

**Bernd Brabec de Mori**

## Die Lieder der Richtigen Menschen (Songs of the Real People)

*A Musical Anthropology of Indigenous People in the  
Ucayali Valley, Western Amazon*

“This book presents an excellent interdisciplinary analysis of the history and current practice of vocal music of the indigenous groups in the Peruvian Amazon. It is, on the one hand, methodologically and theoretically anchored in musicology; on the other hand it provides an innovative and profound contribution to cultural and social anthropology. Brabec de Mori combines ethnography, of unique extension in this field, with a discussion of relevant theoretical perspectives and furthermore situates musical practices within a larger framework of social and cultural contexts.”

(Univ.-Prof. Dr. Elke Mader, University of Vienna)

“A masterpiece of interdisciplinary research. This book, with its documentation and analysis of musical practice in the Western Amazon, not only fills significant gaps; because of its methods and theoretical arguments it can be seen as initiating an ‘ontological turn’ within musicology since Brabec de Mori addresses the emancipation of non-humans, whose performances often constitute a basic motive for the social action of the ‘Real People’. The book should be present in any private, and above all, any public library, be it as a reference book or an in-depth analysis, both about the Ucayali Region and the theories of musical anthropology and the emerging auditory anthropology. This publication offers fundamental knowledge for specialists in the varied fields of anthropology, linguistics, psychology and, of course, musicology. Furthermore, Brabec de Mori’s specific ‘Austrian’ humor should be mentioned, because it forms a meaningful symbiosis with the indigenous sense of humor and thus often breaks free from the ‘academic discourse’ – something perpetually necessary – thus making the book, moreover, very light-hearted and definitely worth reading.”

(Dr. Matthias Lewy, University of Brasília)

### Bernd Brabec de Mori

was born in 1975 in Bregenz, Austria. He studied musicology in Salzburg, Graz, and Vienna. His main areas of research are the ethnomusicology of the Amazon region, music and magic, as well as auditory anthropology. After living five years in the Peruvian Amazon he has been repeatedly working on contract basis at the Phonogrammarchiv of the Austrian Academy of Sciences in Vienna. From 2009 to 2014 he worked as research and teaching assistant for systematic musicology at the University of Graz. He is presently employed as a senior scientist at the Institute of Ethnomusicology at the University of Music and Performing Arts Graz. Besides numerous other publications, he edited *The Human and Non-Human in Lowland South American Indigenous Music* (a special issue of *Ethnomusicology Forum*, 2013).

Further publications by Bernd Brabec de Mori:  
<https://kug.academia.edu/BerndBrabecdeMori>



780 pages, flex. cover,  
incl. DVD-ROM, text in German

The DVD-ROM contains 6 audio tracks,  
17 video clips and a catalogue with all  
analyzed songs (transcriptions, trans-  
lations of the lyrics, audio samples).

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