

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ARSC Announces 55th Annual Conference and Pre-Conference Workshop

Eugene, Oregon – March 1, 2021

The Association for Recorded Sound Collections (ARSC) is pleased to announce its 55th Annual Conference and Pre-Conference Workshop, which will be held virtually, May 12th – 15th, 2021.

ARSC will welcome an international audience with a serious interest in recorded sound and provide an enriching conference experience for presenters, attendees, exhibitors, and advertisers. Our presenters come from a wide variety of disciplines, including archivists, historians, and collectors, represented by universities, museums, and various organizations. Many presenters this year will be presenting from international locations, such as Korea, Japan, India, Argentina, Québec, as well as from the United States. For example, this year we will have presentations from the National Museum from the Czech Republic, the Institute for Ethnology and Folklore Research from Croatia, the British Library, and the Library of Congress. Some faces will be familiar, such as Tim Brooks, Jenny Doctor, and Matt Barton, while others are first-time presenters.

ARSC will host a pre-conference workshop on Wednesday, May 12th, titled “Digital Restoration in the 21st Century,” presented by Seth Winner, Jessica Thompson, and others. The panelists will compare apps for the restoration of sound files during the presentation, followed by a Q&A session.

The conference will open on Thursday with the plenary session, “Using the New U.S. Copyright Law,” chaired by Tim Brooks and also including Eric Harbeson, David Giovannoni, Matt Barton, Jenny Doctor, and David Seubert. This panel of experts will discuss the upcoming release of pre-1923 recordings to the public domain due to the terms of the Music Modernization Act (2018).

Mid-afternoon Saturday will bring the ARSC Awards, where ARSC will honor winners of the 2020 Awards for Excellence in Recorded Sound Research and the 2021 Lifetime Achievement and Distinguished Service awards.

The awards will be followed by ARSC’s very first conference keynote speaker, Gary Atkinson of Document Records. Gary will present a video of the history, collection, and workings of the Document Records label followed by a Q&A session. A true highlight! Make sure you attend this very special session.

Please consider joining us on Sunday afternoon for ARSC’s annual business meeting.

The preliminary conference schedule, abstracts, and additional information may be found on the conference website at: www.arsc-audio.org/conference.html.

The Association for Recorded Sound Collections is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation and study of sound recordings -- in all genres of music and speech, in all formats, and from all periods. In addition to an annual conference, ARSC publishes a peer-review journal and grants for recorded sound preservation and research. ARSC is unique in bringing together private individuals and institutional professionals -- everyone with a serious interest in recorded sound.

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