Anne Dhu McLucas was a UO professor of music (emerita), specializing in ethnomusicology and musicology. She served as dean of the UO School of Music and Dance from 1992–2002. Her teaching career included stints at Wellesley College (1974–80); Harvard (1979–85), Colorado College (1986–87), and Boston College (1987–92).

McLucas’s life was tragically cut short on September 8, 2012. She is survived by numerous friends and loved ones. A public memorial service in her honor is planned for 4 p.m., Saturday, October 20, 2012 in Beall Concert Hall.

McLucas began her college studies at the University of Colorado, where she was a presidential scholar. After two years as a language major, she took time off to study music at the Mozarteum Akademie in Salzburg, Austria, where she completed a certificate in accompanying. Returning to the University of Colorado to complete her B.A. in Italian and German, McLucas graduated magna cum laude and was initiated into the Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society. She received both a Woodrow Wilson and a Danforth Foundation Fellowship for graduate study.

After a year of graduate work at the University of Southern California, where she served as staff accompanist, she transferred to Harvard University, where she completed her master’s and Ph.D. in music and continued to perform harpsichord, piano, and fortepiano. While her performance career led in the direction of Baroque and Classic period chamber music, her musicological studies began to focus on the traditional folk music of Britain, Ireland, and America, and included collaborative field experience at the Mescalero Apache reservation with Dr. Inés Talamantez, professor of religious studies at the University of California at Santa Barbara.

McLucas served as president of the Sonneck Society for American Music; as president of The College Music Society; council member for the Society for Ethnomusicology; chair of the Program Committee for the American Musicological Society’s 50th Anniversary Meeting, and editorial board member for JAMS, the organization’s journal. She was editor-in-chief of the College Music Symposium from 1993-96 and review editor for Ethnomusicology, 1990-93. She also was the local arrangements chair for a meeting of the Society for American Music in Eugene in 2003 and received that organization’s Distinguished Service Award in the same year.

McLucas was a Fulbright Distinguished Scholar for research and teaching in Scotland in 2003 and earned two grants from the NEH for her research and fieldwork. She published numerous articles and four books, including her most recent: The Musical Ear: Oral Tradition in the USA, which this symposium is celebrating. In it she explored neuro-scientific and psychological as well as ethnomusicological insights into the oral repertoire of American music.
Friday, October 19, 2012

1:00 Welcome and Opening Remarks

Theoretical Approaches to Oral Traditions


2:00 Eliot Grasso (UO): “Playing with the Psychology of Expectation: Appraising Melodic Variation in Irish Traditional Instrumental Dance Music”

2:45–3:00 Coffee Break

Oral Traditions in Hip-Hop and Rap

3:00 Loren Kajikawa (UO): “‘Rapper’s Delight’: From ‘Genre-less’ to the Birth of a Genre”

3:45 Joseph G. Schloss (City University of New York): “Words I Manifest: Community, Aesthetics, and Oral Tradition in Hip-Hop Culture”

4:30 Carol Silverman (UO): “Balkan Beats, Gypsy Music, and DJ Culture”

The “Oral Traditions: Old and New” Symposium is co-sponsored by the UO School of Music and Dance; the Oregon Humanities Center; the UO Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies program; and the UO Center for the Study of Women in Society.

Saturday, October 20, 2012

Connecting the Old and New Through Oral Traditions

9:45 Margarita Mazo (The Ohio State University): “Singing Psalms as Preached and Practiced by Russian and American Molokans”

10:30 Joel Cohen (Boston Camerata, Camerata Mediterranea): “Wayfaring Sibyl: American Variants of a Medieval Judgment Day Song”

11:45–1:00 Lunch Break

Defining Community Through Oral Traditions

1:00 Margot Fassler (University of Notre Dame): “Where the Hudson Meets the Nile: Teaching and Learning Chant at St. Mark’s Coptic Orthodox Church, Jersey City”

1:45 Lori Kruckenberg (UO): “Collecting-Writing-Notating, Reading-Singing-Orating: Stories and Songs in a Medieval Chronicle”

2:30 Coffee Break

4:00 Public Memorial Service Honoring Anne Dhu McLucas (Beall Concert Hall, Music Bldg.)