

Guide to the Peoples' Voice Cafe Records, 1979-1986

JPB 06-10

Music Division

**The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts
New York, New York**

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Date Completed: April 2006

Processed and encoded through a gift from Robert W. Wilson.

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Descriptive Summary

Title:	Peoples' Voice Cafe Records
Collection ID:	JPB 06-10
Creator:	Peoples' Voice Cafe
Extent:	0.5 lf (1 box)
Repository:	Music Division. The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts

Abstract: The Peoples' Voice Cafe Records includes correspondence, clippings, flyers and other publicity material, and administrative records of the Peoples' Voice Cafe. The collection's contents date from 1979 to 1986, documenting the early and formative years of the organization.

Administrative Information

Access

Collection is open to the public. Library policy on photocopying will apply. Advance notice may be required.

Publication Rights

For permission to publish, contact the Chief, Music Division.

Preferred Citation

Peoples' Voice Cafe Records, JPB 06-10, Music Division, The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts.

Processing Information

The collection was processed and cataloged in April 2006.

Historical Note

Established in 1979 in New York City, the Peoples' Voice Cafe is an alternative coffeehouse founded by members of Songs of Freedom and Struggle (now a national organization known as the People's Music Network for Songs of Freedom and Struggle). It is still run today as a not-for-profit, independent organization by a community of volunteers dedicated to political activism and humanitarian purposes. Over the years they have organized numerous performances with both famous and upcoming artists, including Pete Seeger, Carolyn Hester, Oscar Brand and Eric Andersen. Shows usually include political music, but also poetry, storytelling, puppetry, dance and theater. In December 2004 they celebrated their 25th anniversary. More information can be found at the Peoples' Voice Cafe website (<http://peoplesvoicecafe.org/index.html>).

Scope and Content Note

The Peoples' Voice Cafe Records document the beginnings and early years of the organization, from its foundation in 1979 to 1986. The collection includes correspondence with members, organizations, and businesses with which they collaborated. The majority of the letters are with various artists that were invited to perform at the various venues that Peoples' Voice Cafe used over the years. Administrative records also include contracts and agreements, minutes, contact lists, internal announcements, and a small amount of financial information. There are also press releases and other promotional material, such as clippings, flyers (including original drafts) and announcements related to performances and other projects undertaken by the Peoples' Voice Cafe. Of possible interest may be the biographical information for a significant number of political singers that can be found in the correspondence and the publicity material.

The collection also includes newsletters and event calendars of other organizations with similar interests as the Peoples' Voice Cafe. Although often mentioned in the correspondence, this collection does not include demo tapes sent by the various performers.

Peoples' Voice Cafe Records

Box 1

- F. 1 Activities and collaborations, 1980-1983 and undated
- F. 2 Clippings, 1979-1985 and undated
- Correspondence
 - F. 3 A-B, 1980-1983 and undated
 - F. 4 C, 1980-1986 and undated
 - F. 5 D-F, 1979-1983 and undated
 - F. 6 G, 1981-1983 and undated
 - F. 7 H-J, 1980-1983 and undated
 - F. 8 K, 1980-1983 and undated
 - F. 9 L, 1980-1983 and undated
 - F. 10 M-O, 1979-1983 and undated
 - F. 11 P-R, 1979-1983 and undated
 - F. 12 S, 1979-1983 and undated
 - F. 13 T-U, 1980-1983
 - F. 14 V-W, 1979-1984 and undated
- F. 15 Contact lists, 1981-1985 and undated
- F. 16 Flyers, 1979-1986 and undated
- F. 17 Membership and promotion, 1979-1985 and undated
- F. 18 Newsletters, magazines, calendars, 1980-1985 and undated
- F. 19 Tickets, undated