THE GERMAN HISTORICAL INSTITUTE AND THE GOETHE-INSTITUT CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO A

FILM SCREENING AND DISCUSSION

This Ain’t No Mouse Music! The Story of Chris Strachwitz and Arhoolie Records

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 2015
6:30 PM
GOETHE-INSTITUT
812 7TH ST. NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20001

Join us for a film screening and discussion with Arhoolie Records founder Chris Strachwitz and archivist and curator Jeff Place (Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage). A reception will follow the discussion.

Roots music icon Chris Strachwitz is a detective of deep American music—music that is the antithesis of the corporate “mouse music” dominating pop culture. Since 1960, he has been the guiding force behind legendary Arhoolie Records, bringing Cajun music out of Louisiana, Tex-Mex out of Texas, blues out of the country—and into the living rooms of Middle America. He also brought rural musicians to Europe, introducing wildly enthusiastic audiences to the rhythms of bluesman Lightnin’ Hopkins, Zydeco king Clifton Chenier and others.

Born a German count, Strachwitz fled his homeland after WWII at age sixteen. In the United States, he discovered, and pursued, a musical landscape that most Americans missed. He takes his audience on a hip-shaking stomp from Texas to New Orleans, Cajun country to Appalachia, as he continues his passionate quest for the musical soul of America.

The documentary This Ain’t No Mouse Music! The Story of Chris Strachwitz and Arhoolie Records (USA, 2013, 92 min., Directors Maureen Gosling and Chris Simon) had its world premiere at the 2013 South by Southwest Film Festival in Austin, TX and has since won a number of prizes and awards.

Chris Strachwitz is also featured in the GHI’s Immigrant Entrepreneurship project at www.immigrantentrepreneurship.org

PHOTO CREDIT