



43rd Annual ARSC Conference • May 27-30, 2009

Liaison Capitol Hill Hotel • Washington, D.C.

One hundred and thirty years of recorded sound history—from the earliest extant recordings to today’s “born digital” formats—will be explored when collectors, archivists, and recording historians convene for the 43rd Annual Conference of the Association for Recorded Sound Collections (ARSC) in Washington, D.C., May 27-30. Sessions will focus on a full range of musical genres, artists and performances, as well as the timely issues of recorded sound preservation and restoration, public access, and copyright reform.

ARSC is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation and study of sound recordings, in all genres of music and speech, from all periods. The meeting brings together a unique mix of over 200 recorded sound professionals and private collectors – all sharing a passion for our audio heritage.

Conference highlights include:

❑ **The Fight for Copyright Reform**

Vibrant evidence of America’s diverse culture is found in historical sound recordings. Yet unusual provisions of U.S. copyright law place these recordings at risk of being lost forever. ARSC advocates for changes in copyright law to make it easier to preserve historical recordings and make them accessible to the public. This address and panel discussion will be led by author and discographer Tim Brooks, who heads the Historical Recording Coalition for Access and Preservation. *Mr. Brooks is available for interviews.*

❑ **Bluegrass, R & B, and the Rise of Independent Record Labels in Washington, D.C. after World War II**

Local Washington record labels documented the vibrant rhythm & blues and bluegrass scene that emerged in DC in the decade after World War II. Presenters Jay Bruder and Kip Lornell are recording historians and private collectors. *Both are available for interviews.*

❑ **Jazz in DC, On the Air: A Tribute to the Late Felix Grant**

Felix Grant was a legendary DC jazz radio host, presenting his four hour *Album Sound ‘til Midnight* five nights a week on WMAL-AM for forty years. Grant popularized Brazilian jazz in the U.S., and his immense record collection is archived at the University of the District of Columbia. David Sager, local musician and archivist, chairs the session. *Mr. Sager is available for interviews.*

❑ **Recovering the Earliest Sound Recordings**

Audio “archeologists” continue to discover ever-earlier sounds of human expression as they excavate recordings presumed lost or unmade. Three of these experts discuss their current “digs”: Ward Marston, audio engineer and producer; David Giovannoni, recording historian and producer; and Patrick Feaster, author and educator. *All are available for interviews.*

❑ **Hoagy and Bix: The Seed of Harvestry**

The cross-pollination of cornetist Bix Beiderbecke, composer Hoagy Carmichael, and French impressionism in the 1920’s contributed to Carmichael’s American standards such as “Star Dust” and “Georgia On My Mind.” Presenter is Rob Bamberger, host of WAMU’s *Hot Jazz Saturday Night*. *Mr. Bamberger is available for interviews.*

All events will take place at the Liaison Capitol Hill Hotel at 415 New Jersey Avenue N.W. The full conference program may be found at <http://www.arsc-audio.org/conference/>. For additional information contact David Giovannoni, Program Chair, at dgio-arsc@comcast.net, 301.987.2512.