

Franko Goldman Family Papers

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



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Collection Summary

Title: Franko Goldman Family Papers

Span Dates: circa 1886-1972

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1931-1963)

Call No.: ML31.G63

Creator: Goldman, Richard Franko, 1910-1980

Extent: 314 items

Extent: 4 containers

Extent: 2 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English and German

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/2010563515>

Summary: The Franko Goldman Family Papers are primarily related to the professional lives of brothers Sam (1857-1937) and Nahan Franko (1861-1930), their nephew Edwin Franko Goldman (1878-1956), and his son Richard Franko Goldman (1910-1980). Sam and Nahan were violinists and conductors; Edwin was a bandmaster and band composer; and Richard was a bandmaster, composer, educator, and music critic. The materials include correspondence from prominent musicians, composers and conductors; a selection of writings, including a typescript of the unpublished autobiography of Edwin Franko Goldman and several articles by Richard Franko Goldman; photographs of Richard Franko Goldman, the Goldman Band, and various composers and musicians; and six scrapbooks belonging to Sam Franko that contain manuscript notes and commentaries and other ephemera relating to his life and career. In addition, the collection includes an autograph book compiled by Richard Franko Goldman's great-aunt Lybia Franko, which contains seventy-four inscriptions and autographs of prominent musical and theatrical figures.

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

Chávez, Carlos, 1899-1978--Photographs.

Copland, Aaron, 1900-1990--Correspondence.

Cowell, Henry, 1897-1965--Correspondence.

Elman, Mischa, 1891-1967--Photographs.

Franko, Nahan--Correspondence.

Franko, Nahan.

Franko, Nahan. Franko Goldman family papers. 1886-1972.

Franko, Sam, 1857-1937--Correspondence.

Franko, Sam, 1857-1937.

Franko, Sam, 1857-1937.

Franko, Sam, 1857-1937. Franko Goldman family papers. 1886-1972.

Goldman, Edwin Franko, 1878-1956--Correspondence.

Goldman, Edwin Franko, 1878-1956.

Goldman, Edwin Franko, 1878-1956.

Goldman, Edwin Franko, 1878-1956. Franko Goldman family papers. 1886-1972.

Goldman, Richard Franko, 1910-1980--Correspondence.

Goldman, Richard Franko, 1910-1980--Photographs.

Goldman, Richard Franko, 1910-1980.

Goldman, Richard Franko, 1910-1980.

Grainger, Percy, 1882-1961--Correspondence.

Menuhin, Yehudi, 1916-1999--Correspondence.

Menuhin, Yehudi, 1916-1999--Photographs.

Milhaud, Darius, 1892-1974--Correspondence.

Moore, Douglas, 1893-1969--Correspondence.

Moszkowski, Moritz, 1854-1925--Photographs.
Rachmaninoff, Sergei, 1873-1943--Photographs.
Respighi, Ottorino, 1879-1936--Photographs.
Riegger, Wallingford, 1885-1961--Correspondence.
Sowerby, Leo, 1895-1968--Correspondence.
Varèse, Edgard, 1883-1965--Correspondence.

Organizations

Edwin Franko Goldman Band.

Subjects

Band directors--United States.
Composers--United States.
Conductors (Music)--United States.
Violinists--United States.

Form/Genre

Autograph albums.
Correspondence.
Photographic prints.
Scrapbooks.

Provenance

Gift, Richard Franko Goldman, 1975.

Accruals

No further accruals are expected.

Processing History

The Franko Goldman correspondence was originally called the Richard Franko Goldman Collection, processed, and shelved under ML94.G64. In 2010, the correspondence was merged with the other Franko Goldman materials and a finding aid was created for the collection as a whole. Nancy Seeger coded the finding aid for EAD format in 2010.

Other Repositories

Sam Franko donated his music collection and scrapbooks to the New York Public Library. The Michelle Smith Performing Arts Library of the University of Maryland contains the Edwin Franko Goldman Collection in the American Bandmasters Association Research Center. This collection contains program books for the Goldman Band's annual summer concerts, press books, newspaper clippings, and other materials. The Edwin Franko Goldman Autograph Collection is held at the Bentley Historical Library at the University of Michigan. It contains a collection of autographs, letters, photographs, and musical scores of many musical celebrities from Goldman's lifetime and before. The manuscripts and scores used by the Goldman Band are in the music library of the University of Iowa.

Copyright Status

Materials from the Franko Goldman Family Papers 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 Franko Goldman Family Papers are 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], Franko Goldman Family Papers, Music Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Violinist and conductor Sam Franko was born January 20, 1857 in New Orleans and died May 6, 1937 in New York. His parents were German Jews who immigrated to New Orleans where Sam's father, Hamman Franko, worked as a jeweler. When the Union Army occupied New Orleans in 1862, the family fled to Germany where all eleven of the Franko children received musical training. Sam studied violin with several teachers including Joseph Joachim. Upon returning to America, several of the Franko children, Sam, Nahan, Selma, Jeanne, and Rachel caused a sensation by performing as the Franko Family on September 17, 1869 at Steinway Hall in New York. The concert was repeated in several cities, including Washington, D.C. where a young John Philip Sousa heard them and would later recall his admiration of their talent. By 1880 Sam was playing in orchestras in New York under Theodore Thomas and Walter Damrosch. He founded the New York String Quartet in 1881. In the mid-1880s he played violin with several different organizations and from 1891-1897 he played viola for the New York Philharmonic Society. Franko began conducting in 1891. He founded the American Symphony Orchestra in 1894, in order to demonstrate that non-Europeans could be good musicians. Between 1900 and 1914 he conducted a program both at home and abroad entitled 'Orchestral Concerts of Old Music.' Upon returning to America in 1915, he became involved in several endeavors, including teaching the violin, leading the orchestra for the Ballets Russes tour, and conducting his 'Old Music' concerts. He arranged numerous orchestral works and composed works for piano and for violin and piano.

Nahan Franko, also a conductor and violinist, was Sam's brother. He was born July 23, 1861 in New Orleans, Louisiana and died May 7, 1930 in Amityville, New York. He made his debut in 1869 at the age of eight and later toured the world as a child prodigy with Adelina Patti. After playing the violin for leading American and European orchestras, he was made concertmaster of the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra. He held this position from 1883 to 1907. On November 30, 1904, he made his conducting debut with the company in a production of *Le Nozze di Figaro*— making him the first American-born conductor of the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra. Frank started his own orchestra in 1908 and was famous for his open-air concerts in Central Park. He stayed with the orchestra for almost two decades. He died at the age of 68. Pallbearers included Theodore Steinway and John Philip Sousa.

Bandmaster and composer Edwin Franko Goldman was born January 1, 1878 in Louisville, Kentucky and died February 21, 1956 in New York. He was the son of Selma Franko (Sam and Nahan's sister) and her first cousin David Henry Goldman, who was a fine amateur violinist. Beginning at the age eight, Goldman studied cornet and composition (with Dvořák) at the National Conservatory of Music in New York. From 1899 to 1909 he was solo cornetist with the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra. He formed his own band (the New York Military Band, later known as the Goldman Band), in 1911 and was known for championing new and forgotten band music. They played all over New York and were heard regularly on the radio. Goldman composed over 100 marches, including *On the Mall* and *Kentucky March*. In addition, he founded the American Bandmasters Association. His band had a continuous history of performance under his name from 1918 until 1979 and was known for musical proficiency and the breadth of its repertoire. In addition, Goldman was a teacher and writer of the following books: *Foundation to Cornet or Trumpet Playing*, *Band Betterment*, and *The Goldman Band System*.

Edwin Franko Goldman's son, Richard Franko Goldman, was born on December 7, 1910 in New York and died January 19, 1980 in Baltimore. He was a bandmaster, composer, educator, music critic and writer. He graduated from Columbia University in 1930 and studied music privately with Nadia Boulanger, Wallingford Riegger and others. In 1937 he became

associate conductor (under his father) of the Goldman Band; eventually succeeding Edwin as conductor after his death in 1956. During Goldman's tenure with the band, he commissioned and performed from among the foremost American composers and restored many historic band works from the 18th and 19th centuries to the active band repertory. He disbanded the ensemble and retired its name in 1979. Goldman was on the faculty of the Juilliard School from 1947 to 1960. In 1968 he was appointed director of the Peabody Conservatory and in 1969 he became president of the Peabody Institute in Baltimore. He held both positions until his retirement in 1977. As principal New York critic for the *Musical Quarterly* from 1948 to 1968, he was quite influential, particularly in his early recognition of such composers as Henry Cowell, Elliott Carter, and Riegger. Goldman composed vocal and chamber music, one orchestral work, and several works for band. He received numerous honors, including the Juilliard Music Foundation award (1955) and the Alice M. Ditson Award (1961).

Scope and Content Note

The Franko Goldman Family Papers are chiefly related to the professional lives of brothers Sam and Nahan Franko, their nephew Edwin Franko Goldman and his son Richard Franko Goldman. The correspondence series is the largest portion of the collection and includes letters to and from Percy Grainger, Henry Cowell, including several letters he wrote from San Quentin, Wallingford Riegger, Yehudi Menuhin, Aaron Copland, Darius Milhaud, Douglas Moore, Leo Sowerby, and Edgard Varèse. The writings series includes a typescript of the unpublished autobiography of Edwin Franko Goldman, two holograph manuscripts written by Edwin on building band programs and starting a band school, and several articles by Richard Franko Goldman. The photographs series contains photographs of Richard Franko Goldman, the Goldman Band, and various composers and musicians. Many in this latter category are inscribed to members of the Franko Goldman family and include the following individuals: Sergei Rachmaninoff, Moritz Moszkowski, Mischa Elman, Ottorino Respighi, Yehudi Menuhin, and Carlos Chávez. The scrapbook series contains six scrapbooks belonging to Sam Franko that contain manuscript notes and commentaries, programs, clippings, letters, photographs and other ephemera relating to his life and career. The autograph book is a velvet-coated album compiled by Richard Franko Goldman's great-aunt Lybia Franko, and contains seventy-four inscriptions and autographs of prominent musical and theatrical figures.

Organization of the Franko Goldman Family Papers

The collection is organized in five series:

- [Correspondence, 1902-1967](#)
- [Writings, 1932-1972](#)
- [Photographs, 1887-circa 1950](#)
- [Scrapbooks, 1902-1937](#)
- [Autograph Book, 1886-1900](#)

Description of Series

Container	Series
BOX 1	<u>Correspondence, 1902-1967</u>
BOX 2	<u>Writings, 1932-1972</u>
BOX 2	<u>Photographs, 1887-circa 1950</u>
BOX 3-4	<u>Scrapbooks, 1902-1937</u> Six scrapbooks, formerly belonging to Sam Franko, that contain manuscript notes and commentaries, programs, clippings, letters, photographs and other ephemera related to his life and career.
BOX 4	<u>Autograph Book, 1886-1900</u> A velvet-coated album compiled by Richard Franko Goldman's great-aunt Lybia Franko, which contains seventy-four inscriptions and autographs of prominent musical and theatrical figures.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	Correspondence, 1902-1967
BOX-FOLDER 1/1	Bořkovec, Pavel, 1948-1949
BOX-FOLDER 1/2	Conrad, Heinrich, 1902?
BOX-FOLDER 1/3	Copland, Aaron, 1940-1946, 1953, 1961-1971
BOX-FOLDER 1/4-6	Cowell, Henry, 1938-1965 and undated
BOX-FOLDER 1/7	Dallapiccola, Luigi, 1959
BOX-FOLDER 1/8	Damrosch, Walter, 1933, 1944
BOX-FOLDER 1/9	Falk, Richard, 1939
BOX-FOLDER 1/10	Franko, Nahan, 1902
BOX-FOLDER 1/11	Golschmann, Vladimir, 1934
BOX-FOLDER 1/12	Gould, Morton, 1956
BOX-FOLDER 1/13-19	Grainger, Percy, 1931-1960
BOX-FOLDER 1/20	Hadley, Henry, 1931
BOX-FOLDER 1/21	Herbert, Victor, 1920
BOX-FOLDER 1/22	Holst, Gustav, undated
BOX-FOLDER 1/23	Kindler, Hans, 1933
BOX-FOLDER 1/24	Kreisler, Fritz, 1905, 1915
BOX-FOLDER 1/25	McArthur, Edwin D., 1941
BOX-FOLDER 1/26	Mason, Daniel Gregory, 1924
BOX-FOLDER 1/27	Menuhin, Yehudi, 1929
BOX-FOLDER 1/28	Milhaud, Darius, undated
BOX-FOLDER 1/29	Moore, Douglas, 1961
BOX-FOLDER 1/30	Moszkowski, Moritz, undated
BOX-FOLDER 1/31	Paur, Emil, undated
BOX-FOLDER 1/32	Riegger, Wallingford, 1948-1956
BOX-FOLDER 1/33	Rodzinski, Artur, 1934
BOX-FOLDER 1/34	Rudhyar, Dane, undated
BOX-FOLDER 1/35	Scott, Cyril, 1958
BOX-FOLDER 1/36	Sevitzky, Fabien, undated
BOX-FOLDER 1/37	Sousa, John Philip, 1929
BOX-FOLDER 1/38	Sowerby, Leo, 1942
BOX-FOLDER 1/39	Stoessel, Albert, 1922, 1939
BOX-FOLDER 1/40	Varèse, Edgar, 1948-1952
BOX-FOLDER 1/41	Volpe, Arnold, 1924
BOX-FOLDER 1/42	Unidentified
BOX 2	Writings, 1932-1972
	Goldman, Edwin Franko
BOX-FOLDER 2/1-5	<i>Facing the music</i> , undated Typescript of unpublished autobiography; 290 p.

Writings, 1932-1972

Container	Contents
	Contains holograph notes by the author.
BOX-FOLDER 2/9	Untitled, undated Holograph manuscript; 12 p. Ideas for band clinics and a band school.
BOX-FOLDER 2/1	Untitled, undated Holograph manuscript; 15 p. Ideas for starting a band school.
BOX-FOLDER 2/2	Goldman, Richard Franko <i>Athaliah</i> , libretto for an opera in two parts, 1963-1964 Typescript; 29 p. Laid in: program and review.
BOX-FOLDER 2/8	"History, information, and art," 1966 Typescript; 35 p.
BOX-FOLDER 2/10	"Jacques Barzun," 1972 Reprinted from <i>The American Scholar</i> , vol. 42, no. 1, Winter 1972-1973.
BOX-FOLDER 2/11	"L&M XX," 1954-1955 Administrative class notes.
BOX-FOLDER 2/12	"Portugal onward: an exchange," 1962 Exchange of letters by Richard Franko Goldman and others in <i>Columbia University Forum</i> , Summer, 1962.
BOX-FOLDER 2/13	"The seven deadly arts," 1963 Typescript; 28 p.
BOX-FOLDER 2/15	Miscellany Poetry, 1932-1970 Contains translations by Richard Franko Goldman.
BOX 2	Photographs, 1887-circa 1950
BOX-FOLDER 2/15	Richard Franko Goldman and the Goldman Band 4 photographs
BOX-FOLDER 2/16	Miscellaneous composers and musicians 9 photographs
BOX 3-4	Scrapbooks, 1902-1937 Six scrapbooks, formerly belonging to Sam Franko, that contain manuscript notes and commentaries, programs, clippings, letters, photographs and other ephemera related to his life and career.
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