

**Johann Gottfried
von Herder** (1744-1803)



Philosopher/Musicologist: coined
and popularized the term
"Volksmusik" (Folk Music)

Alan Lomax
(1915-2002)



Ethnomusicologist/Documentarian:
discovered and archived dozens of American
Folk Music Styles

Folk Song and "Authenticity"

authenticity — the status of being the "true source," or "origin" of a trend, style, or a form of expression

- Early 19th-c writers (including von Herder) attracted to "ancient", pre-Christian roots
- visited rural and illiterate communities, in search of traditions "unspoiled" by civilization
- Early 20th-c Anglo-American songs strongly resemble songs that Herder transcribed 100 years earlier in Germany.

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- Strong connections: Anglo-American, Celtic, and German folk lyrics
- Emphasizing these connections reflects Herder's interest in "authenticity."
- For the same reason, *dynamism and change* in folk music tradition is often down-played
 - (especially if change is the result of engagement with "other" cultural forms.)

3x5 accepted *only* -- !

- Your Name (neatly written is nice!)
- Student I.D. #

QUIZ: What is a “Parlor Song”?
(Be breif.)