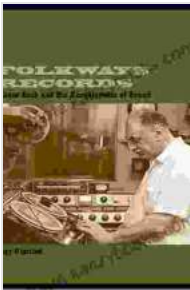


Discover the Untold Story Behind Moses Asch's "Encyclopedia of Sound"

Journey into the world of Moses Asch, the visionary founder of Folkways Records and the creator of an invaluable musical archive.

In the heart of Manhattan's Greenwich Village, nestled amidst the bohemian cafes and vibrant music scene, Moses Asch embarked on a remarkable journey. Driven by an unquenchable thirst for preserving and sharing the world's musical heritage, he founded Folkways Records in 1948.



Folkways Records: Moses Asch and His Encyclopedia of Sound by H. Norman Wright

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 4121 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 357 pages



Asch's vision extended far beyond mere record production. He believed that music possessed the power to break down barriers, foster understanding, and document the human experience. Inspired by this conviction, Asch conceived an ambitious project: an "Encyclopedia of Sound" that would encompass the entire spectrum of global music.

The Genesis of an Encyclopedia

Asch's quest began with a small, dedicated team of researchers and field recordists. They traveled to remote corners of the world, from the Appalachian Mountains to the African savanna, capturing the sounds of cultures that had been largely undocumented. Each recording—from funeral dirges to celebratory feasts—became a precious gem in Asch's growing archive.

As the collection expanded, Asch recognized the need for a systematic approach. He devised a meticulous recording process that ensured the highest quality and fidelity. Every performance was captured with precision microphones, and each recording was meticulously annotated with ethnographic details.

A Tapestry of Cultural Expression

Over the years, the Folkways "Encyclopedia of Sound" grew into an unparalleled repository of global music. It embraced every genre imaginable: folk, blues, jazz, classical, gospel, and beyond. The archive preserved the voices of legendary artists such as Woody Guthrie, Pete Seeger, and Reverend Gary Davis, alongside the music of indigenous tribes and obscure performers from every corner of the globe.

Each recording encapsulated a unique chapter in human history. The field recordings, in particular, offered a glimpse into the vanishing traditions and soundscapes of rural communities. Asch's insistence on preserving these soundscapes ensured that future generations would have access to an invaluable cultural legacy.

A Catalyst for Social Change

Asch's "Encyclopedia of Sound" was not merely a collection of recordings; it became a powerful tool for social change. In the 1950s and 1960s, Folkways Records played a pivotal role in the fight for civil rights and social justice.

Asch's recordings showcased the music of marginalized communities, giving voice to their struggles and aspirations. Albums such as "The Blues of Negroes" and "The Cry of Freedom" provided a powerful soundtrack to the era's civil rights movement.

Asch's commitment to social justice extended beyond his music recordings. He actively supported folk artists who were blacklisted during the McCarthy era and provided a platform for activists to share their messages.

A Legacy That Endures

Moses Asch's "Encyclopedia of Sound" remains an enduring testament to his vision and passion. Today, the archive is housed at the Smithsonian Institution's Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage, where it continues to inspire and educate generations of scholars, musicians, and music enthusiasts.

The "Encyclopedia of Sound" has had a profound impact on the world of music. It has fostered a greater appreciation for cultural diversity, inspired countless musicians, and provided a lasting record of human creativity. Asch's legacy continues to live on through the music that he preserved and the cultural understanding that he promoted.

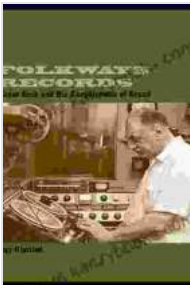
Delve into the Fascinating Story of Moses Asch

In his new book, "Moses Asch and His Encyclopedia of Sound," acclaimed author and musician Peter K. Siegel chronicles the life and work of this extraordinary visionary. Through meticulous research and firsthand accounts, Siegel paints a vivid portrait of Asch's dedication, perseverance, and unwavering belief in the power of music.

Discover the untold stories behind the groundbreaking recordings, witness the social and cultural impact of Folkways Records, and gain a deeper understanding of the man who created an unparalleled encyclopedia of human expression.

Free Download your copy of "Moses Asch and His Encyclopedia of Sound" today and embark on an unforgettable journey into the world of music, culture, and social change.

Moses Asch, Folkways Records, Encyclopedia of Sound, Global Music, Cultural Preservation, Social Justice, Peter K. Siegel, Book

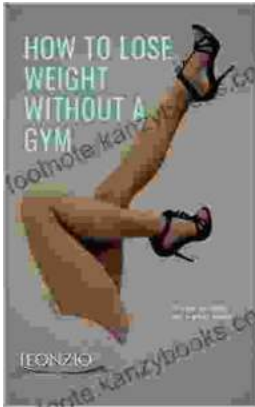


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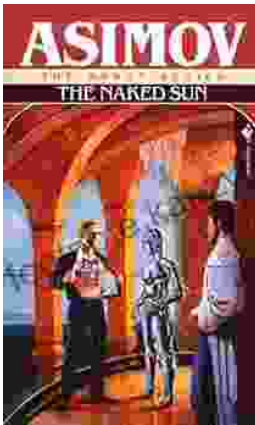
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