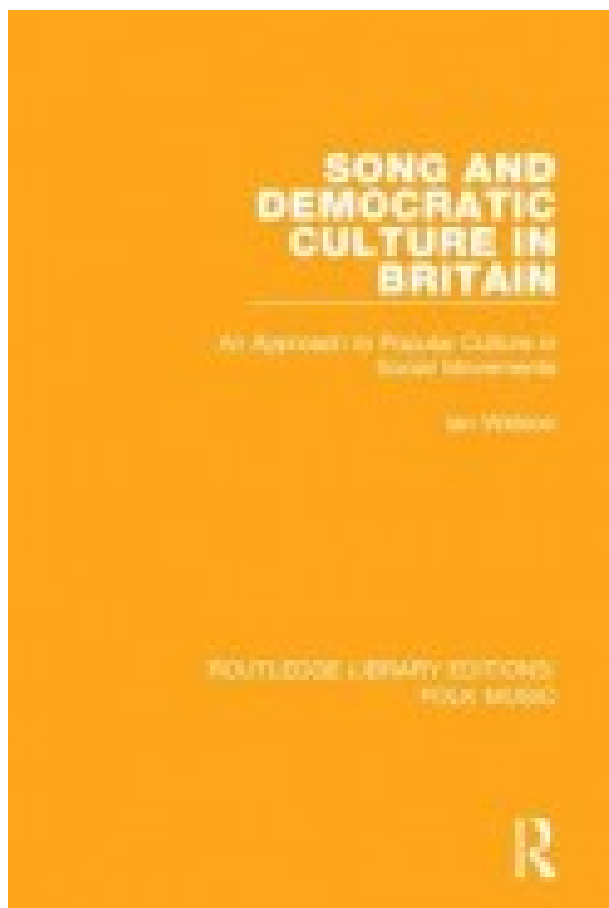


Song and Democratic Culture in Britain



Forfatter:	Ian Watson
Forlag:	Taylor & Francis Ltd
Serie:	Routledge Library Editions: Folk Music
Sprak:	Engelsk
Antall sider:	258
ISBN/EAN:	9781138953413
Kategori:	E-bøker
Utgivelsesår:	2015

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Originally published in 1983.

Song has always been a natural way to record everyday experiences - an expression of celebration, commiseration, complaint and protest. This innovative book is a study of popular and working-class song combining several approaches to the subject. It is a history of working-class song in Britain which concentrates not simply on the songs and the singers but attempts to locate such song in its cultural context and apply principles of literary criticism to this essentially oral medium. It triggered controversy: some critics castigated its Marxist approach, others enthused that 'such unabashed partisanship amply reveals the outstanding characteristic of Watson's book'. The author discusses the way in which the popular song, from Victorian times onwards, has been forced by the entertainment industry out of its roots in popular culture, to become a blander form of art with minimal critical potential. The book ends by considering the possibilities for a continued flourishing of a genuine popular song culture in an electronic age. It has become a standard title in bibliographies and curricula.

Much has changed since 1983, not least in music but this then innovative book still has a lot to say about popular song in its social and historical context.

Hva er lederskap? og Hva er godt lederskap? av Leif-Runar Forsth.

Hovedoppgave i filosofi ved Universitetet i Oslo Våren 2002. Sammendrag. Denne oppgaven stiller.