FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ARSC’s 56th Annual Conference and Workshops, May 17–21

Documenting Detroit’s Rich Musical Heritage and Exploring New Findings on the National and International Preservation Front

Eugene, Oregon – April 4, 2022

The Association for Recorded Sound Collections 56th annual conference brings together leading experts from one of America’s top musical capitals to explore the rich history of the Detroit music scene. The conference also brings to the forefront critical issues in many other fields of music, as well as in contemporary sound preservation, from Budapest to the BBC, from the Internet Archive to UCSB’s Early Recordings Initiative. A presentation on the Community Archiving Workshop will show you how a grassroots approach to regional audiovisual preservation is succeeding, and we’ll feature a closeup look at archiving the Women’s Music movement.

Best of all, since this year’s conference will be held online, you can participate from work or home.

The conference launches on May 19 with a welcome from ARSC President Rebecca Chandler, followed by an opening plenary session on documenting Detroit musicians. Panelists from Detroit Sound Conservancy and Wayne State University’s School of Information Sciences will explore why the city has been such a hotbed of musical talent. Concurrent sessions throughout the day cover new discographic research, the Internet Archive’s Great 78 Project, collaborative projects between private collectors and institutional collections, EQ standards, and community-driven audio archives. ARSC’s Copyright & Fair Use Committee presents a follow-up to last year’s popular panel, focusing on “How Institutions Are Using the New U.S. Copyright Law – And How You Can, Too.”

The following two days spotlight musical networks around the world— from Greece, Hungary, and India. Sessions include broadcast, opera & classical music, sound & cinema, folk & traditional music, the
history of Latinx music and sound culture in the U.S., one of the first Black bandleaders on record (1918), and a keynote presentation on Detroit’s first independent recording studio, United Sound Systems.

On Tuesday and Wednesday (May 17-18), ARSC will offer professional workshops on evaluation, digitization, and optimal playback of cassette and wire recordings.

During the conference attendees will be able to “talk” with each other directly, by video, in a special lounge area, or watch virtual tours of Detroit record shops, private collections, and archives. Thursday evening features the ever popular Ask the Technical Committee event, and Friday a virtual Listening Party, where all are welcome to share recordings.

For more information and to register for the conference and workshops, visit https://www.arsc-audio.org/conference.html.

The Association for Recorded Sound Collections (ARSC) 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. ARSC is unique in bringing together private individuals and institutional professionals—everyone with a serious interest in recorded sound.

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