MAKING SPEECH FREE

Utah Phillips

"These stories, polemics, and rants grew out of years of asking questions, listening closely, and trying out what I heard on the world around me. I guess that part of growing up is finally deciding what you authentically inherit, what was it that was passed along to you by our elders. Then it's your turn to keep it in the world by passing it along." –Utah Phillips

Captured live on May 7, 1999, as part of a Free Speech Teach-In, the inestimable "Golden Voice of the Great Southwest," delivers 74 minutes of his trademark history, humor, song, and struggle in a signature performance. Utah's songs and stories remind us to "Don't Mourn, Organize," and that we can be inspired, educated, and entertained while we do it.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Utah Phillips (1935–2008) was a labor organizer, folk singer, storyteller, poet, and the "Golden Voice of the Great Southwest." He described the struggles of labor unions and the power of direct action, self-identifying as an anarchist. He often promoted the Industrial Workers of the World in his music, actions, and words.

ACCOLADES

"If you have never heard Utah Phillips live, you're in for a treat. He's fantastic. Unique. You'll feel better ever after, as you recall him. There's no one like him."

-Pete Seeger

"A great performer, a commanding voice, a wit, a musician, an anarchist, lover, and hobo–a beautiful man." –Edward Abbey

"Phillips above all is a consummate showman, a master of the theater... Phillips has a genius for making people laugh and care at the same time."

—The Boston Globe

"A bard who gives us joy and hope." –Studs Terkel



SUBJECT CATEGORY MUSIC/ FOLK

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