

Eric Johnson Collection of Ernest Bloch Photographs
Guides to Special Collections in the Music Division of the Library of Congress



Music Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2010

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.music/perform.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/2010561021>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.music/eadmus.mu010003>

Processed by the Music Division of the Library of Congress

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Music Division, 2010
Revised 2010 August

Collection Summary

Title: Eric Johnson Collection of Ernest Bloch Photographs

Span Dates: 1896-2008

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1896-1937)

Call No.: ML31.J64

Creator: Bloch, Ernest, 1880-1959

Collector: Johnson, Eric

Extent: circa 105 items

Extent: 2 containers

Extent: 1 linear foot

Language: Collection material in English.

Location: Music Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/2010561021>

Summary: The collection consists of photographic prints taken by Swiss-born American composer Ernest Bloch during the first half of the 20th century. These prints were developed during the 1970s by photographer Eric Johnson. The collection also includes a variety of research materials related to Bloch and his experiences with photography.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People

Barjansky, Alexandre--Photographs.

Barjansky, Catherine--Photographs.

Bloch, Ernest, 1880-1959.

Bloch, Ernest, 1880-1959.

Bloch, Ernest, 1880-1959. Eric Johnson collection of Ernest Bloch photographs. 1896-2008.

Clement, Ada--Photographs.

Hodgehead, Lillian--Photographs.

Johnson, Eric.

Menuhin, Yehudi, 1916-1999--Photographs.

Sessions, Roger, 1896-1985--Photographs.

Ysaÿe, Eugène, 1858-1931--Photographs.

Subjects

Photography.

Portrait photography.

Form/Genre

Correspondence.

Photographic prints.

Provenance

Gift, Eric Johnson, 2009.

Accruals

No further accruals are expected.

Processing History

The Eric Johnson Collection of Ernest Bloch Photographs was processed in 2010 by Ephraim Schäfli and encoded for EAD by Christopher Hartten.

Other Repositories

Over 6000 negatives and 2000 prints are housed in the Ernest Bloch Archive at the Center for Creative Photography at the University of Arizona.

Related Material

The Library of Congress Music Division holds the [Ernest Bloch Collection](#) .

Copyright Status

The status of copyright on the materials of the Eric Johnson Collection of Ernest Bloch Photographs is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The Eric Johnson Collection of Ernest Bloch Photographs is open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Performing Arts Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Certain restrictions to use or copying of materials may apply.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: container number, Eric Johnson Collection of Ernest Bloch Photographs, Music Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Well known to most as a composer, Ernest Bloch is also recognized for his considerable genius in the field of photography. Bloch took up the camera in his teenage years and constantly documented his experiences using still images until his death in 1959. Throughout his life, he produced over 6000 negatives and 2000 prints that are now housed in the Ernest Bloch Archive at the Center for Creative Photography at the University of Arizona.

Bloch's subject matter ranged from landscapes to self-portraits, family portraits, and other images of nature and people that surrounded him. His photographs were praised by such contemporary authorities as Alfred Stieglitz and captured the interest of other prominent photographers, including Ansel Adams, Georgia O'Keeffe, Edward Weston, and Diego Rivera.

The prints in this collection were selected for development as a product of photographer Eric Johnson's exploratory study of relationships between music and photography conducted in the early 1970s. The resulting publication, *A Composer's Vision: Photographs by Ernest Bloch* (1972) documents his findings.

Scope and Content Note

The Eric Johnson Collection of Ernest Bloch Photographs contains 105 black and white prints, the majority of which date from 1896-1937. Notable prints include "mushroom lady" (1912), trees depicting the characters of various composers, including Bach, Beethoven, and Debussy (1931 and 1935), and images of Alexandre Barjansky, Catherine Barjansky, Ada Clement, Lillian Hodgehead, Yehudi Menuhin, Roger Sessions, and Eugène Ysaÿe. Photographs are arranged by date of inscription. "Research materials" contains preliminary and final drafts of Johnson's article, as well as a pamphlet on Bloch published by the Ernest Bloch Legacy Project in 2008.

Arrangement of the Eric Johnson Collection of Ernest Bloch Photographs

The Eric Johnson Collection of Ernest Bloch Photographs is organized in 2 series:

- Photographs, 1896-1976
- Research Materials, 1971-2008

Description of Series

Container	Series
BOX 1-2	<u>Photographs, 1896-1976</u>
BOX 2	<u>Research Materials, 1971-2008</u>

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1-2	Photographs, 1896-1976
BOX-FOLDER 1/1	1896-1900 11 photographs
BOX-FOLDER 1/2	1901-1910 10 photographs Images include: Eugène Ysaÿe, Leon Goetschel, "peasant near Geneva"
BOX-FOLDER 1/3	1911-1915, 1917-1920 14 photographs Images include: Leon Goetschel, "mushroom lady"
BOX-FOLDER 1/4	1916 18 photographs Images include: Alexandre Barjansky, Catherine Barjansky, "Schelomo sculpture"
BOX-FOLDER 1/5	1921-1923 14 photographs
BOX-FOLDER 2/1	1924-1930 9 photographs Images include: New Mexico, "Indian", Ada Clement, Lillian Hodgehead
BOX-FOLDER 2/2	1931-1935 12 photographs Images include: "peasant", "tree pictures" (Bach, Beethoven, Debussy), Yehudi Menuhin, Alexandre Barjansky, Mary Tibaldi Chiesa
BOX-FOLDER 2/3	1936-1937, 1956-1957, 1976 10 photographs Images include: Mary Tibaldi Chiesa
BOX-FOLDER 2/4	Undated 7 photographs Images include: Roger Sessions
BOX 2	Research Materials, 1971-2008
BOX-FOLDER 2/5	Articles and publications Includes: <i>A Composer's Vision: Photographs by Ernest Bloch</i> (1972) and pamphlet from Ernest Bloch Legacy Project (2008).