

Suggested Listening

Here are selected songs representing various traditions from Appalachia. I've listed an album for each, but most also exist on other albums or as online downloads.

“Barbara Allen” performed by Jean Ritchie – *Child Ballads In America* (Smithsonian)

British a cappella ballad from a master interpreter.

“Soldier’s Joy” performed by Gid Tanner and the Skillet Lickers – *Country, the American Tradition* (Sony)

A Scottish fiddle tune with minstrel-type lyrics.

“Yes Pappy Yes” performed by Martin, Bogan And Armstrong – *That Old Gang of Mine* (Flying Fish)

An old-time tune with fun call-and response lyrics played by one of the finest black string bands..

“John Henry” performed by Sid Hemphill, Lucius Smith, Will Head and Alec Askew – *Deep River of Song* (Rounder)

A black string band example of a classic American ballad.

“John Henry” performed by Roscoe Holcomb - *Friends of Old-Time Music* (Smithsonian/Folkways)

Old-time solo banjo by a Kentucky legend.

“Roustabout” Performed by Dink Roberts – *Black Banjo Songsters of NC and VA* (Folkways)

One of the banjo players profiled by Celia Conway

“Ekonting Song” performed by Paul Diatta – <http://www.myspace.com/akonting>

The Ekonting is an African banjo-type instrument.

“Waiting for a Train” performed by Jimmie Rodgers – *The Essential Jimmie Rodgers* (RCA)

“The Father of Country Music”

“Wildwood Flower” performed by the Carter Family – *The Best of the Carter Family* (King Special).

Listen to Maybelle’s innovative guitar playing.

“It’s Mighty Dark To Travel” by Bill Monroe and his Blue Grass Boys – *16 Gems* (Sony).

From Monroe’s defining band with Earl Scruggs, Lester Flatt and Chubby Wise.