



*The African American Ring Shout Tradition in Coastal Georgia*

# SHOUT BECAUSE

*Twenty-Five Shout Songs as Sung by the McIntosh County Shouters*

# YOU'RE FREE

*Text and Drawings by Art Rosenbaum    Photographs by Margo Newmark Rosenbaum*

# Shout Because You're Free

**Mary Mapes Dodge**



## **Shout Because You're Free:**

**Shout Because You're Free** Art Rosenbaum, 2012-03-15 The ring shout is the oldest known African American performance tradition surviving on the North American continent Performed for the purpose of religious worship this fusion of dance song and percussion survives today in the Bolton Community of McIntosh County Georgia Incorporating oral history first person accounts musical transcriptions photographs and drawings Shout Because You're Free documents a group of performers known as the McIntosh County Shouters Derived from African practices the ring shout combines call and response singing the percussion of a stick or broom on a wood floor and hand clapping and foot tapping First described in depth by outside observers on the sea islands of South Carolina and Georgia during the Civil War the ring shout was presumed to have died out in active practice until 1980 when the shouters in the Bolton community first came to the public's attention Shout Because You're Free is the result of sixteen years of research and fieldwork by Art and Margo Rosenbaum authors of Folk Visions and Voices The book includes descriptions of present day community shouts a chapter on the history of the shout's African origins the recollections of early outside observers and later folklorists' comments In addition the tunes and texts of twenty five shout songs performed by the McIntosh County Shouters are transcribed by ethnomusicologist Johann S Buis Shout Because You're Free is a fascinating look at a unique living tradition that demonstrates ties to Africa slavery and Emancipation while interweaving these influences with worship and oneness with the spirit Shout Because You're Free , 2013-10-01 The ring shout is the oldest known African American performance tradition surviving on the North American continent Performed for the purpose of religious worship this fusion of dance song and percussion survives today in the Bolton Community of McIntosh County Georgia Incorporating oral history first person accounts musical transcriptions photographs and drawings Shout Because You're Free documents a group of performers known as the McIntosh County Shouters Derived from African practices the ring shout combines call and response singing the percussion of a stick or broom on a wood floor and hand clapping and foot tapping First described in depth by outside observers on the sea islands of South Carolina and Georgia during the Civil War the ring shout was presumed to have died out in active practice until 1980 when the shouters in the Bolton community first came to the public's attention Shout Because You're Free is the result of sixteen years of research and fieldwork by Art and Margo Rosenbaum authors of Folk Visions and Voices The book includes descriptions of present day community shouts a chapter on the history of the shout's African origins the recollections of early outside observers and later folklorists' comments In addition the tunes and texts of twenty five shout songs performed by the McIntosh County Shouters are transcribed by ethnomusicologist Johann S Buis Shout Because You're Free is a fascinating look at a unique living tradition that demonstrates ties to Africa slavery and Emancipation while interweaving these influences with worship and oneness with the spirit **The Virginia Quarterly Review** , 1999 **Together Let Us Sweetly Live** Jonathan C. David, 2007 A forgotten and beautiful African American folk tradition reexamined Together Let Us

Sweetly Live offers a rare look at the unique grassroots African American religious institutions called the Singing and Praying Bands This folksong and ring shout tradition began in Chesapeake Bay country in the early nineteenth century with a fusion of Methodist prayer meeting worship and African religious danced song traditions Although scholars have assumed ring shouts died out long ago Jonathan C David shows otherwise ushering us inside tidewater communities of Maryland and Delaware where they continue to thrive A traditional band service represents a cultural commitment to mutual aid called help operating as a system of social reciprocity as a performance aesthetic and as the foundation of community spirituality The book s nine chapters tell the story of the Singing and Praying Bands at these services through oral histories each told by a different member of a group Seventy eight photographs along with various song notations bring the spirit of the culture to life The author s introduction provides the historical and ethnographic context needed to understand the bands and their tradition An accompanying CD of original field recordings provides an opportunity to hear the service as if you were there A volume in the series Music in American Life     The New Encyclopedia of Southern Culture: Folklife Charles Reagan Wilson,2006 Volume 4 Myth manners and memory This volume addresses the cultural social and intellectual terrain of myth manners and historical memory in the American South Evaluating how a distinct southern identity has been created recreated and performed through memories that blur the line between fact and fiction this volume paints a broad multihued picture of the region seen through the lenses of belief and cultural practice     Acquisitions List, African-American Collection University of Pittsburgh. University Library System,1997     Introduction to Dance Juanita Suarez,2006     *Al' America* Jonathan Curiel,2008 From a San Francisco Chronicle journalist comes this lively funny and revealing look at the little known influence of Arab and Islamic culture on America     America, History and Life ,2001 Provides historical coverage of the United States and Canada from prehistory to the present Includes information abstracted from over 2 000 journals published worldwide     **Current Contents** Institute for Scientific Information (Philadelphia),2001     Book Review Index ,2001 Every 3rd issue is a quarterly cumulation     *The Publishers Weekly* ,1997     Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New York Freemasons. Grand Lodge of the State of New York,1920     *Sing Out* ,1950     *Atlanta History* ,2000     *Verbal Behavior* Burrhus Frederic Skinner,1957     **Escape** Alden Brooks,1924     **The Twentieth Century** ,1899-07     **Town Journal** ,1927     **St. Nicholas** Mary Mapes Dodge,1883

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