

Charles Tournemire Collection

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



Music Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
1998

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

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Processed by the Music Division of the Library of Congress

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Music Division, 2011
Revised 2020 April

Collection Summary

Title: Charles Tournemire Collection

Inclusive Dates: circa 1868-1962

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1900-1936)

Call No.: ML31.T68

Creator: Tournemire, Charles, 1870-1939

Extent: 67 items

Extent: 9 containers

Extent: 5 linear feet

Language: Collection material primarily in French

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/2006568223>

Summary: Charles Tournemire was a French composer, organist, and teacher. The collection chiefly consists of holograph, manuscript and printed music by Tournemire and other composers. Also included are several libretti, one scrapbook, and other annotated or inscribed materials.

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

Frescobaldi, Girolamo, 1583-1643. Fiori musicali. Messa degli Apostoli. Toccata per l'Elevazione; arranged.

Tournemire, Charles, 1870-1939.

Tournemire, Charles, 1870-1939.

Tournemire, Charles, 1870-1939. Sang de la sirène.

Tournemire, Charles, 1870-1939. Works. Selections.

Verlaine, Paul, 1844-1896.

Walther, Johann Jacob, 1650-1717. Hortulus chelicus. No. 6; arranged.

Subjects

Composers--France.

Operas--Excerpts--Parts.

Operas--Librettos.

Operas--Vocal scores with piano.

Organ music.

Organists--France.

Piano music.

Songs (Medium voice) with piano.

Symphonies (Piano, 4 hands), Arranged.

Form/Genre

Albums (Books)

Arrangements (Music)

Art music.

Librettos.

Operas.

Parts (Music)

Poetry.

Scores.

Songs.

Suites.

Symphonies.

Toccatas.

Vocal scores.

Provenance

Gift of Alice Tournemire in 1998

Accruals

No further accruals are expected.

Processing History

The Charles Tournemire Collection was processed in 1998. Nancy Seeger coded the finding aid for EAD format in 2011.

Transfers

Two books from the collection that bear Tournemire's signature have been transferred to the Library of Congress general collections. They are John Ruskin's *La bible d'amiens* and Edouard Schuré's *L'évolution divine du sphinx au Christ*.

Copyright Status

Materials from the Charles Tournemire 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 Charles Tournemire 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], Charles Tournemire Collection, Music Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Charles Tournemire, a composer, organist, and teacher, was born in Bordeaux, France, on January 22, 1870. He was appointed organist of the church of St. Pierre in Bordeaux at the age of eleven. After studying at the Bordeaux Conservatoire, he transferred to the Paris Conservatoire at the age of sixteen, where he studied the piano with Bériot and harmony with Taudou. Around 1889, he joined César Franck's organ class and in 1891 Tournemire won first prize for organ in Charles-Marie Widor's class. After working briefly at Saint-Nicolas-du-Chardonnet, he succeeded Gabriel Pierné as organist at the Basilique Sainte Clotilde, a post he held for the rest of his life. Between 1900 and 1904 he composed his first five symphonies. He achieved his first major recognition as a composer when he won the Concours musicale de la ville de Paris for his choral work *Le sang de la sirène* in 1904.

In 1908, Tournemire married the sister of the wife of Josephin "Sâr" Péladan, a French mystic who was the founder of the Ordre de Rose-Croix in Paris. Tournemire began immersing himself in nineteenth century French mystical writers,

such as Hello, Huysmans, and Péladan. Beginning in the late 1920s, Tournemire increasingly withdrew from the musical establishment becoming heavily involved with not only mystical writers, but medieval architecture and early Christian spirituality.

Tournemire composed three more symphonies after the First World War, none of which were performed in his lifetime. In 1919, he became professor of chamber music at the Paris Conservatoire where he also taught organ improvisation. Tournemire was an influential teacher whose students included Maurice Duruflé, Jean Langlais, and Daniel Lesur, among others.

After 1921, many of his best compositions were written for the church. He wrote the immense *L'orgue mystique* (1927-1932) which was a cycle of fifty-one organ suites, one for every Sunday of the church year, each based on the appropriate plainsong. In 1931, Tournemire recorded five organ improvisations at Sainte Clotilde. These were later transcribed from the phonograph recordings by Maurice Duruflé and are among his best known works. His last composition was the opera *Il poverello di Assisi* (1937-1938) based on a text by "Sâr" Péladan.

The precise cause and date of his death are uncertain. He died at Arcachon around November 4, 1939.

Scope and Content Note

Materials in the Charles Tournemire Collection date from about 1868 to 1962, with the majority of them being from 1900 to 1936. These primarily consist of manuscript and printed scores, a small amount of libretti, and a handful of other annotated or inscribed printed materials. [Music](#) contains both original compositions and arrangements by Tournemire and annotated printed scores of works by other composers. The Tournemire materials contain eight holographs, including an arrangement for piano, four hands of his *First symphony* by Raoul Moreau, three manuscripts, and eight printed scores. Included among these are Tournemire's arrangement of the sixth suite from Johann Jakob Walther's *Hortulus chelicus* and his transcription of Frescobaldi's *Toccata per l'elevazione*. The collection also contains printed scores by other composers, many of them annotated, including works from the *Ecole classique de l'Orgue* series, edited by Alexandre Guilmant.

[Libretti](#) consists of two lengthy manuscripts for works by Tournemire and several lyric sheets for the poem *Sagesse* by Paul Verlaine. The final series, [Miscellany](#), features a scrapbook of articles, letters, and other materials for his prize-winning composition, *Le sang de la sirène*, and a variety of annotated or inscribed printed items.

Arrangement

The Charles Tournemire Collection is organized in three series:

- [Music, circa 1868-1962](#)
- [Libretti](#)
- [Miscellany, 1899-1928](#)

Description of Series

Container	Series
BOX 1-7	<u>Music, circa 1868-1962</u>
BOX 1-2, 4-6	<u>Music by Charles Tournemire, 1899-1962</u> Original compositions, including manuscripts and printed scores, and arrangements and transcriptions. Some works listed below include references to corresponding entries in Joël-Marie Fauquet's <i>Catalogue de l'œuvre de Charles Tournemire</i> . Paris: Éditions Modulaires Européennes, 1979. Arranged by opus number.
BOX 1, 3, 7	<u>Music by Other Composers, circa 1868-1938</u> Printed scores, including several from the series <i>Ecole classique de l'Orgue</i> . Arranged alphabetically by composer or title.
BOX 1, 8	<u>Libretti</u> Manuscript libretti and lyric sheets for compositions by Tournemire. Arranged by opus number.
BOX 1, 8-9	<u>Miscellany, 1899-1928</u> One scrapbook about Tournemire's <i>Le sang de la sirène</i> (1904) and several annotated or inscribed printed items. Arranged by subject.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1-7	Music, circa 1868-1962
BOX 1-2, 4-6	Music by Charles Tournemire, 1899-1962 Original compositions, including manuscripts and printed scores, and arrangements and transcriptions. Some works listed below include references to corresponding entries in Joël-Marie Fauquet's <i>Catalogue de l'œuvre de Charles Tournemire</i> . Paris: Éditions Modulaires Européennes, 1979. Arranged by opus number. Original Compositions
BOX-FOLDER 2/11	Pièce symphonique pour grand orgue: op. 16. Printed score Paris: Schola Cantorum, [1899] <i>Note: Répertoire moderne de musique vocale et d'orgue</i> , no. 17
BOX-FOLDER 2/1	1re symphonie romantique: op. 18 bis Arranged for piano, four hands, by Raoul Moreau Holograph in ink; 86 pages <i>Note: According to Fauquet (page 32), it was unfinished</i>
BOX-FOLDER 2/12	Suite de morceaux pour grand-orgue, op. 19 Printed scores of "Toccata" and "Interludes" Paris : Pérégally & Parvy, 1900 <i>Note: Toccata has annotations</i> <i>Note: Interludes has dedication on title page: "A Madame Juhel-Rénoy"</i>
BOX-FOLDER 2/2	Poème mystique: pour piano, op. 33 Manuscript in ink; 40 pages <i>Note: Dedicated "A madame Charles Tournemire"</i> <i>Note: For information about other dedications, see Fauquet, page 27</i>
BOX-FOLDER 2/13	Sagesse: poème pour chant et piano, op. 34 Printed score Lyon: Janin, 1921
BOX-FOLDER 2/14	Triple choral pour orgue: op. 41 Printed score with annotations Lyon: Janin, 1912
BOX-FOLDER 2/15	Triple choral pour orgue: op. 41 Printed score Paris: Schola Cantorum, Procure générale de musique, [1962] <i>Note: Orgue et Liturgie</i> , no. 54
BOX-FOLDER 4/1	Les dieux sont morts, drame lyrique: op. 42 Holograph fragments for concert performance in ink; 122 pages <i>Note: "1912" at end</i> <i>Note: See Fauquet, page 67</i>
BOX-FOLDER 1/1	Les dieux sont morts: drame lyrique: op. 42 Printed piano-vocal score with annotations (incomplete; title page and end missing) Paris: Choudens, 1921

Music, circa 1868-1962

Container	Contents
BOX-FOLDER 2/3	La légende de Tristan: op. 53 Manuscript vocal part for Iseut in ink; 25 pages
BOX-FOLDER 2/4	La légende de Tristan: op. 53 Holograph [?] vocal part for Tristan in ink (incomplete; 6 pages only) L'orgue mystique: op. 55, 56, 57
BOX-FOLDER 5/1	Cycle de Noël: op. 55 Printed score Paris: Heugel, 1928-1930
BOX 6	Cycle de Paques: op. 56 Printed score Paris: Heugel, 1928-1930
BOX-FOLDER 5/2	Cycle après la Pentacôte: op. 57. I: nos. 26-38 Printed score Paris: Heugel, 1928-1932
BOX-FOLDER 5/3	Cycle après la Pentacôte: op. 57. II: nos. 39-51 Printed score Paris: Heugel, 1934-1936
BOX-FOLDER 2/5	Fantasie symphonique pour orgue: op. 64 Holograph in ink; 18 pages <i>Note:</i> "25 Avril 1934" at end <i>Note:</i> Dedicated to Marcel Dupré <i>Note:</i> See Fauquet, page 43
BOX-FOLDER 2/6	Symphonie-choral d'orgue: op. 69 Holograph in ink; 44 pages <i>Note:</i> "22 Novembre 1935" at end <i>Note:</i> See Fauquet, page 48
BOX-FOLDER 2/7	Symphonie sacrée pour orgue: op. 71 Holograph in ink; 44 pages <i>Note:</i> "15 Février 1936" at end <i>Note:</i> See Fauquet, pages 48-49
BOX-FOLDER 2/16	Suite evocatrice pour grand orgue: op. 74 Printed score with annotations Paris: Bornemann, 1938
BOX-FOLDER 2/8	Deux fresques symphoniques sacrées pour orgue: op. 75 and op. 76 Holograph in ink; 14 + 23 pages <i>Note:</i> "4 Novembre 1938; 22 Février 1939" at end <i>Note:</i> See Fauquet, pages 49-50
	Arrangements and Transcriptions
BOX-FOLDER 2/9	Walther, Johann Jakob. 6e suite de l'Hortulus chelicus: op. 13 Manuscript violin part in ink in the hand of Tournemire; [3] pages Printed violin part (incomplete; "Allemande" and "Gigue" only) <i>Note:</i> The movements are not the same as the ones in the score (see Fauquet, page 65)
BOX-FOLDER 2/10	Frescobaldi, Girolamo. Toccata per l'elevazione Manuscript score in ink; [2] pages <i>Note:</i> Transcribed by Tournemire?
BOX 1, 3, 7	Music by Other Composers, circa 1868-1938 Printed scores, including several from the series <i>Ecole classique de l'Orgue</i> . Arranged alphabetically by composer or title.

Music, circa 1868-1962

Container	Contents
BOX-FOLDER 3/1	Bach, Johann Sebastian. Chorals-Préludes, 1er livre. Paris: Heugel, [19--] <i>Note:</i> Annotations on pages 14 and 30-31
BOX-FOLDER 3/2	Bach, Johann Sebastian. Chorals-Préludes, 4er livre. Paris: Heugel, [19--] <i>Note:</i> Annotations on pages 58-59
BOX-FOLDER 3/3	Bach, Johann Sebastian. Chorals-Préludes, 5e livre. Paris: Heugel, [19--] <i>Note:</i> Annotations on pages 4-5, 41, and 64
BOX-FOLDER 7/11	Bruhns, Nicolas. Choral Nun komm, der heiden Heiland. Paris: Durand, circa 1900 <i>Note:</i> <i>Ecole classique de l'orgue/A. Guilmant</i> ; no. 3
BOX-FOLDER 7/12	Buxtehude, Dietrich. Fugue en Ut. Paris: Durand, circa 1900 <i>Note:</i> Annotations <i>Note:</i> <i>Ecole classique de l'orgue/A. Guilmant</i> ; no.22
BOX-FOLDER 7/13	Buxtehude, Dietrich. Prélude et Fugue en La. Paris: Durand, circa 1900 <i>Note:</i> Annotations <i>Note:</i> <i>Ecole classique de l'orgue/A. Guilmant</i> ; no.2
BOX-FOLDER 3/4	Buxtehude, Dietrich. Werke für orgel, v. 1. Leipzig: Breitkopf & Härtel, 1903-1904 <i>Note:</i> Annotations <i>Note:</i> Title page and introduction are missing
BOX-FOLDER 3/5	Buxtehude, Dietrich. Werke für orgel, v. 2. Leipzig: Breitkopf & Härtel, 1903-1904 <i>Note:</i> Annotations
BOX-FOLDER 1/4	Cabanilles, Iohannis. Opera omnia, vol. 1. Barcelona: Biblioteca de Catalunya, 1927 <i>Note:</i> Annotations mainly on pages 41-43 <i>Note:</i> Inscribed from editor Hygini Anglès to Tournemire, 1930
BOX-FOLDER 1/5	Cabanilles, Iohannis. Opera omnia, vol. 2. Barcelona: Institut d'estudis Catalans, Biblioteca de Catalunya, 1933 <i>Note:</i> Inscribed from editor Hygini Anglès to Tournemire, 1933
BOX-FOLDER 1/6	Cabanilles, Iohannis. Opera omnia, vol. 3. Barcelona: Institut d'estudis Catalans, Biblioteca de Catalunya, 1936
BOX-FOLDER 7/20	Concert historique d'orgue / revus par Alexandre Guilmant. Paris: Durand, 1889? <i>Note:</i> Annotations
BOX-FOLDER 3/6	Franck, Cèsar. 6 pièces d'orgue. Paris: Durand, 1868-1890? <i>Note:</i> Pages 79-90 are missing <i>Note:</i> Annotations on pages 57-67
BOX-FOLDER 7/1	Frescobaldi, Girolamo. Fiori musicali. Paris: Senart, 1922
BOX-FOLDER 7/14	Frescobaldi, Girolamo. Fugue en Sol mineur. Paris: Durand, circa 1900 <i>Note:</i> Annotations <i>Note:</i> <i>Ecole classique de l'orgue/A. Guilmant</i> ; no.70
BOX-FOLDER 7/2	Frescobaldi, Girolamo. Sammlung von Orgelsätzen. Leipzig: Breikopf & Härtel, 1889?
BOX-FOLDER 7/3	Frescobaldi, Girolamo. Toccata XII. Paris: Hérelle, [19--]
BOX-FOLDER 7/4	Griguy, Nicolas de. Oeuvres d'orgue. London: Schott, 1904 <i>Note:</i> Inscribed from editor Alexandre Guilmant to Tournemire, 1906
BOX-FOLDER 7/15	Krebs, Johann Ludwig. Fugue en Sol. Paris: Durand, circa 1900 <i>Note:</i> Annotations <i>Note:</i> <i>Ecole classique de l'orgue/A. Guilmant</i> ; no.15
BOX-FOLDER 7/5	Liszt, Franz. Zwölf Kirchen-Chor-Gesänge mit Orgelbegleitung; no. 12: Pro Papa: Dominus conservet eum. Leipzig: C. F. Kahnt, [189-?]
BOX-FOLDER 7/6	Mathey, Paul. Ante et post praedicationem, op.2. Zwei Stücke für Orgel und Violine (ohne Obligatespedal), 2 v. Zürich ; Leipzig : Gebrüder Hug, 1938? <i>Note:</i> Inscribed from Mathey to Tournemire, 1938

Music, circa 1868-1962

Container	Contents
BOX-FOLDER 7/7	Matthews, Edmund. Chorale prelude on "St. Mary: for the organ. London: Novello, 1933 <i>Note:</i> Inscribed from Matthews to Tournemire, 1936
BOX-FOLDER 7/8	Matthews, Edmund. Interlude on "Strength and Stay" for the organ. London: Novello, 1933 <i>Note:</i> Inscribed from Matthews to Tournemire, 1936
BOX-FOLDER 7/16	Murschhauser, F. X. A. Praeambulum du 3e ton, Arpeggiata, Fuga. Paris: Durand, circa 1900 <i>Note:</i> <i>Ecole classique de l'orgue/A. Guilmant</i> ; no.16
BOX-FOLDER 7/9	Ropartz, Joseph Guy. Intermède. Paris: Schola Cantorum, [189-?] <i>Note:</i> <i>Répertoire moderne de musique vocale et d'orgue</i> , no. 4 bis
BOX-FOLDER 7/10	Ropartz, Joseph Guy. Sur un thème Breton. Paris: Schola Cantorum, 1900 <i>Note:</i> Annotations
BOX-FOLDER 7/17	Scheidt, Samuel. Cantilena anglica fortunae. Paris: Durand, circa 1900 <i>Note:</i> Annotations <i>Note:</i> <i>Ecole classique de l'orgue/A. Guilmant</i> ; no.14
BOX-FOLDER 7/18	Sweelinck, Jan Pieters. Fantasie en Ré mineur. Paris: Durand, circa 1900 <i>Note:</i> Annotations <i>Note:</i> <i>Ecole classique de l'orgue/A. Guilmant</i> ; no.6
BOX-FOLDER 7/19	Walther, Johann Gottfried. Prélude et fugue en la majeur. Paris: Durand, circa 1900 <i>Note:</i> Title page missing <i>Note:</i> Annotations <i>Note:</i> <i>Ecole classique de l'orgue/A. Guilmant</i> ; no.4
BOX-FOLDER 7/21	Unidentified. Compositions for organ pages 105-112. <i>Note:</i> Plate number: A. G. 104 <i>Note:</i> Annotations
BOX 1, 8	Libretti Manuscript libretti and lyric sheets for compositions by Tournemire. Arranged by opus number.
BOX-FOLDER 8/3	Nittetis: tragédie lyrique en 3 actes et 7 tableaux, op. 30. Acte I Holograph in ink; approximately 120 pages
BOX-FOLDER 8/4	Nittetis: tragédie lyrique en 3 actes et 7 tableaux, op. 30. Acte II Holograph in ink; approximately 120 pages
BOX-FOLDER 8/5	Nittetis: tragédie lyrique en 3 actes et 7 tableaux, op. 30. Acte III Holograph in ink; approximately 120 pages
BOX-FOLDER 1/3	Sagesse: op. 34 Poem by Paul Verlaine Manuscript lyric sheets in ink; [1], 4 leaves
BOX-FOLDER 1/2	Trilogie Faust - Don Quichotte - Saint François d'Assise: op. 52 Holograph in ink; 16 + 25 + 14 leaves
BOX 1, 8-9	Miscellany, 1899-1928 One scrapbook about Tournemire's <i>Le sang de la sirène</i> (1904) and several annotated or inscribed printed items. Arranged by subject.
BOX-FOLDER 1/7	Le sang de la sirène, 1904, 1909 Scrapbook; 200 pages

Miscellany, 1899-1928

Container

Contents

Laid in: Letter from 1909 (page 83); printed report on the competition Concours musicale de la ville de Paris, 1900-1903, Paris 1904

Note: Articles on Tournemire's *Le sang de la sirène*, op. 27, 1904; pages 1-29

Note: Letters of congratulations, business cards, postcards, 1904 and 1909; pages 30-99

Printed materials, 1899-1928

BOX-FOLDER 9/3

Bédier, Joseph. *Le roman de Tristan et Iseut*. Paris: L'Édition d'Art, 1914

Note: "Exemplaire imprimé pour Charles Tournemire" at end

BOX-FOLDER 8/2

Cahiers rhodaniens. January 1928

Note: Annotations

Note: Inscribed from Albert Pauphilet to Tournemire

BOX-FOLDER 8/1

Emmerich, Anne-Catherine. *La douloureuse passion de Notre-seigneur Jésus-Christ*. Tournai: Casterman, [18--]

Note: Annotations

BOX-FOLDER 9/2

Pauphilet, Albert. *La quête du Saint Graal*. Paris: Les éditions de la sirène, 1923

Note: Annotations

BOX-FOLDER 9/3

Theocritus. *Œuvres complètes de Théocrite*. Paris: Garnier frères, 1899

Note: Annotations