

RURAL FREE MEDIA

PO Box 628, Pittstown NJ 08867, phone 908/735-7925
pressinfo@embarqmail.com

For immediate release

FOLK MUSIC ROCKS IN LATEST BOOK FROM AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR

From indigenous music to Pete Seeger and Bruce Springsteen singing “This Land Is Your Land” side-by-side at the pre-inaugural concert for our first African American president—folk music has been at the center of America’s history. International award-winning author Stephanie P. Ledgin delivers an exciting new overview of folk music—its history, personalities and more—in her latest book, *Discovering Folk Music*.

The first review to appear—TheDigitalFolkLife.org—has tagged the tome as “brilliant,” while on the other side of the globe, at Borders.com-Australia, *Discovering Folk Music* is noted as its #1 folk music title. An interview is already in the can for future airing with XM’s Mary Sue Twohy, host of *The Village* and who also “strongly recommended” Ledgin’s third book, stating so on its back cover.

From the Colonial era to sixties protest music to avant-garde 21st century performers, Ledgin presents the genre as surprisingly diverse, every bit epitomizing our national melting pot, embracing America’s multi-cultural traditions. Demonstrating the relevance of folk music in our everyday lives, the book provides special emphasis on the folk revival era, when Bob Dylan, Joan Baez, Odetta, and Peter, Paul and Mary sang out and influenced subsequent generations. Interviews with such legends as Janis Ian, Tom Paxton, Jean Ritchie, and Nora Guthrie, Woody’s daughter, add color.

Endorsed by Rock and Roll Hall of Fame president Terry Stewart, *Discovering Folk Music* is a groundbreaking look at 21st-century folk music in our rapidly changing digital world, family-friendly while ripe for rediscovery by the Woodstock generation.

Commissioned a Kentucky Colonel in 2008, Ledgin was recognized in 2007 for her career achievements when she received the Charlie Lamb Award for Excellence in Country Music Journalism, bestowed by the International Country Music Conference in cooperation with Belmont University in Nashville. She was Director of the New Jersey Folk Festival at Rutgers from 1994-2003 and is a founding member of Folk Alliance International. Ledgin is the author of two previous books, *Homegrown Music: Discovering Bluegrass* and *From Every Stage: Images of America’s Roots Music*, the latter of which generated a three-year traveling photo exhibition that included stops at Lincoln Center and the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum, among others.

Greater New York area music fans will recall Ledgin’s pre-Internet undertaking, *The Traditional MusicLine*, which was a comprehensive events bible for all things acoustic throughout the Northeast for eighteen years. Her voice was among the original hosts of WFUV 90.7 FM’s *CityFolk* format from 1989-1990. On the horizon is her own specialty broadcast endeavor to bring Ledgin back on air digitally.

- 30 -

For interview or review copy requests, please email pressinfo@embarqmail.com.

Stephanie P. Ledgin is on the Web at <http://fiddlingwithwords.com> and <http://twitter.com/stephledgin>



Discovering
FOLK
MUSIC

Stephanie P. Ledgin

Foreword by Gregg and Evan Spiridellis, cofounders, JibJab