Historic music comes alive via new “Sounds Like History” podcast

Canada’s History Society and Library and Archives Canada team up to explore Canada’s musical legacy

From wartime marches to turn-of-the-century love songs, they are the sonic treasures of Canada — decades-old songs that captured the stories and sentiments of past generations of Canadians.

Now, thanks to a collaboration between Canada’s History Society and Library and Archives Canada (LAC), Canadians everywhere will be able to explore the soundscapes of the past via a new podcast called Sounds Like History.

“Canada has a rich musical legacy, and we’re proud and excited to share this with Canadians,” said Mark Collin Reid, Editor-in-Chief of Canada’s History Society.

The series will explore songs preserved in LAC’s Virtual Gramophone collection. LAC’s music experts — archivists Rachelle Chiasson-Taylor and Maureen Nevins, and librarian Joseph Trivers — will reveal the stories behind a chosen song, and share insights about the composers and performers of the tunes.

The initial season of the podcast will feature six episodes, three in English and three in French, and are co-hosted by Canada’s History’s Mark Collin Reid and Jean-Philippe Proulx.


And visit LAC’s Virtual Gramophone to learn more about our country’s musical heritage.

Canada’s History Society was established in 1994 with the generous support of the Hudson’s Bay Company History Foundation, which remains its largest donor. The Society’s mission is to promote greater popular interest in Canadian history, principally through its publishing and educational activities and its recognition programs acknowledging the achievements of others. The Governor General’s History Awards and the publication of Canada’s History magazine (formerly The Beaver: A Journal of Progress) and Kayak, a bilingual magazine for kids, among the initiatives undertaken by the Society that aim to make Canadians more aware of their past.

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