

## Yiddish Folksong

### I. Yiddish Folksong as a Field of Study

- B. Weinreich Bibliography, pp. 46-50 and Schwarzbaum, pp. 409-417.  
 Sendrey, A. A Bibliography of Jewish Music (New York, 1951).  
 Cahan, Y.L. Shtudyen vegen yidisher folkshafung (N.Y. 1952).  
 "Folksong," The Universal Jewish Encyclopedia, The Jewish Encyclopedia and any other Jewish encyclopedias.  
 Rabinovitch, Israel. "The Pioneers and Creators of Modern Jewish Music," "The Society for Jewish Folk Music," "Lazare Saminsky and his Polemic with Engel," Jewish Music: Ancient and Modern (Montreal, 1952), 143-153, 154-167, 168-176.  
 Soltes, Avraham. "The Hebrew Folk Song Society of St. Petersburg: The Historical Development," in The Historic Contribution of Russian Jewry to Jewish Music edited by Irene Heskes and Arthur Wolfson (National Jewish Music Council, 1967).  
 Yasser, Joseph. "The Hebrew Folk Society of St. Petersburg: Ideology and Technique," in The Historic Contribution of Russian Jewry to Jewish Music edited by Irene Heskes and Arthur Wolfson (National Music Council, 1967) (Important for impact of folk tradition on Jewish art music).  
 Holde, Arthur. "Institutions and Organizations: Society for Jewish Folk Music, National Jewish Music Council," Jews in Music from the Age of Enlightenment to the Present (New York, 1959), 280-284.  
 Weinreich, Max. Review of A Treasury of Jewish Folksong by Ruth Rubin, Journal of American Folklore, 64 (1951), 245-247.  
 "Ruth Rubin, Portrait and life-work of an Ethnomusicologist," Tatzlil: Forum for Music Research and Bibliography, 8 (1968).

### II. Major Types of Song and Music in Ashkenazic Jewish Culture

- Kahan, Y.L. Yidishe folkslider mit melodyes (New York, 1951).  
 Idelsohn, A.Z. "The Song of the Synagogue in Eastern Europe to the Eighteenth Century," "The Ashkenazic Song of the Synagogue in The Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries," "The Folk Song of the Ashkenazim," "Chassidic Song," "Badkhnim and Klezmerim; Song and Singers in Folk Style," Jewish Music in Its Historical Development (New York, 1929), 181-195, 204-231, 379-410, 411-434, 435-460.  
 Rubin, Ruth. "Of Literary Origin," Voices of a People: The Story of Yiddish Folksong (New York, 1963), 250-277.  
 Noy, Dov and Meir. Yiddish Folksong from Galicia. Folklore Research Center Studies No. 2 (Jerusalem, 1972).  
 Stutchevsky, Joachim. Folklore Musikali shel yehude mizrakh eurspa (Tel Aviv, 1958).  
 Stutchevsky, Joachim. Ha-Klez morim, toldotehem, orah hayehem vi-yezirotekem (Jerusalem, 1959).

### III. The Analysis of Yiddish Folksong Texts: Form and Content

- Hrushovski, Benjamin. "On Free Rhythms in Yiddish Poetry," in The Field of Yiddish: Studies in Yiddish Language, Folklore, and Literature edited by Uriel Weinreich (New York, 1954), 219-266, esp. 224-232.

Mlotek, Eleanor Gordon. "America in East European Yiddish Folksong," in The Field of Yiddish: Studies in Yiddish Language, Folklore, and Literature edited by Uriel Weinreich (New York, 1954), 179-195.

Dworkin, Yehoash. "Social Background of East European Yiddish Folklore-Songs," in Studies in Jewish and Biblical Folklore edited by R. Patai, D. Noy, and F. Utley (Bloomington, 1960), 201-221.

Noy, Dov. "Dos meydl un der royber: a farglaykhik-structurele shtudye in yidisher folks-baladistik," Haifa: yorbukh far literatur un kunst 5 (1969): 177-224.

#### IV. The Analysis of Yiddish Folk Tunes

Idelsohn, A.Z. The Folk Song of the East European Jews, Thesaurus of Hebrew Oriental Melodies, Volume IX (Leipzig, 1932), viii-xxx.

Idelsohn, A.Z. (see under II above).

Rabinovitch, Israel. "Idelsohn's Achievement in the Investigation of the Jewish Folk Song," "Chasidic Song," "The Metamorphosis of a Melody," Jewish Music: Ancient and Modern (Montreal, 1952), 71-81, 82-89.

Holde, Arthur. "On the Problem of a Jewish Style," Jews in Music from the Age of Enlightenment to the Present (New York, 1959), 338-346.

#### V. The Performance of Yiddish Folksong

Rubin, Ruth, collector. Jewish Life: The Old Country. Folk ways Records, 1958.

Mlotek, E.G. A List of 55 Recommended Yiddish Records: Index of 500 Songs (N.Y. Workmens ~~League~~ Circle, 1964).

#### VI. The Comparative Study of Yiddish Folksong

Rubin, Ruth. "Slavic Influences in Yiddish Folk Songs," in Folklore and Society: Essays in Honor of Benjamin A. Botkin edited by Bruce Jackson (Folklore Associates Hatboro, Pennsylvania, 1966), 131-152.

Mlotek, Eleanor Gordon. "Traces of Ballad Motifs in Yiddish Folksong," The Field of Yiddish, second collection, (1965), 232-252.

Mlotek, E.G. "International Motifs in the Yiddish Ballad." In For Max Weinreich on his Seventieth Birthday (The Hague, 1964), 209-228.

Rubin, Ruth. "Some Aspects of Comparative Jewish Folksong," in Studies in Jewish and World Folklore, 235-252.

Rubin Ruth. "A Comparative Approach to a Yiddish Folksong of Protest," Studies in Ethnomusicology, II (New York, 1965), 54-75.

#### Discussion

(1) Yiddish folksong as a field of study with special reference to the Society for Jewish folk Music in St. Petersburg, the history of interest in and collection of Yiddish folksong, the controversies and problems which have concerned scholars studying Yiddish folksong (definition of Yiddish folksong, folksong vs. folksy (folkstimlekh) song, age and origin of various genres of Yiddish folksong, the impact of literary poetry on folksong, the "Europeanization" of folksongs, Slavic and German influences on Yiddish folksong, the nature of borrowing, adaptation, "refunctionalization"), and questions which have never been investigated but need to be explored (social systematization

of Yiddish musical performance; the nature of the total musical repertorie of traditional singers--theatre songs, the folksongs of their non-Jewish neighbors as well as the Yiddish folksong tradition; the range and types of performance styles; types of folksong specialists; the functions of folksong performance, etc.).

(2) Characterization of major types of music found in Ashkenazic Jewish culture, including traditional (liturgical and non-liturgical, Hassidic and non-Hassidic), popular and art as well as non-Jewish coteritorial folksong traditions; the interaction of these traditions, and the controversies which have dominated the scholarship.

(3) The genres of Yiddish folk song and the distinctive features of form, content, and performance; the various attempt at classification and the criteria used.

(4) The analysis of Yiddish folksong texts with special reference to content analysis and formal and stylistic analysis.

(5) The analysis of Yiddish folksong melodies with special reference to the problem of 'Jewish style.'

(6) The study of Yiddish folksong performance with special reference to types of musical specialists, performance occasions, functions of Yiddish folksong, and types of performance style.

(7) The comparative study of Yiddish folksong; characteristic features of Ashkenazic traditional music in comparison with the folk music of coteritorial non-Jews and other Jewish groups.