

Columbia University in the City of New York | New York 25, N. Y.

BUREAU OF APPLIED SOCIAL RESEARCH

605 West 115th Street

September 10, 1965

Mr. Edward Alexeev
Ulitsa Oktyabr'ska 9
Yakutassr, USSR

Dear Mr. Alexeev:

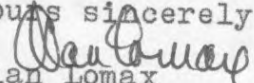
I write to ask your help in a project that will, I hope, be useful to students of folk music everywhere. My staff has been working for the past three years under a grant from the National Institute of Mental Health on a system, called Cantometrics, which makes it possible to compare singing style cross-culturally. We have applied the Cantometric system to about 4000 tapes and field recordings, and have found that our method produces song style areas like those of anthropology.

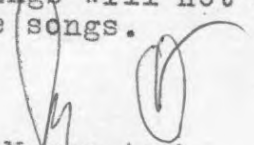
Our first publication explains our coding method. We have prepared five long playing records, containing brief excerpts from about 300 songs, taken from field recordings from every part of the world and from every type of song and singing style. The songs are grouped together by style and illustrate some of the principle musical families of mankind. An accompanying book will contain a) the coding method b) detailed analysis of about 100 songs c) brief explanatory and source notes for all songs.

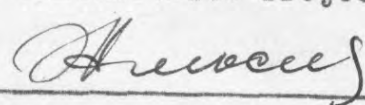
WORLD FOLK SONG STYLES--will be published by Folkways Records, jointly sponsored by the Department of Anthropology and the Bureau of Social Research of Columbia University. About half of the songs come either from my own collection or that of Folkways, but, in order to make a representative picture, I should like to include from your collection: Archive Recordings: "Song #4 "Jocular Song" Yukaghir, Londol, performed by a group of women, Rec. in 1962 in Yakutiya, Siberia, #11, "Greeting Song" from Village of Nuvalikich, Yukaghir #3 "Cradle Song" female solo Yukaghir #7 (see reverse side of letter for balance)

This letter guarantees that: these recordings will not be used in any other way than in WORLD FOLK SONG STYLES: And that, the source of each excerpt and any notice of protection that the collector desires will be published on the record. In return for your permission Folkways will make one of the following courtesy returns: (1) an outright fee of \$5. per item. (2) a set of WORLD FOLK SONG STYLES and the accompanying book (3) and three records from the Folkways catalogue or (4) a prorata share of the overall 5% royalty, after all advances have been paid. Please circle the mode of payment you wish to receive. Sign and return this copy of the letter on the line labeled "Agreed to". I hope you are able to join us in this scholarly enterprise and be assured that the brief excerpts we use from your recordings will not interfere with any subsequent use you plan to make of these songs.

Yours sincerely,


Alan Lomax
Director, Cantometrics Project


Moses Asch
Director, Folkways Records

Agreed: 

Date: 27 October 1965

Columbia University in the City of New York | New York 23, N.Y.

505 WEST 118TH STREET

BUREAU OF APPLIED SOCIAL RESEARCH

September 10, 1952

Mr. Edward Alexeyev
Ulitsa Otkryt'aya 9
YAKUTSK, USSR

Dear Mr. Alexeyev:

I write to ask your help in a project that will, I hope, be useful to students of folk music everywhere. My staff has been working for the past three years on a project to collect and transcribe folk songs of the peoples of the Far East. We have collected the songs of the peoples of the Far East and have transcribed them into Latin script. We have also collected the songs of the peoples of the Far East and have transcribed them into Latin script.

Archive Tapes: Even #12 "Cradle Song", Even #8 sung by Ivan Alexandrovitch Buldukin, The Elder and Yukaghir #6 "Improvisation on the occasion of our arrival."

WORLD FOLK SONGS--will be published by Folkways Records, jointly sponsored by the Department of Anthropology and the Bureau of Applied Social Research of Columbia University. About half of the songs come either from my own collection or that of Folkways, but in order to make a representative picture, I would like to include in your collection: (1) "Cradle Song" (Yukaghir), (2) "Improvisation on the occasion of our arrival" (Even), (3) "Cradle Song" (Even), (4) "Improvisation on the occasion of our arrival" (Yukaghir), (5) "Cradle Song" (Yukaghir), (6) "Improvisation on the occasion of our arrival" (Even), (7) "Cradle Song" (Even), (8) "Improvisation on the occasion of our arrival" (Yukaghir), (9) "Cradle Song" (Yukaghir), (10) "Improvisation on the occasion of our arrival" (Even).

This letter may be used in any way you wish, but please do not use it in any other way than in WORLD FOLK SONGS. And that, the source of each excerpt and any notice of protection that the collector desires will be included on the record. In return for your permission Folkways will make one of the following courtesy returns: (1) an outright fee of \$10.00, (2) a set of the Folkways catalog or (3) a present of the overall \$5 royalty. If you wish to receive \$10.00 and return means circle the words of payment you wish to receive. If you wish to receive this copy of the letter on the "improvised" record, I hope you are able to join with this scholarly enterprise and be assured that the brief excerpts we use from your recordings will not interfere with any subsequent use you may wish to make of those songs.

Yours sincerely,
Alan Lomax
Director, Center for Applied Social Research
New York, N.Y.