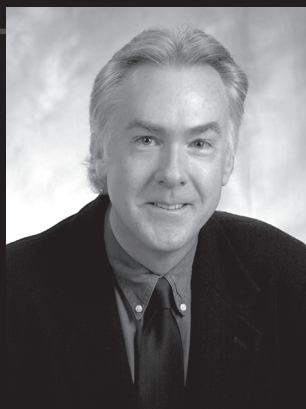


Letter from the Director



The 2008 issue of the *Journal of Texas Music History* marks our eighth year of publication. During those eight years, the *Journal* has been nationally recognized for its groundbreaking role in presenting quality scholarship covering all aspects of Texas and southwestern music history.

Since we first began publishing the *Journal*, the Center for Texas

Music History also has been acknowledged for its involvement in a number of other activities related to the preservation and study of our state's rich musical heritage. These include graduate and undergraduate courses on Texas music history; the *Texas Music History Online* web site, which will serve as a classroom teaching tool, a research database, and an information resource designed to promote Texas music heritage tourism; collaboration with the Texas State Historical Association, the Texas Music Office, and others on the highly successful *Handbook of Texas Music*; and the *Texas Music Oral History Program*, through which our students have interviewed dozens of prominent figures throughout the Texas music community.

Along with these and many other activities, the Center also is working on several new projects. In Spring 2008, we launched a new book series, entitled *The John and Robin Dickson Series in Texas Music*, in collaboration with Texas A&M University Press. We're very proud to say that the first book in the Dickson Series, *The History of Texas Music*, along with our *Handbook of Texas Music*, were selected by the prestigious Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. to be featured in a national exhibit on Texas history and culture. We also have started a new weekly program on National Public Radio called *This Week in Texas Music History*. In addition, we have begun filming a new television series, *Texas Music Café*, which is scheduled to begin broadcasting on PBS in January 2009.

The Center's success would not be possible without the support and encouragement of many people. I especially would like to thank the following: Gregg Andrews & Vikki Bynum, Dee Lannon, Vincent Messina, the Center's Advisory Board, Frank de la Teja, the Texas State University History Department, Denise Trauth, Perry & Marianne Moore, Gene Bourgeois, Ann Marie Ellis, Diana Harrell, César Limón, Vicki Clarke, John & Robin Dickson, Kim & Robert Richey, Patti Harrison, Teresa Ward, Richard Cheatham, Liz McDonald, Lanita Hanson, Gary Hickinbotham, Laurie Jasinski, Francine Hartman, Jim & Cathey Moore, Rick & Laurie Baish, Lucky & Becky Tomblin, Denise Boudreaux, Jo & Paul Snider, Margie First, Darrell & Barbara Piersol, Phil & Cecilia Collins, Ralph & Patti Dowling, Dennis & Margaret Dunn, Ron & Judy Brown, Grant Mazak, Cathy Supple, Sharon Sandomirsky & Chris Ellison, Byron & Rebecca Augustin, John Kunz, Kent Finlay, Tracie Ferguson, Mildred Roddy, Elmer & Susan Rosenberger, Bill Musser, Lee & Judy Keller, Ronda Reagan, Nina Wright, Glenn & Donna Joy, Billy Seidel, and all of our other friends and supporters.

To learn more about the Center and its unique and exciting programs, please contact us or visit our web site.

Thanks, and best wishes.

Dr. Gary Hartman, Director

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TEXAS MUSIC HISTORY

c o n t e n t s

- 8** **“Physic Opera” On the Road:**
Texas Musicians in Medicine Shows
Gene Fowler
- 20** **¡Viva Terlingua!**
Jerry Jeff Walker, Live Recordings,
and the Authenticity of Progressive Country Music
Travis D. Stimeling
- 33** **The Accidental Texan:**
How Johnny Cuiello Became a Texas Playboy
Deirdre Lannon

Reviews

- 43** **Texas Dance Halls: A Two-Step Circuit**
Pat Green’s Dance Halls & Dreamers
Craig Hillis
- 46** **The History of Texas Music**
Cathy Brigham

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