

# Letter from the Director



The 2012 issue of the *Journal of Texas Music History* includes three articles that help provide important insight into various aspects of Texas music history. The first explores the impact of legendary musician, Doug Sahm, on the larger musical landscape of Texas and the world. The second article examines the classic song, “Milk Cow Blues,” and highlights how music is a vital, and ever-evolving, part of our cultural vocabulary. The third piece showcases a remarkable archival collection, which is helping preserve and document our musical heritage for generations to come. (Back issues of the *Journal* are available online at: [www.txstate.edu/ctmh/publications/journal.html](http://www.txstate.edu/ctmh/publications/journal.html))

This issue of the *Journal* also marks another busy yet productive year for the Center for Texas Music History. During this past year, the Center has continued to work on a variety of ongoing projects while, at the same time, launching several new ones. Through Texas State University’s History Department, the Center continues to offer a variety of graduate and undergraduate courses on Texas music history and has added some new classes, including “Music and Race in the American South.”

The Center’s award-winning *John and Robin Dickson Series in Texas Music* (produced in collaboration with Texas A&M University Press) released a new book by Brain T. Atkinson, entitled *I’ll Be Here in the Morning: The Songwriting Legacy of Townes Van Zandt*. The Center also collaborated with the Texas State Historical Association and the Texas Music Office (in the Office of the Governor) to produce the revised second edition of *The Handbook of Texas Music*, the first and only encyclopedia of Texas music history for which our Texas State students wrote hundreds of articles.

On March 16th, the Center also opened the *Texas Music Roadtrip* exhibit at the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum in Austin. This is the largest museum exhibit ever organized on Texas music and will run through October 14, 2012. We’re very grateful to our colleagues at the Bullock Museum and everyone else who contributed time, effort, and resources to make the exhibit such a success. I am especially thankful to Patti Harrison for providing a \$100,000 grant in support of the *Texas Music Roadtrip* exhibit.

Other highlights from this year include the Center’s 70th

birthday tribute concert for legendary Texas singer-songwriter, Guy Clark, on November 2, 2011, at Austin’s Long Center for the Performing Arts. The Center’s popular NPR series, *This Week in Texas Music History*, is now in its fourth year and is broadcast on NPR affiliate stations throughout the Southwest.

Of course, we couldn’t begin to do all that we do without the help of so many friends and supporters. My sincerest thanks to Kathleen O’Keefe, Jennifer Cobb, Twister Marquiss, Jason Mellard, Pam Golightly, César Limón, the Center’s Advisory Board, Mary Brennan & Alan Apel, Frank de la Teja, Mary Alice De Leon, Madelyn Patlan, the Texas State University History Department, Denise Trauth & John Huffman, Perry & Marianne Moore, Gene & Lynn Bourgeois, Michael Hennessey, Ann Marie Ellis, Michael Willoughby, Diana Harrell, Barbara Breier, Gail Randle, Vicki Clarke, Steven Reese, Patti Harrison, Teresa Ward, Mark & Linda Smith, Kent Finlay, Francine Hartman, John & Robin Dickson, Paul & Polly Glasse, Tamara Saviano, Paul Paynter, Randy Rogers, Brady Black, Bill Whitbeck, Daymon & Pat Muehl, Phil & Cecilia Collins, Rod Kennedy, Dalis Allen, Kim & Robert Richey, Joe & Alice Specht, Richard Cheatham, Liz McDonald, Gregg Andrews & Vikki Bynum, Deirdre Lannon, Kevin Mooney, Lanita Hanson, Jim & Cathey Moore, Tracie Ferguson, Ruthie Foster, Randy & Leslie Collier, Tom & Ann Francese, Nina Wright, Elmer & Susan Rosenberger, Rick & Laurie Baish, Nell Hesson, Lucky & Becky Tomblin, Denise Boudreaux, Carol Dochen, Jo & Paul Snider, Darrell & Barbara Piersol, Ralph & Patti Dowling, Dennis & Margaret Dunn, Ron & Judy Brown, Grant Mazak, Mariko Gomez, Cathy Supple, Sharon Sandomirsky & Chris Ellison, Byron & Rebecca Augustin, John Kunz, Bill Musser, Lee & Judy Keller, Ronda Reagan, Glenn & Donna Joy, Luan Brunson Haynes & Elizabeth Brunson Vickers, Mildred Roddy, Billy Seidel, and many others.

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The *Journal of Texas Music History* is published annually by the Center for Texas Music History at Texas State University-San Marcos. The contents of this journal do not necessarily represent the views of the university.

Subscription: There is no charge to receive the *Journal*. Simply contact the Center for Texas Music History to be placed on our mailing list.

Article Submissions: Please submit manuscripts by e-mail in Microsoft Word, Chicago Style, to gh08@txstate.edu or mail to Journal of Texas Music History, Department of History, Texas State University-San Marcos, 601 University Drive, San Marcos, TX 78666.

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ISSN 1535-7104

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**TEXAS MUSIC HISTORY** 2012

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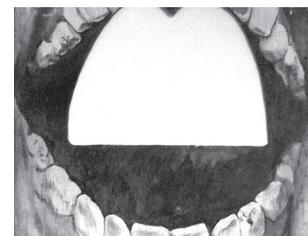
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