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**Revels Repertory Company presents Boston area premier of “Voices from the Mountain” at Tufts University’s Cohen Auditorium, Saturday, Oct. 24th**

On Saturday, October 24, at 7:30 pm, Revels touring ensemble, Revels Repertory Company, will bring its new musical theatre production, “Voices from the Mountain,” to Cohen Auditorium at Tufts University, Medford. The presentation is a cooperative venture between Revels Rep and the Tufts University Office of Alumni Relations.

“Voices” is also based on the life of Olive Dame Campbell, one of the first collectors of traditional folk songs in the Appalachian Mountains. Born in Medford, Massachusetts in 1882, Campbell graduated from Tufts University in 1903 before visiting Appalachia with her husband and missionary John C. Campbell. It was the singing of the English ballad *Barbara Allen* by a young girl on an Appalachian mountain side that first captured Campbell’s attention. Struck by the uniqueness of the child’s interpretation and her soulful voice, the Campbells set out to interview the Appalachian people (especially in North Carolina) and collect their music. Later they expanded the project to gathering all the folk arts of the region and established the John C. Campbell School of Folk Arts, which still exists today in Brasstown, NC.

Audiences will share Campbell’s delight in discovering music in this country that came from England, Scotland and Ireland several hundred years before, but that was no longer being performed in the original style in those countries. While Campbell has not been well known by most New Englanders in recent years, the songs that she and her colleague Cecil Sharp published in 1917 in *English Folk Songs from the Southern Appalachians* were key to the American folk song revival of the 1960’s and continue to be performed, recorded and taught in schools today. Revels Rep Music Director Kay Dunlap, says, “I always thought songs like “The Cruel War” were written by Peter, Paul and Mary. It turns out that they got it from Campbell’s book.”

The stage production includes ballads, folk songs, stories, dances, and play party games performed by Revels Repertory Company’s costumed ensemble of 40 adults and children and guest instrumentalists. The program is appropriate for adults and children age six and up. There will be several opportunities for audience participation, a Revels hallmark.

The independent film, “Songcatcher,” released in 2001, was based loosely on Campbell’s story. The music for the film was supervised by North Carolina musician and tradition bearer, Sheila K. Adams who appeared previously in “The Christmas Revels”. Ms. Adams is also the artistic advisor for “Voices” and spent several days in Boston in December of last year coaching ensemble members. The music in the show either comes from Campbell’s book or from Adams’ family.

The performance is General Admission. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for children 11 and under. Performance time is 7:30pm.

How to Order Tickets:

[https://www.alumniconnections.com/olc/pub/TUF/events/event\\_order.cgi?tmpl=events&event=2233270](https://www.alumniconnections.com/olc/pub/TUF/events/event_order.cgi?tmpl=events&event=2233270)

Cohen Auditorium is located on the Tufts University campus in the Aidekman Arts Center at 20 Talbot Avenue, Medford, MA 02155.

For more information on Revels and Revels Repertory Company please visit [www.revels.org](http://www.revels.org)

For further information on this production please call 1-800-THE-ALUM