

AMST 430
SONGS OF PROTEST SONGS OF PRAISE
ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY
GHH 208
M, TH 2:00 -3:20
Spring, 2013

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Week of February 11

Stay Warm, Stay Safe and when the storm is over build a huge snowman—it's a bit of a tradition to do this by using Roger Williams' statue on the common.

For ***Monday, February 11,***

Read, in <i>Randall</i> ,	
#6, "Listening for the Liberated Word"	67 - 74
#7, "Spirit in the Night: Good News Through Social Justice"	75 - 88

Today, many people prefer being called "spiritual" to being called "religious". Chapter six concerns issues of this sort. The most important parts of the chapter, in my view, are the rather extensive quotations, both from Springsteen and from some of his fans. I'd like to have you identify your favorite (if you have one) and write a little bit about it in your "clog". Sorry about the confusion. I shouldn't have assumed that you'd know this was on Bridges. Silly word, I know, but I didn't invent it.

Chapters 7, 8, and 9, will demonstrate why I chose to begin this course with a look at the music of Bruce Springsteen. Chapter 7 is about "practicing what one preaches". Most music of the type we're investigating in this class relates to the idea of *social justice* in one way or another. Here, you'll see that Springsteen does "practice what he preaches," and so do remarkable numbers of his fans. To prepare for the short time we have to discuss this chapter, please go to

<http://www.looktothestars.org/celebrity/bruce-springsteen>
where you'll find a list of some of the charities Springsteen has supported. Click on the links, and read a bit about them. One of them was founded by perhaps the most famous folk/protest singer of the last half of the 20th century. You'll have to find out which one for yourself. Which, if any would get your support and why?

Clog it. There is also a list of prior articles on Springsteen which is worth taking a look at.

For **Thursday, February 14**

Happy Valentine's Day! (Are we dug out yet?)

Read, in <i>Randall</i> ,	
#8, "Witness for Bruce"	89 - 93
#9, "Sacred Music, Contagious Ecstasy"	95-108
"Conclusion"	109 - 111

These two chapters make the transition to the next kind of music we're going to explore: *praise music*. We've caught little bits of this from time to time in the videos I've shown in class, and we may spend the following Monday (which happens on Wednesday) watching a full length video. The idea of [ecstasy](#) is worth thinking about. Note the synonyms and note the sense of energy the word conveys. We'll see this ecstasy generated by music and put to use in a wide variety of causes.