of the Department of Folklore at Memorial University of Newfoundland, where he spent the remainder of his career as a teacher and researcher. In 1994 he became the first professor of Scottish Ethnology at the University of Aberdeen, but sadly died of cancer later that same year when only fifty-five years old. Despite his early demise, his published scholarly output comprised four books, over sixty articles, and more than thirty reviews.

Although best known for his 1972 publication *The Ballad and the Folk* and the edited collection A *Scottish Ballad Book* that followed a year later, Buchan had already contributed important, original, and influential articles to scholarly journals from 1967 onwards, beginning with "The Maid, the Palmer and the Cruel Mother" and concluding with the posthumously published "Liedkontexte des siebzehnten Jahrhunderts in Aberdeenshire"