

Dorothea Dix Lawrence Collection

Guides to Special Collections in the Music Division of the Library of Congress



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

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

Catalog Record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/2006569269>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.music/eadmus.mu010005>

Processed by the Music Division of the Library of Congress

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Collection Summary

Title: Dorothea Dix Lawrence Collection

Span Dates: 1856-1980

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1902-1980)

Call No.: ML31.L39

Creator: Lawrence, Dorothea Dix, 1899-1979

Extent: 350 items

Extent: 4 containers

Extent: 2 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English.

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/2006569269>

Summary: Dorothea Dix Lawrence was a successful opera singer in the 1930s and 1940s who later became a recitalist and folklorist. The materials in the collection include correspondence, photographs, clippings and other items that document her career as a singer and interpreter of American folk music. In addition, the collection includes her articles on American folklore that were published in various journals, and two copies of her famous *Folklore Music Map of the United States*. The collection also includes piano-vocal opera scores and a large number of American folk songs.

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

Lawrence, Dorothea Dix, 1899-1979--Archives.

Lawrence, Dorothea Dix, 1899-1979.

Lawrence, Dorothea Dix, 1899-1979.

Subjects

Folk music--United States--History and criticism.

Folk songs, English--United States.

Operas--Vocal scores with piano.

Songs, English--United States.

Sopranos (Singers)--United States--Correspondence.

Form/Genre

Clippings (information artifacts).

Correspondence.

Excerpts.

Folk music.

Operas.

Photographic prints.

Songs.

Vocal scores.

Writings (Documents)

Provenance

Gift; Morgan Lawrence, the son of Dorothea Dix Lawrence; 1980.

Accruals

No further accruals are expected.

Processing History

The Dorothea Dix Lawrence Collection was processed by Jonathan Kulp in August 1993. It was coded for EAD by George Kipper in 2010. George Kipper added about 120 items to the collection at the end of 2012.

Transfers

A taped interview with Morgan Lawrence, the son of Dorothea Dix Lawrence, was conducted on July 1, 1980, by Jon Newson, assistant chief of the Library of Congress Music Division. The tape had been sealed until July 1, 2005. It was transferred to the Library of Congress Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division where it is identified as the Dorothea Dix Lawrence Collection (MAVIS no. 14048) and is now accessible to the public.

Copyright Status

Materials from the Dorothea Dix Lawrence Collection are governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.) and other applicable international copyright laws.

Access and Restrictions

The Dorothea Dix Lawrence Collection is open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Music Division prior to visiting in order to determine whether the desired materials will be available at that time.

Certain restrictions to use or copying of materials may apply.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [item, date, container number], Dorothea Dix Lawrence Collection, Music Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Sketch

Date	Event
1899, Sept. 22	Born in New York City
1929	Made opera debuts: Montreal, Quebec City, Canada
1932	Appeared as Aida with Philadelphia Opera Company, San Carlo Opera Company Made concert debuts: Studebaker Theatre, Chicago; Jordan Hall, Boston Produced, directed and performed in weekly radio show <i>Twilight Hour</i> , Trenton, New Jersey
1939	Appeared in the opening concert of the New York World's Fair Created <i>Primer of American Music</i> for WPEN Philadelphia (27 weekly broadcasts) sponsored by the Board of Education, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
1946	Published <i>Folklore Music Map of the United States</i> Produced, directed and starred in <i>Folklore Musicana</i> , an 8-week series on radio station WNYC, New York City
1949	Collaborated with Gloria Swanson in the television production <i>Design for Living</i> on WPIX-TV, New York City
1955, Oct. 28	Final concert, Fullerton Hall, Chicago
1959	Published with Walter L. Rosemont <i>Folklore Songs of the United States</i> . Plainfield, N.J.: D.D. Lawrence Folklore Society
1970	Retired from public life
1979, May 23	Died in Plainfield, New Jersey

Scope and Content Note

The Dorothea Dix Lawrence Collection consists of the correspondence, photographs, clippings, and writings of this noted operatic singer, recitalist, lecturer, and folklorist. The collection also includes piano-vocal opera scores and a large number of American folk songs.

Organization of the Dorothea Dix Lawrence Collection

The Dorothea Dix Lawrence Collection is organized into two series:

- [Biographical Materials](#)
- [Music](#)

Description of Series

Container

BOX 1, 3 MAPCASE 3

Series

Biographical Materials

Contains biographical summaries, correspondence, writings, a radio script, poster, clippings, photographs, an award certificate, and *Folklore Music Map of the United States*.

Arranged alphabetically by type of material, and chronologically therein.

BOX 2-4

Music

Contains piano-vocal opera scores and other operatic vocal collections, various art songs and American folk songs.

Arranged by type of music, and alphabetically by composer therein.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1, 3 MAPCASE 3	Biographical Materials Contains biographical summaries, correspondence, writings, a radio script, poster, clippings, photographs, an award certificate, and <i>Folklore Music Map of the United States</i> . Arranged alphabetically by type of material, and chronologically therein.
BOX-FOLDER 1/1	Biographical summaries
BOX-FOLDER 1/2	Correspondence
BOX-FOLDER 1/3	Writings: Folklore Society of Great Britain
BOX-FOLDER 1/4	Writings: Thirtieth International Congress of Americanists, August 1952
BOX-FOLDER 1/5	Writings: Periodicals
BOX-FOLDER 3/1	Writings: <i>Folklore Music Map of the United States</i> ; photocopied collages of clippings and concert programs
BOX-FOLDER 1/6	Radio (script)
BOX-FOLDER 1/7	Clippings 1937-1980 see also Biographical Materials (Series). Writings: Folklore Music Map of the U. S. [Box-Folder 3/1]
BOX-FOLDER 1/8	Concert programs/advertisements see also Biographical Materials (Series). Writings: Folklore Music Map of the U. S. [Box-Folder 3/1]
BOX-FOLDER 1/9	Photographs: Portraits
BOX-FOLDER 1/10	Photographs: Miss Lawrence with others
BOX-FOLDER 1/11	Photographs: miscellaneous
BOX-FOLDER 3/2	Photographs: oversize
BOX-FOLDER 1/12	Miscellaneous
BOX-FOLDER 3/3	Award: New York City - - USO - - Joint War Appeal. Certificate of Achievement
MAPCASE-DRAWER 3/2	<i>Folklore Music Map of the United States</i>
MAPCASE-DRAWER 3/2	German concert poster, 1953
BOX 2-4	Music Contains piano-vocal opera scores and other operatic vocal collections, various art songs and American folk songs. Arranged by type of music, and alphabetically by composer therein.
BOX 2-3	Opera
BOX-FOLDER 2/1	Gounod, Charles <i>Faust</i> ; New York: G. Schirmer, 1902 Printed piano-vocal score; 323 p. Leather-bound, name embossed on cover. Annotated.
BOX-FOLDER 2/2	Puccini, Giacomo <i>Tosca</i> ; New York: Boosey and Co., 1905 Printed piano-vocal score; 335 p. Leather-bound, name embossed on cover. Annotated.

MusicOpera

Container

Contents

- BOX-FOLDER 3/4** Strauss, Richard
Salome; London: Boosey & Hawkes, 1943
Printed piano-vocal score; 203 p.
Annotated.
- BOX-FOLDER 2/3** [Various]
Opera songs. The Choicest selection from all of the standard operas new and old. (Old book 1: soprano); Philadelphia: Theodore Presser Co., 1930
Printed piano-vocal score; 234 p.
Leather-bound, name embossed on cover.
Annotated.
- BOX-FOLDER 2/4** Verdi, Giuseppe
La Traviata; New York: G. Schirmer, 1926
Printed piano-vocal score; 232 p.
Leather-bound, name embossed on cover.
Annotated.
- BOX 2-4** **Songs**
- BOX-FOLDER 4/16** Anonymous
The Barren pines. Scene II
Ozalid piano-vocal score; pp. 26-28; bound.
[Used on radio broadcast (?)].
Bucking broncho; Cowboy Jack
Ms. piano-vocal score; 4 p.
Little America (broadcast) Oct. 12, 1940.
- BOX-FOLDER 4/1** Cadman, Charles Wakefield
The Moon drops low. New York: Edwin H. Morris, 1909
Printed piano-vocal score; 7 p.
Text by Nelle Richmond Eberhart.
Spring song of the robin woman. New York: White-Smith Music, 1918
Printed piano-vocal score; 9 p.
Text by Nelle Richmond Eberhart.
Her shadow (Ojibway canoe song). New York: White-Smith Music, 1918
Printed piano-vocal score; 5 p.
Words and music by Frederick R. Burton (rearranged and harmonized by C. Cadman).
- BOX-FOLDER 2/5** Combs, Josia [ed.]
Schirmer's American folk-song series, Set I: Folk-songs from the Kentucky highlands.
New York: G. Schirmer, 1939
Printed piano-vocal score; 40 p.
- BOX-FOLDER 4/16** Endicott, Samuel [arr.]
He stole my tender heart away. New York: G. Schirmer, 1939
Printed piano-vocal score; 40 p.
- BOX-FOLDER 4/2** Farwell, Arthur
Bird song dance.
Ms. piano-vocal score; [2 p.]
Inketunga's Thunder Song.
Ms. piano-vocal score; 3 p.
[Singing exercises written on back page].
The Sabbath, op. 105, no. 3.
Ozalid piano-vocal score; 3 p.

MusicSongs

Container

Contents

- Text by Emily Dickinson.
Song of the Deathless Voice.
Ms. piano-vocal score; 4 p.
- BOX-FOLDER 4/3** Foster, Stephen
Come where my love lies dreaming. Boston: Oliver Ditson Company, 1906
Printed piano-vocal score; 7 p.
- BOX-FOLDER 4/16** Gardner, A. T.
I know two eyes, two soft brown eyes.
Ms. piano-vocal score; 2 p.
- BOX-FOLDER 4/4** Hare, Maude Cuney [arr.]
Six Creole folk songs. New York: Carl Fisher, 1921
Printed piano-vocal score; 24 p.
- BOX-FOLDER 2/5** Haubiel, Charles [arr.]
Mother Goose songs. First series. New York: The Composers Press, 1939
Printed piano-vocal score; 24 p.
- BOX-FOLDER 4/17** Haubiel, Charles [arr.]
The Dog and the tramps.
Ozalid piano-vocal score; 1 p. [incomplete].
Little Bo Peep.
Ms. piano-vocal score; 3 p.
Little Boy Blue.
Ms. piano-vocal score; 4 p.
Little Jack Horner.
Ms. piano-vocal score; 4 p.
Mistress Mary.
Ms. piano-vocal score; 3 p.
- BOX-FOLDER 4/5** Hopkinson, Francis
Colonial love lyrics: Six songs by Francis Hopkinson. Boston: A.P. Schmidt, 1919
Printed piano-vocal score; 29 p.
Edited and augmented by Harold V. Milligan.
O'er the hills.
Ms. piano-vocal score; 6 p.
Edited and augmented by Harold V. Milligan.
My dreams have been so wondrous free.
Ms. piano-vocal score; 3 p.
Edited and augmented by Harold V. Milligan.
[Songs by Francis Hopkinson: Come fair Rosina, etc.]
Ozalid copies of early printing; 11 leaves [wire brad binding removed]
- BOX-FOLDER 4/7** Hopkinson, Francis
[Songs by Francis Hopkinson: The Garland, etc.]
Ozalid copies of early printing; 5 leaves [wire brad binding removed]
- BOX-FOLDER 4/16** Huarte, Julian
Madrigal Español. New York: G. Schirmer, 1992
Printed piano-vocal score, 6 p. [incomplete]
- BOX-FOLDER 3/5-6** Lawrence, Dorothea Dix [compiler]
Folklore-songs of the United States. New York: The Dorothea Dix Lawrence Folklore Society, U.S.A., 1959
Printed piano-vocal score; 133 p.

MusicSongs

Container

Contents

- Arrangements by Walter Rosemont.
- BOX-FOLDER 4/8** MacDowell, Edward
Six selected songs. Boston: A.P. Schmidt, 1940
Printed piano-vocal score, 18 p. [incomplete]
- BOX-FOLDER 4/9** Nelson, Nils A.
Passing. New York: February 1933
Ozalid copy; 2 p.
Inscribed to Miss Lawrence by the composer.
- BOX-FOLDER 2/5** Niles, John Jacob [ed.]
Schirmer's American folk-song series, Set 14: Songs of the hill-folk (twelve ballads from Kentucky, Virginia, and North Carolina). New York: G. Schirmer, 1934
Printed piano-vocal score; 25 p.
Schirmer's American folk-song series, Set 16: Ten Christmas carols (from the Southern Appalachian Mountains). New York: G. Schirmer, 1935
Printed piano-vocal score; 22 p.
Schirmer's American folk-song series, Set 18: Ballads, carols, and tragic legends (from the Southern Appalachian Mountains). New York: G. Schirmer, 1937
Printed piano-vocal score; 22 p.
- BOX-FOLDER 4/10** Rodrigo, Joaquin
Villancicos. Madrid: Edición del autor, 1953
Printed piano-vocal score; 7 p.
Inscribed: "Para Miss Dorothea Dix Lawrence con toda simpatia" [signature illegible, but likely that of the composer].
- BOX-FOLDER 4/11** Rosemont, Walter L.
Ye Olde historic inn.
Ms. piano-vocal score; 3 leaves
On title page: "Written especially for Miss Dorothea Dix Lawrence for her broadcasts."
The Railroad cars are coming.
Ms. piano-vocal score; 2 p.
Adapted and arranged by Walter L. Rosemont.
El Zapatero (The Shoemaker).
Ms. piano-vocal score; 1 leaf
Adapted and arranged by Walter L. Rosemont.
Invocation to the Sun God: Zuñi Indian mother's prayer, 1950.
Ozalid copy; 2 p.
Adapted and arranged by Walter L. Rosemont.
- BOX-FOLDER 4/12** Sullivan, Marian Dix
For Lo! The Winter is past. Boston, 1856.
Ms. piano-vocal score; 1 p.
The Star-Spangled Banner.
Ms. piano-vocal score; 2 p.
Harmonized and arranged by Thomas Grasso for Dorothea D. Lawrence.
[Both pieces in same binder].
- BOX-FOLDER 4/13** Troyer, Carlos [arr.]
Traditional songs of the Zuñi Indians. Philadelphia: Theo. Presser Co., 1904
Printed piano-vocal scores
Contents:
The Sunrise Call, or Echo song.
Incantation upon a sleeping infant.

MusicSongs

Container

Contents

	Invocation to the Sun God.
	Zuñi lover's wooing.
	Sunset song.
	Hunting song of the Cliff Dwellers.
	Two Zuñian melodies.
BOX-FOLDER 4/14	<i>Villancicos</i> . New York: G. Ricordi & Co., Inc., 1922
	Printed piano-vocal score; 7 p.
	Text by William Alexander Percy.
BOX-FOLDER 4/15	<i>The Lonesome dove</i> .
	Ms. piano-vocal score; 4 p.
	Text by Arnold Sundgaard.