

Recent years have seen an acceleration in the development of the serious study of popular music, as scholars from a wide variety of disciplines (anthropology, musicology, sociology, etc.) begin to explore in detail this rich and fascinating area of human communication and artistic expression; but hitherto there has been no one publication that could give cohesion and direction to these developing studies and provide a regular forum with a multi-disciplinary basis. The new yearbook *Popular Music* will do this.

Each volume will contain between ten and fifteen authoritative essays on a specific theme, written in an accessible style. The theme for *Popular Music 1* is 'Folk or popular? Distinctions, influences, continuities'.

*Popular Music* also aims to provide a more extensive reviewing service in the area of popular music than can be found at present in any one publication. Each volume will contain detailed reviews of between twenty and thirty recent books and sets of recordings. Future issues will also include an annotated bibliography.

JOHN BLACKING Making artistic popular music: the goal of true folk

JÁNOS MARÓTHY A music of your own

DAVE HARKER The making of the Tyneside concert hall

JOHN COWLEY Really the 'Walking Blues': Son House, Muddy Waters, Robert Johnson and the development of a traditional blues

CHARLES WOLFE 'Gospel Boogie': white southern gospel music in transition, 1945–55

GERHARD KUBIK Neo-traditional popular music in East Africa since 1945

JOHN BAILY Cross-cultural perspectives in popular music: the case of Afghanistan

CHARLES HAMM The fourth audience

WILFRID MELLERS God, modality and meaning in some recent songs of Bob Dylan

SIMON FRITH 'The magic that can set you free': the ideology of folk and the myth of the rock community

Reviews of books and records

*Cover design by Ken Farnhill*

*The cover illustration shows the musicians Muddy Waters (photo: Al Johnson), Bob Dylan, Benjamin Ludasi (photo: Gerhard Kubik), Ned Corvan*

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