

9-1-1988

## Woody Guthrie: A Bibliographic Update, 1968-1986

Jeffrey Gatten

*Loyola Marymount University*, [jeffrey.gatten@lmu.edu](mailto:jeffrey.gatten@lmu.edu)

---

### Repository Citation

Gatten, Jeffrey, "Woody Guthrie: A Bibliographic Update, 1968-1986" (1988). *LMU Librarian Publications & Presentations*. 87.  
[http://digitalcommons.lmu.edu/librarian\\_pubs/87](http://digitalcommons.lmu.edu/librarian_pubs/87)

### Recommended Citation

Gatten, Jeffrey N. "Woody Guthrie: A Bibliographic Update, 1968-1986." *Bulletin of Bibliography* 45 (September 1988):179-182.

## Woody Guthrie: A Bibliographic Update, 1968-1986

Jeffrey N. Gatten

Woodrow Wilson (Woody) Guthrie (1912-1967) was a singer, musician, composer, author, artist, political activist, philosopher, and American folk hero. He is alleged to have written more than 1,000 songs, including *This Land Is Your Land*. A refugee of the Oklahoma dust bowl, Guthrie travelled America extensively. In California he became a radio personality and performed regularly at union meetings. Following a move to New York City, Guthrie began writing a column for *The Daily Worker*. He joined with Pete Seeger, Lee Hayes, and Millard Lampell to form the politically motivated Almanac Singers. Guthrie served in the Merchant Marines during World War II and later recorded numerous folk songs for Folkways Records. During the 1950s, a genetic disease known as Huntington's Chorea slowly diminished Woody's physical and creative abilities. Eventually he was confined to a hospital bed where he remained until his death. His legacy includes being labeled a communist, patriot, pervert, and father of the 1960s "folk movement."

The scholars' interest in Woody Guthrie continues to be varied. An ongoing debate over his socialist views and communist ties may never be resolved completely. Historians and sociologists still attempt to separate fact from fiction in his writings, particularly the two semi-autobiographical novels, *Bound For Glory* and *Seeds of Man*. Those that study folk music as an art form or as a political forum are forced to confront Guthrie's role in American culture. Research into contemporary folk music, the dust bowl saga, McCarthyism, labor unions, social protest, and other societal phenomena of twentieth-century America is incomplete without an examination of Woody Guthrie's life.

This bibliography is an attempt to assist researchers by means of updating an extensive work by Richard A. Reuss, *A Woody Guthrie Bibliography, 1912-1967*, published in January 1968. Reuss tried to include all known items by and about Guthrie. Until now, no attempt has been made to pull together the various essays that continue to be written, although the United States government did issue a short bibliography in 1977 (Hickerson). This void has existed despite the fact that a number of best selling books have been written, a major motion picture produced, and several video documentaries generated.

Materials contained within this selected bibliography include books, sections of books, articles, dissertations, documents, and papers by or about Woody Guthrie. Newspaper articles are included if they are pertinent stories from major sources. Works that focus on other members of the Guthrie family (wife Marjorie, or son Arlo) are listed only if attention is given to Woody as well. All items date between 1968 and 1986, inclusive. Entries are arranged alphabetically by author, or by title if author is unknown. Items not included are foreign-language works, passing references to Guthrie (this would require compiling a book's worth of citations on Bob Dylan alone, as Guthrie was his biggest influence), reprints of Guthrie's songs that do not include commentary, and short biographical entries that do not provide more than summarized data. In addition, reviews of books, records, movies, and other works about Guthrie have been excluded. No judgment has been made as to the accuracy or bias of text for the items listed.

BOOKS

Denisoff, R. Serge. *Great Day Coming: Folk Music and the American Left*. Urbana, IL: University of Illinois Press, 1971.

———. *Sing A Song of Social Significance*. Bowling Green, OH: Bowling Green State University Popular Press, 1972.

Dunaway, David King. *How Can I Keep From Singing: Pete Seeger*. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1981.

Ewen, David. *Great Men of American Popular Song*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall, 1970.

Green, Archie. *Only a Miner: Studies in Recorded Coal-Mining Songs*. Urbana, IL: University of Illinois Press, 1972.

Guthrie, Woody. *101 Woody Guthrie Songs: Including All the Songs From "Bound For Glory."* New York: Ludlow Music, 1977.

———. *Seeds of Man: An Experience Lived and Dreamed*. New York: E.P. Dutton, 1968.

———. *Woody Sez*. New York: Grosset and Dunlap, 1975.

Hampton, Wayne. *Guerrilla Minstrels: John Lennon, Joe Hill, Woody Guthrie, and Bob Dylan*. Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1986.

Klein, Joe. *Woody Guthrie: A Life*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1980.

Leventhal, Harold and Guthrie, Majorie, eds. *The Woody Guthrie Songbook*. New York: Grosset and Dunlap, 1976.

Malone, Bill C. *Country Music U.S.A.: A Fifty-Year History*. *Memoirs of the American Folklore Society*, vol. 54. Austin, TX: University of Texas Press, 1968.

Noebel, David A. *The Marxist Minstrels: A Handbook on Communist Subversion of Music*. Tulsa, OK: American Christian College Press, 1974.

Okun, Milton, comp. *Something to Sing About: The Personal Choices of America's Folk Singers*. New York: Macmillan, 1968.

Reuss, Richard A. *A Woody Guthrie Bibliography, 1912-1967*. New York: Guthrie Children's Trust Fund, 1968.

Robbin, Edward. *Woody Guthrie and Me: An Intimate Reminiscence*. Berkeley, CA: Lancaster-Miller, 1979.

Rodnitzky, Jerome L. *Minstrels of the Dawn: The Folk-Protest Singer as a Cultural Hero*. Chicago: Nelson-Hall, 1976.

Sandberg, Larry and Weissman, Dick. *The Folk Music Sourcebook*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1976.

Savage, William W., Jr. *Singing Cowboys and All That Jazz: A Short History of Popular Music in Oklahoma*. Norman, OK: University of Oklahoma Press, 1983.

Scaduto, Anthony. *Bob Dylan: An Intimate Biography*. New York: William Morrow, 1971.

Seeger, Pete. *Incomplete Folksinger*. New York: Simon and Schuster, 1972.

*A Tribute to Woody Guthrie*. New York: Ludlow Music, 1972.

Yurchenco, Henrietta. *A Mighty Hard Road: The Woody Guthrie Story*. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1970.

SECTIONS OF BOOKS

Baggelaar, Kristin and Milton, Donald. "Woody Guthrie" in *Folk Music: More Than a Song*, pp. 158-62. New York: Thomas Y. Crowell, 1977.

Brandenburg, John. "More Than a Folk Singer: The 'Oneness' of Woody Guthrie's Folk Art" in Oklahoma Museums Association. Oklahoma Art Center. *Folk Art in Oklahoma: An Exhibition Presented by the Oklahoma Museums Association: The Oklahoma Art Center's Arts Annex, Oklahoma City, OK, May 3-June 19, 1981*, pp. 62-4. Oklahoma City, OK: The Association, 1981.

Gordon, Max. "Josh, Leadbelly, Woody Guthrie and the Blues" in *Live at the Village Vanguard*, pp. 43-53. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1980.

Palmer, Tony. "Go Down, Moses" in *All You Need is Love: The Story of Popular Music*, pp. 195-210. New York: Grossman, 1976.

Savage, William W., Jr. "Rural Images, Rural Values and American Culture: A Comment" in Green, Donald E., ed., *Rural Oklahoma*. The Oklahoma Series, vol. 5, pp. 113-27. Oklahoma City, OK: Oklahoma Historical Society, 1977.

Shelton, Robert. "Earlier Folk Revivals" in *The Face of Folk Music*, pp. 73-106. New York: Citadel Press, 1968.

Simon, George T. "Woody Guthrie" in *Best of The Music Makers*, pp. 247-9. Garden City, NY: Doubleday, 1979.

Stambler, Irwin and Landon, Grelun. "Woody Guthrie" in *Encyclopedia of Folk, Country and Western Music*, 2nd ed., pp. 283-5. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1983.

ARTICLES

Asbell, Bernard. "The Voice of His Times: A 'Family' Visit with Arlo Guthrie." *Yankee* (August 1986): 76-81, 116-23.

Asch, Moses. "The Ballad of Chanukah." *Sing Out* 17 (December/January 1967-1968): 12-13.

"Bound For Glory." *Senior Scholastic* (10 February 1977): 2-4, 28.

- Clark, Matt and Gosnell, Mariana. "The Cruelst Killer." *Newsweek* (27 September 1976): 67-8.
- and Zabarsky, Marsha. "Decoding a Killer Disease." *Newsweek* (21 November 1983): 107.
- Clark, William Bedford. "Two of Will's Boys: The Political Humor of Ezra Pound and Woody Guthrie." *South Dakota Review* 18 (no. 2): 54-60.
- Cohen, Edwin. "Neither Hero Nor Myth: Woody Guthrie's Contribution to Folk Art." *Folklore* 91 (no. 1): 11-4.
- Cole, William. "Marjorie Guthrie's Fight Against Her Husband's Killer." *Good Housekeeping* (March 1973): 64-74.
- Colvin, K. "Woody's Tree." *Music Journal* 34 (December 1976): 22-4, 46.
- Denisoff, R. Serge. "Folk Music and the American Left: A Generational-Ideological Comparison." *British Journal of Sociology* 20 (December 1969): 427-42.
- . "The Proletarian Renaissance: The Folkness of the Ideological Folk." *Journal of American Folklore* 82 (January-March 1969): 51-65.
- . "Take It Easy, But Take It": The Almanac Singers." *Journal of American Folklore* 83 (January-March 1970): 21-32.
- . "Urban Folk 'Movement' Research: Value Free?" *Western Folklore* 28 (July 1969): 183-97.
- and Fandray, David. "Hey, Hey Woody Guthrie I Wrote You a Song: The Political Side of Bob Dylan." *Popular Music and Society* 5 (no. 5): 31-42.
- Friesen, Gordon. "Bound for Glory." *Broadside*, no. 134 (January-March 1977): 24.
- Greenway, John. "Woodrow Wilson Guthrie (1912-1967)." *Journal of American Folklore* 81 (January-March 1968): 62-4.
- Gregory, Bob. "Was This Land Your Land, Woody." *Oklahoma Monthly* (February 1977): 37-44.
- Grissim, John. "Woody Guthrie: Return of the Dust Bowl Poet." *Rolling Stone* (30 December 1976): 16, 20.
- "Guy Logsdon: Pride and the Library." *American Libraries* (March 1973): 145-7.
- Hentoff, Nat. "Woody Guthrie." *BMI: The Many Worlds of Music*, no. 2 (1977): 32-33.
- Holz, Don. "Memorial Battle: Woody Guthrie Vs. the City Burghers." *Rolling Stone* (12 October 1972): 20.
- Jaffe, Eli. "Woody Guthrie: A Remembrance." *Broadside*, no. 89 (February/March 1968): 1-11.
- Kahn, David E. and Bluestone, Mimi. "Woody Guthrie Play." *Sing Out* 27 (November/December 1979): 37.
- Kisselgoff, Anna. "Dance: Riverside Festival Holds a 'Family' Gala." *New York Times* (7 January 1982): C14 (Late City ed.).
- Klein, Joe. "Notes on a Native Son." *Rolling Stone* (10 March 1977): 50-7.
- . "Woody's Children." *Esquire* (October 1980): 76-80.
- Knight, John F. and Lucas, Katherine Ann. "Dramatizing the Life of Woody Guthrie and His Genetic Disorder, Huntington's Disease." *American Biology Teacher* 44 (February 1982): 90-3.
- Korall, Burt. "The Music of Protest." *Saturday Review* (16 November 1968): 36-9.
- Kweskin, Jim. "Exploratory Research of Woody Guthrie's Asch-Folkways Recordings." *Record Research* (February/March 1979): 13; (May/June 1979): 13.
- Leary, Jim. "'Pretty Boy Floyd': An Aberrant Outlaw Ballad." *Popular Music and Society* 3 (no. 3): 215-26.
- Logsdon, Guy. "Woody's Roots." *Music Journal* 34 (December 1976): 18-21.
- Lyon, George W. "Woody Guthrie: A Musician." *Sing Out* 29 (no. 1): 42-3.
- Marine, Gene. "Guerrilla Minstral." *Rolling Stone* (13 April 1972): 40-8.
- Marrs, Emis. "The Rest of the Song." *Broadside*, no. 88 (January 1968): 8-9.
- Menig, Harry. "Woody Guthrie: The Oklahoma Years, 1912-1929." *Chronicles of Oklahoma* 53 (Summer 1975): 239-65.
- . "Woody Guthrie—The Columbia and the B.P.A. Documentary: HYDRO." *Film and History* 5 (no. 2): 1-10.
- Pareles, Jon. "Gift to Public: Guthrie Days in Northwest." *New York Times* (7 September 1983): C16 (Late ed.).
- Peterson, Frank Ross. "Protest Songs for Peace and Freedom: People's Songs and the 1948 Progressives." *The Rocky Mountain Social Science Journal* 9 (January 1972): 1-10.
- Read, Cynthia and Litchfield, Yvonne. "Scribbled on Old Walls." *Tulsa World* (16 August 1973) sec. F: 1-2.
- Reddy, John. "Woody Guthrie: Father of the Folk Singers." *Reader's Digest* (June 1968): 229-36.
- Reuss, Richard A. "American Folksongs and Left-Wing Politics: 1935-56." *Journal of the Folklore Institute* 12 (no. 2/3): 89-111.
- . "Woody Guthrie and His Folk Tradition." *Journal of American Folklore* 83 (July-September 1970): 273-303.
- Robertson, Nan. "Woody Guthrie's Widow: Carrying On the Fight the Folk Singer Lost." *New York Times Biographical Service* (January 1977): 85-6.

## Woody Guthrie

- Rodnitzky, Jerome L. "The Evolution of the American Protest Song." *Journal of Popular Culture* 3 (Summer 1969): 35-45.
- . "The Mythology of Woody Guthrie." *Popular Music and Society* 2 (Spring 1973): 227-43.
- . "The New Revivalism: American Protest Songs, 1945-1968." *South Atlantic Quarterly* 70 (Winter 1971): 13-21.
- "Roll On Woody Roll On." *Newsweek* (19 September 1983): 44.
- Seeger, Pete. "Woody Guthrie, Songwriter." *Ramparts* (30 November 1968): 28-33.
- Silber, Irwin. "Fan the Flames." *Sing Out* 17 (December/January 1967/1968): 55.
- "Sing Love, Not Protest." *Time* (23 February 1968): 92.
- Teichroew, Allan. "Gordon Friesen: Writer, Radical and Ex-Mennonite." *Mennonite Life* 38 (June 1983): 4-17.
- "Tribute." *New Yorker* (29 January 1972): 30-1.
- Turner, Frederick. "Just What in the Hell Has Gone Wrong Here Anyhow? Woody Guthrie and the American Dream." *American Heritage* (October 1977): 34-43.
- Wall, James M. "Woody Guthrie Sang of a Larger Truth." *Christian Century* 103 (February 26, 1986): 195-6.
- Wallis, Michael. "That Old Home: Woody Guthrie's Home in Oklahoma." *American West* 19 (January/February 1982): 52-3.
- Witnerbottom, Julie and Bevis, Carolyn. "Marjorie Guthrie: The Interview." *Sing Out* 29 (April/May/June 1983): 2-5.
- Wolfenstein, Judith. "Okay Okie." *Westways* (July 1979): 33-5.
- "Woodrow Wilson Guthrie, Patriot." *Oklahoma Today* (Autumn 1971): 17-9.
- "Woody Guthrie Sang To Aid Union Goals." *Allied Industrial Worker* (January 1977): 12.

## DISSERTATIONS

- Cohen, Edwin. "Woody Guthrie and the American Folk Song." Ph.D. dissertation, University of Southern California, 1971.

Denisoff, R. Serge. "Folk Consciousness: People's Music and American Communism." Ph.D. dissertation, Simon Fraser University, 1970.

Dillsave, Joe Don. "Woody Guthrie's Depression: A Study of Situation." Ph.D. dissertation, University of Missouri—Columbia, 1975.

Hampton, Charles Wayne. "Working Class Heros: Counter-Culture Politics and the Singing Hero in Twentieth Century America." Ph.D. dissertation, University of Tennessee, 1983.

Hobbs, Stephen James. "Male Mentor Relationships: A Study of Psychosocial Development in Early Adulthood." Ph.D. dissertation, California School of Professional Psychology, 1982.

Reuss, Richard A. "American Folklore and Left-Wing Politics: 1927-1957." Ph.D. dissertation, Indiana University, 1971.

## DOCUMENTS AND PAPERS

Harrison, Benjamin T. *Sixties Protest Music: The Key to Understanding the Counter Culture* (Paper presented at the Popular Cultural Association Conference, Winston-Salem, NC, October 1980). ERIC Document ED199145.

Hickerson, Joseph Charles. *A List of Material Relating to Woodrow Wilson (Woody) Guthrie*. Washington, DC: Library of Congress, Archive of Folk Song, 1977.

Menig, Harry. "Woody Guthrie in New York City: You Was a Big Town Before I Came Along" in *Proceedings of the Fifth National Convention of the Popular Culture Association*, St. Louis, MO, March 20-22, 1975. Bowling Green, OH: Bowling Green State University Popular Press, 1975.