

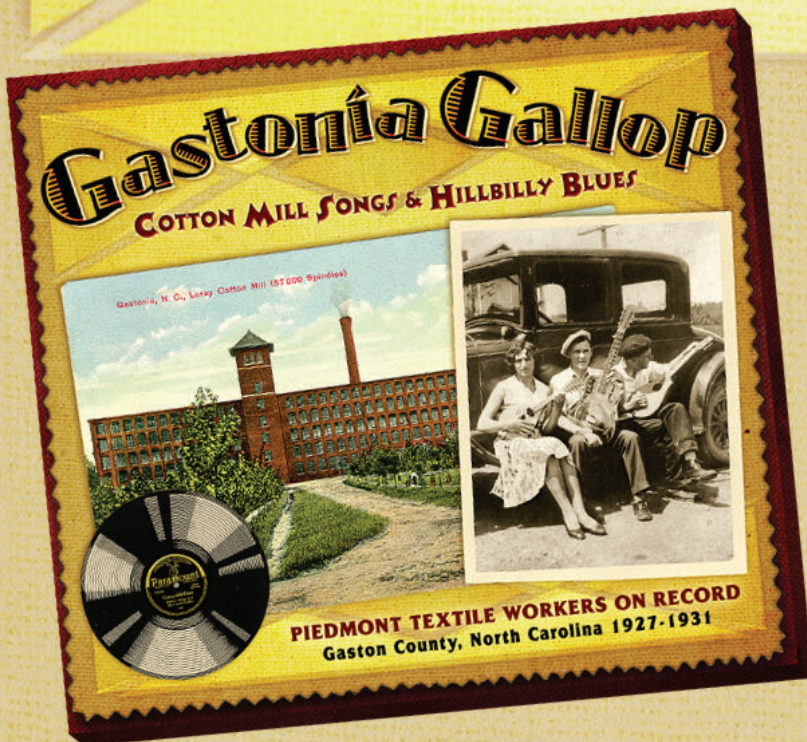
OLD HAT CD-1007

Gastonia Gallop

COTTON MILL SONGS & HILLBILLY BLUES

PIEDMONT TEXTILE WORKERS ON RECORD

Gaston County, North Carolina 1927-1931



**WORKING-CLASS MUSIC
OF THE PIEDMONT SOUTH:**

- Protest songs
- Ragtime tunes
- Tin Pan Alley songs
- Minstrel pieces
- Folk songs
- Ballads and Blues

**24 RARE RECORDINGS
DIGITALLY REMASTERED**

Rendered by masters of the harmonica, guitar, banjo, and mandolin:

**David McCarn, Carolina Twins
(Dave Fletcher & Gwin Foster),
Wilmer Watts & The Lonely Eagles,
Three Tobacco Tags, and more!**

**COMES WITH A 24-PAGE, FULL-COLOR
BOOKLET WITH EXTENSIVE HISTORY,
RARE PHOTOGRAPHS, AND FULL
DISCOGRAPHY.**

GASTONIA GALLOP is a vivid portrait of music heard in the mill villages of Gaston County, North Carolina during a period of economic depression and strife. Amid an emerging world of factory whistles, clattering machines, and low-wage labor, local textile workers created a vibrant new sound that provided the foundation for today's country music.

"Here are musicians who mastered instruments like the harmonica and banjo and took them to heights of virtuosity. Cotton mill life was no picnic, so many of the songs from this era speak of hard work, unfair treatment and poverty. Having grown up in Gastonia and having many relatives who worked in the mills, I feel a unique connection to the voice and spirit of this music."

— Justin Robinson, *Carolina Chocolate Drops*

"The massive brick hulks of many of the old textile mills now stand silent, boarded up and abandoned, but echoes of the distinctive hillbilly music that millhands in Gaston County and all across the Piedmont South forged on radio and records during the 1920s and 1930s continue to reverberate throughout the United States and, indeed, the world."

— Patrick Huber, author, *Linthead Stomp, The Creation of Country Music in the Piedmont South*

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