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COURSE MATERIAL AND METHODOLOGY

REVIEW: **Tant Qu'elle Chante, Elle Vit! Apprendre le français grâce à l'héritage de Carole Fredericks**
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Music is a wonderful tool for teaching vocabulary, grammar, and culture. That is why *Tant Qu'elle Chante, Elle Vit!* [was of] interest [to] me. The program is based on the music of Carole Fredericks, a talented African-American singer who emigrated to France in 1979 to pursue her singing career. She went on to become Jean-Jacques Goldman's protégée and member of the Fredericks Goldman Jones trio in the early 1990's. Practically unknown in the United States, Carole Fredericks became a very well known and loved singer in France and in the Francophone world.

Massachusetts French teacher, Nancy Gadbois, learned of Fredericks in 1996 and has used her music in classes ever since. Shortly after the death of Fredericks in 2001, The Fredericks family asked Nancy Gadbois to create a program that would assist teachers of French all over the world to use Fredericks' music as a teaching tool for students learning French. The program consist of a video cassette [or DVD disc] containing six music videos and a workbook containing the [song lyrics] along with pedagogical exercises. Some of the videos feature the Fredericks Goldman Jones trio while others feature Fredericks alone. Also included in the workbook is a detailed explanation of how each song in the program incorporates the national standards.

Tant Qu'elle Chante, Elle Vit! was made available for the first time at the American Association of Teachers of French (AATF) 2003 conference in Martinique, and I have since had the opportunity to use it on two occasions in my French classroom. What I like about the program is that there are songs for use at all levels of French to teach or review a variety of concepts. I chose to present the song, *Un Deux Trois* to my French III class at the beginning of the school year, mainly to review the passé composé and imparfait tenses as well as to teach culture. Later on during the semester, I then chose to present *A Nos Actes Manqués* to my French II students to reinforce vocabulary learned during the semester. The workbook is very helpful because it contains essential teaching tools such as vocabulary explanations, critical thinking questions and a good variety of pedagogical activities. All of this is ready to photocopy from the workbook for use in the classroom. I found the critical thinking questions very meaningful to the students and as a result some wonderful discussions and post-listening activities followed each of these lessons. I also found the visual aspect of the music videos helpful for the students' comprehension. I highly recommend this collection to teachers who would like to incorporate music into their curriculum. For me it has proven to be a worthwhile, effective, enjoyable and timesaving teaching tool.

Gadbois, Nancy ***Tant Qu'elle Chante, Elle Vit! Apprendre le français grâce à l'héritage de Carole Fredericks***. AATF Materials, Mailcode 4510, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL 62901-4510. Fax: 618-453-5733. Video and Workbook \$40; DVD and Workbook \$50 (AATF member price); (\$45 and \$55 non-member price)