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COURSE MATERIAL AND METHODOLOGY

An Interview with Carole Fredericks: Guide, Transcription and DVD.
Canandaigua, NY: Carole D. Fredericks Foundation, Inc., 2010. Pp. 34 pp. \$45.00.
<www.carolefredericksfoundation.org>.

This is the perfect complement to any music video, DVD or educational package on Frederick's music (such as *Tant qu'elle chante elle vit* and *Couleurs et parfums*). It will appeal to students of French at a variety of levels. For those among us who enjoy Fredericks's music and use it to inspire our students, this interview allows us to follow her journey from performing in a French restaurant in California to her courageous move to France to work with Jean-Jacques Goldman and Michael Jones. Her vivacious personality is immediately felt in the 41-minute DVD, and because of this, the viewer is not bothered by the occasional video or audio flaws that could not be removed from the original 1999 film footage. In fact, these flaws enhance the DVD as they are a clear indication of how authentic and historic the interview is. The original interview took place in November 1999 at a friend's home in the village of Chatou (just outside of Paris) and was done by JLR Productions with the intention of documenting Fredericks's life (her career aspirations, friendships, family, and success as a solo artist). The documentary was never completed and the original footage was stored until it was release to Fredericks's family in 2003 (a few years after her death).

The DVD is broken down into fifteen segments. The Guide provides the transcription for each segment, including the interviewer's questions that are not shown on the DVD, thus facilitating student comprehension. In the "To the Instructor" section, it is explained: "Each question is preceded by a 'marker.' You may view the responses in sequential order, or advance to, or return to, a specific response. The running time for each chapter is listed in the *Table des matières*" (8). An excellent starting point is Goldman's heartfelt and poignant tribute to the artist:

Carole est née une première fois aux États-Unis, le pays de ses parents, de son enfance, de sa formation, de sa culture musicale. Une seconde fois en France, pays de sa reconnaissance artistique, de ses amours et amis, de ses plaisirs, de son domicile. Une troisième fois au Sénégal, le pays de ses racines, de son cœur, peut être celui où elle se sentait le mieux, le pays de son départ aussi. Bien que profondément Américaine, Carole était un symbole de ce mixage de cultures qu'elle incarnait de la plus belle des façons: par sa voix, par la musique. En France elle est toujours présente, par ses chansons et dans nombre de cœurs. À travers elle c'est aussi l'Amérique que nous aimons. (9)

Students will be inspired by Goldman's tribute so as, for example, to laugh with Fredericks as she explains that "donc" was the first French word she learned or to

appreciate her love of cooking (her specialty was blending African-American with French cuisine) in the special film segment *Mousse au chocolat* where Fredericks is in the kitchen preparing a mousse and explaining her favorite dishes. In addition to the interview segments, particularly helpful are the concise biography (in French) and the list of Web sites. For instance, the Web site on Josephine Baker, or Fredericks's page on *Taratata*, allow students to move beyond the interview segments to comprehend more fully the Fredericks's courageous life and the timeless beauty of her music.

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