Vivian Fine Music Manuscripts

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

Music Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2011

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

Catalog Record: https://lccn.loc.gov/2006560739

Additional search options available at: https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.music/eadmus.mu012001

Processed by the Music Division of the Library of Congress
Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Music Division, 2011
Revised 2021 October
Collection Summary
Title: Vivian Fine Music Manuscripts
Span Dates: 1927-2004
Bulk Dates: (bulk 1929-1994)
Call No.: ML31.F52
Creator: Fine, Vivian, 1913-2000
Extent: approximately 1,200 items
Extent: 16 containers
Extent: 8.0 linear feet
Language: Collection material in English
Location: Music Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
LC Catalog record: https://lccn.loc.gov/2006560739
Summary: Vivian Fine was an American composer, pianist, and educator. The collection primarily consists of Fine's holograph manuscript scores, sketches, and parts for works composed between 1929 and 1993. In addition, the collection contains a small amount of correspondence, programs, and clippings.

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
Fine, Vivian, 1913-2000--Correspondence.
Seeger, Ruth Crawford, 1901-1953--Correspondence.

Subjects
Music--Manuscripts.
Women composers--United States.
Women music teachers--United States.

Titles
Vivian Fine collection, 1927-2004

Form/Genre
Art music.
Autographs (Manuscripts)
Ballets (Music)
Chamber music.
Clippings (Information artifacts)
Correspondence.
Musical sketches.
Operas.
Parts (Music)
Programs (Documents)
Scores.

Provenance
Accruals

No further accruals are expected.

Processing History

The Vivian Fine Music Manuscripts were processed by Thomas Barrick in 2011. Thomas Barrick coded the finding aid for EAD format in 2011.

Transfers

Sound recordings have been transferred to the Library of Congress Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division where they are identified as part of the Vivian Fine Collection (MAVIS collection no. 8736). An inventory of these recordings is available in the Library of Congress Music Division collection file.

Related Material

The Library of Congress Music Division holds several collections that contain materials, such as correspondence and music, relating to Fine and her work. They are the Aaron Copland Collection; Nicolas Slonimsky Collection; Jacobo Ficher Collection; Herman Langinger Music Publishing Files; Artur Rodzinski Collection; and the Martha Graham Collection. Fine's holograph score for Poetic Fires (ML30.3c.F554 no. 1 <case>) is located in the Serge Koussevitzky Music Foundation Collection and Ode to Henry Purcell (ML29c.F528 no. 1 <case>) is located in the Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge Foundation Collection.

Copyright Status

Materials from the Vivian Fine Music Manuscripts 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 Vivian Fine Music Manuscripts 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], Vivian Fine Music Manuscripts, Music Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1913, Sept. 28</td>
<td>Born, Chicago, to Russian-Jewish immigrants Rose and David Fine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1918</td>
<td>Began piano studies with mother</td>
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<tr>
<td>1924-1926</td>
<td>Became youngest student ever to receive a scholarship from the Chicago Musical College</td>
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<tr>
<td>1926</td>
<td>Studied piano with Djane Lavoie-Herz, former student of Scriabin</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Composed first work, Lullaby, for piano</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1926-1928  Studied harmony and composition with Ruth Crawford and counterpoint with Adolf Weidig at American Conservatory in Chicago
Met Henry Cowell, Dane Rudhyar, and Imre Weisshauss, who became early supporters
1929  Solo for Oboe premiered at Carnegie Hall
1931  Moved to New York City
Dance accompanist, Gluck-Sandor Dance Theater and other studios
1932  Became member of Aaron Copland's Young Composers' Group
Premiere of Four Polyphonic Pieces for Piano at the First Yaddo Festival
1934-1942  Studied composition with Roger Sessions
1935  Married sculptor Benjamin Karp
1937  Helped found The American Composers' Alliance
1937-1945  Studied piano with Abby Whiteside
1942  Daughter Margaret born
1943  Studied orchestration with George Szell
1945-1948  Faculty member, piano department, New York University, New York, N.Y.
1948  Moved to New Paltz, New York
Adjunct faculty member, literature and materials, Juilliard School, New York, N.Y.
Daughter Nina born
1953-1960  Artistic director, Rothschild Foundation
1980  Elected to the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters
2000, Mar. 20  Died, Bennington, Vermont

Scope and Content Note
The Vivian Fine Music Manuscripts chiefly consist of holograph scores, sketches, and parts for works written between 1929 and 1993. Fine's compositions spanned a variety of musical genres: solo instrumental, chamber, orchestral, as well as accompanied vocal and choral pieces. Notable compositions include Capriccio for Oboe and String Trio (1946), The Great Wall of China (1946), Fine's collaboration with Martha Graham, Alcestis (1960), and chamber operas The Women in the Garden (1978) and Memoirs of Uliana Rooney (1994). A small quantity of correspondence, programs, and clippings supplement the music manuscripts. The correspondence captures Fine's years of compositional growth while studying with Ruth Crawford (Seeger) and making acquaintances with figures such as Henry Cowell, George Antheil, Dane Rudhyar, and Aaron Copland.

Organization of the Vivian Fine Music Manuscripts
The Vivian Fine Music Manuscripts are organized in three series:
- Music, 1929-1993
- Correspondence, 1929-1933
- Miscellany, 1927-2004
## Description of Series

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Series</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BOX 1-15</td>
<td><strong>Music, 1929-1993</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 16</td>
<td><strong>Correspondence, 1929-1933</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 16</td>
<td><strong>Miscellany, 1927-2004</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Concert programs documenting premieres and other performances, clippings regarding *Alcestis*, and one personal writing.
## Container List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Contents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BOX 1-15</td>
<td><strong>Music, 1929-1993</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 1/1</td>
<td>Aegean suite (piano) 1985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 1/2</td>
<td>After the tradition (orchestra) 1987</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 13/1-2</td>
<td>Alcestis (orchestra) 1960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 13/3</td>
<td>Asphodel (soprano, flute, clarinet, violin, viola, cello, percussion, piano) 1988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 1/3</td>
<td>Birthday waltz (viola, piano) 1989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 1/4</td>
<td>Canciones y danzas (guitar, flute, cello) 1991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 1/5</td>
<td>Cantata for solo voice and six instruments (tenor, oboe, strings, piano) 1961</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 1/6</td>
<td>Canticles for Jerusalem (mezzo-soprano, piano) 1983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 1/7</td>
<td>Canticles from the other side of the river (violin, cello, flute, clarinet, percussion, piano) 1993</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 1/8</td>
<td>Capriccio for oboe and strings 1946</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 1/9</td>
<td>Chaconne (piano) 1947</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 1/10</td>
<td>Chamber concerto for cello and six instruments (cello, oboe, strings, piano) 1966</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 1/11</td>
<td>Concertante for piano and orchestra 1944-1943</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 2/1</td>
<td>Concertino for piano and percussion ensemble 1965</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 2/2</td>
<td>Concerto for piano, strings, and percussion (one performer) 1972</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 2/3</td>
<td>The confession: from Phèdre (voice, flute, piano, string trio) 1963</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 2/4</td>
<td>Dance suite for orchestra 1938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Container</td>
<td>Contents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>----------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **see also Opus 51. March** | Score  
Laid in: note regarding ASCAP, 1967 |
| **BOX-FOLDER 2/5** | Dancing winds (wind quartet) 1987  
**see also Emily's images**  
Score, parts |
| **BOX-FOLDER 2/6** | Discourse of goatherds (bass trombone) 1988  
Score, sketch, part |
| **BOX-FOLDER 13/4** | Divertimento (woodwinds, trumpet, percussion, piano) 1933  
Score, parts |
| **BOX-FOLDER 2/7** | Divertimento for cello and percussion 1951  
Score |
| **BOX-FOLDER 2/8** | Dollars and cents 1942  
**Scores**  
Titles: Guns and tanks will keep us free; Here is your dinner; I believe everything they say; Inflation song; You've got to get wise |
| **BOX-FOLDER 2/9** | Double variations for piano solo 1982  
Score |
| **BOX-FOLDER 2/10, 13/5** | Drama for orchestra (after paintings by Edvard Munch) 1982  
**Scores**, sketches/notes, parts |
| **BOX-FOLDER 3/1** | Dreamscape (flutes, cello, percussion, piano) 1964  
Sketches, parts |
| **BOX-FOLDER 3/2** | Duo for 3 timpani and piano 1965  
Score |
| **BOX-FOLDER 7/7** | Eclogue (horn) 1978  
**see also Quartet for brass**  
Score  
Extracted from third movement of Quartet for brass |
| **BOX-FOLDER 13/6** | L'école des hautes études (The school of higher studies) (clarinet, piano, bass, percussion) 1988  
Parts |
| **BOX-FOLDER 3/3** | Eleven transformations for four cellos and tape 1970  
Score |
| **BOX-FOLDER 3/4** | Elizabeth's aria for projected opera 1980  
Score |
| **BOX-FOLDER 3/5** | Emily's images (flute, piano) 1987  
Score, sketches  
Titles are from poems by Emily Dickinson: A spider sewed at night; A clock stopped - not the mantel's; Exultation is the going; The robin is a Gabriel; After great pain, a formal feeling comes; The leaves like women interchange; A day! Help! Help! another day  
Other sketches in notebook: Tomorrow and tomorrow; Lullaby; Sheila's song; Inscriptions; Whitman songs 3; Harpsichord; Cello sonata; Dancing winds; Pizzicato fanfare |
| **BOX-FOLDER 3/6** | Epitaph upon the death of Sir Albert Morton's wife (voice, piano) 1941  
Words by Sir Henry Wotton  
Score |
| **BOX-FOLDER 3/7** | Fanfare (2 trumpets, 2 trombones, timpani) 1971  
Score, parts |
| **BOX-FOLDER 3/8** | Fantasy for cello and piano 1962  
Scores, sketches |
Music, 1929-1993

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Contents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| BOX-FOLDER 3/9 | Five preludes (piano) 1939-1941  
Scores |
| BOX-FOLDER 3/10 | Five Victorian songs (soprano, flute, clarinet, viola, cello) 1988  
Score  
Titles: Aloof (words by Christina Rossetti); Cadmus and Harmonia (words by Matthew Arnold); Spring and fall (words by Gerard Manley Hopkins); Invictus (words by William E. Henley); Sonnet from the Portuguese (words by Elizabeth Barrett Browning) |
| BOX-FOLDER 3/11 | The flicker (flute or piano) 1973  
Score, sketches |
| BOX-FOLDER 3/12 | A flower given to my daughter (low voice, violin, viola, cello) 1935  
Words by James Joyce  
Score  
Unidentified sketches on verso of score  
At end: notes regarding "Mr. [Roger] Sessions" analysis |
| BOX-FOLDER 3/13 | For a bust of Eric Satie - a short mass 1979  
Words by Georges Guy  
Score, sketches, parts, lyric sheets |
| BOX-FOLDER 3/14 | For Aaron, an offering (4 cellos) 1972  
Score |
| BOX-FOLDER 3/15 | Four Elizabethan songs (voice, piano) 1938-1941  
see also Songs and arias  
Scores  
Titles: The bargain (words by Sir Philip Sidney); Daybreak (words by John Donne); Dirge (words by William Shakespeare); Spring's welcome (words by John Lyly)  
"Dirge" has same melody as "Elizabethan song" from Songs and arias |
| BOX-FOLDER 3/16 | Four lyric pieces for voice and piano 1933-1939  
Scores  
Score for The riddle is missing  
Titles: A flower given to my daughter (words by James Joyce); Adios Bilbadito (anonymous); Sonnet (words by John Keats); The riddle |
| BOX-FOLDER 4/1 | Four piano pieces 1966  
Scores |
| BOX-FOLDER 4/2 | Four pieces for two flutes 1930  
Score, parts |
| BOX-FOLDER 4/3 | Four polyphonic piano pieces 1931-1932  
Scores |
| BOX-FOLDER 4/4 | Four songs (voice, strings) 1933  
Score, lyric sheets  
Titles: The lover in winter plaineth for the spring (anonymous); Comfort to a youth that had lost his love (words by Robert Herrick); She weeps over Rahoon (words by James Joyce); Tilly (words by James Joyce)  
Laid in: arrangement of "She weeps over Rahoon" for wind quintet, 1987 |
| BOX-FOLDER 4/5 | The garden of live flowers (soprano, tenor, baritone, piano) 1988  
Words by Lewis Carroll  
Score |
| BOX-FOLDER 4/6 | Gertrude and Virginia: a dialogue between Gertrude Stein and Virginia Woolf, using their own words (soprano, mezzo-soprano, clarinet, percussion, double bass, piano) 1981  
Score, clarinet and double bass parts |

Vivian Fine Music Manuscripts
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Contents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| BOX-FOLDER 4/7 | The Great Wall of China (soprano, flute, cello, piano) 1947  
Words by Franz Kafka  
Score, lyric sheets |
| BOX-FOLDER 4/8 | A guide to the life expectancy of a rose (soprano, tenor, flute, violin, clarinet, cello, harp) 1956  
Words by S.R. Tilley  
Score, parts, notes/clipping |
| BOX-FOLDER 4/9 | The human mind: Gertrude Stein's aria from the chamber opera "The women in the garden" 1977 (voice, piano) 1987  
see also *The women in the garden*  
Score |
| BOX-FOLDER 4/10 | Hymns (2 pianos, horn, cello) 1991  
Score  
Titles: Aeolus, god of the winds; Toward a distant shore |
| BOX-FOLDER 4/11 | I have not told my garden yet (voice, piano) 1933  
Words by Emily Dickinson  
Score, sketches  
Sketches on verso of score |
| BOX-FOLDER 4/12 | Inscriptions (2 voices, piano) 1986  
see also *Emily's images*  
Score, sketch |
| BOX-FOLDER 4/13 | Lacrymosa (2 trumpets, 2 trombones) 1972  
Score |
| BOX-FOLDER 4/14 | Lieder for viola and piano 1979  
Score, sketches, parts  
Includes an arrangement for clarinet and piano |
| BOX-FOLDER 5/1 | Light in spring poplars (chorus, viola, piano) 1987  
Words by Stephen Sandy  
Score |
| BOX-FOLDER 5/2 | Little suite for voice and piano 1930  
Words by Carl Sandburg  
Score |
| BOX-FOLDER 5/3, 14/2 | Lyric piece for cello and piano 1937  
Score, cello part |
| BOX-FOLDER 5/3 | Lyric piece for cello and string quartet, undated  
Score, parts |
| BOX-FOLDER 5/4 | Ma's in orbit (violin, percussion, double bass, piano) 1987  
Score, parts |
| BOX-FOLDER 5/5 | Madrigali spirituali (trumpet, string quartet) 1989  
Score, parts |
| BOX-FOLDER 5/6-8 | Meeting for equal rights 1866 (cantata for chorus, orchestra, mezzo-soprano, baritone, narrator) 1976  
Score, sketches, parts, text/notes |
| BOX-FOLDER 6/1 | Melos (double bass) 1964  
Score, sketches |
| BOX-FOLDER 14/3-4 | Memoirs of Uliana Rooney (soprano, 2 baritones, 2 female voices as chorus, chamber ensemble) 1993  
Libretto by Sonya Friedman |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Contents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 6/2</td>
<td>Missa brevis (4 cellos, taped voice) 1972</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 6/3</td>
<td>Momenti (piano) 1979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 6/4</td>
<td>Morning (chorus, organ, narrator) 1987</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 6/5</td>
<td>Music for flute (alto flute), oboe (English horn), and cello 1980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 6/6</td>
<td>Music for study (piano) 1935-1941</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 6/7</td>
<td>My sledge and hammer lay reclined (chorus, brass, strings, two pianos, percussion) 1967</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 6/8</td>
<td>Ode to Henry Purcell (soprano, string quartet) 1984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 6/9</td>
<td>Ode to Henry Purcell (soprano, string quartet) 1984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 6/10</td>
<td>New ways of seeing - music for film (string orchestra) 1954</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 6/11</td>
<td>The passionate shepherd to his love and her reply (women's chorus) 1938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 6/12</td>
<td>Piece for flute and muted strings 1937</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 7/1</td>
<td>Piece for flute and muted strings 1937</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 7/2</td>
<td>Piece for flute and muted strings 1937</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 7/3</td>
<td>Piece for flute and muted strings 1937</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Container</td>
<td>Contents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>----------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| BOX-FOLDER 7/3 | Piece for muted strings 1937  
Score, parts |
| BOX-FOLDER 7/4, 14/6 | Poetic fires (piano, orchestra) 1984  
Score, parts  
For the Serge Koussevitzky Music Foundation in The Library of Congress  
see also ML30.3c.F554 no. 1 <case> |
| BOX-FOLDER 14/7 | Portal (violin, piano) 1990  
Score, violin part  
Dedicated to Pamela Frank |
| BOX-FOLDER 7/5 | Prelude for string quartet 1937  
Score |
| BOX-FOLDER 7/5 | Prelude for string orchestra 1937  
Score  
Incomplete |
| BOX-FOLDER 7/6 | Psalm 13 (2 sopranos, alto, baritone, piano or organ) 1953  
Score |
| BOX-FOLDER 7/7 | Quartet for brass 1978  
see also Eclogue  
Score, sketches |
| BOX-FOLDER 7/8 | Quintet (clarinet, viola, cello, bassoon, percussion)  
Sketches  
From Fine's "Works not completed" folder |
| BOX-FOLDER 7/9 | Quintet for trumpet, string trio, and harp 1967  
Score, parts |
| BOX-FOLDER 15/1 | The race of life (piano, percussion, or, orchestra) 1937  
Scores, parts, notes  
Two arrangements  
Ballet after a story by James Thurber; choreography by Doris Humphrey |
| BOX-FOLDER 7/10 | Rhapsody on a Russian folk song (piano) 1944  
Score |
| BOX-FOLDER 7/11 | Romantic ode (violin, viola, cello, string orchestra) 1976  
Score, sketches, parts |
| BOX-FOLDER 8/1 | Second solo for oboe 1947  
Score |
| BOX-FOLDER 8/2 | Sinfonia and fugato (piano) 1952  
Score |
| BOX-FOLDER 8/3 | Solo for oboe 1929  
Score |
| BOX-FOLDER 8/4 | Sonata for violin and piano 1952  
Score, parts  
Laid in: note from Yehudi Wyner regarding corrections |
| BOX-FOLDER 8/5 | Sonata for violoncello and piano (in homage to Claude Debussy) 1986  
Score, parts |
| BOX-FOLDER 8/6 | Sonatina for oboe and piano 1939  
Score, oboe part  
Includes arrangements for violin and piano; viola and piano; violoncello and piano |
| BOX-FOLDER 9/1-2 | A song for St. Cecilia's Day (soprano, baritone, chorus, orchestra) 1987  
Words by John Dryden  
Scores, sketches, parts |
Commissioned by and dedicated to Trinity College in celebration of the 60th year of the founding of Trinity College by the Sisters of Mercy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Contents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 9/3</td>
<td>The song of Persephone (viola) 1964 &lt;br&gt;Score, sketches/notes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 9/4</td>
<td>Songs and arias (horn, violin, cello) 1990 &lt;br&gt;see also Four Elizabethan songs &lt;br&gt;Score &lt;br&gt;&quot;Elizabethan song&quot; has same melody as &quot;Dirge&quot; from Four Elizabethan songs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 9/5</td>
<td>Songs of love and war (soprano, chamber ensemble) 1991 &lt;br&gt;Words by various authors &lt;br&gt;Score, lyric sheet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 9/6</td>
<td>Songs of our time (2 voices, piano) 1943 &lt;br&gt;Score &lt;br&gt;Titles: Stabat Mater (words by Jósef Wittlin); And what did she get, the soldier's wife? (words by Bertholt Brecht)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 9/7</td>
<td>Sonnet to a cat - to Nikki (soprano, alto, tenor, bass, piano) 1939 &lt;br&gt;Words by John Keats &lt;br&gt;Score, sketch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 9/8</td>
<td>Sounds of the nightingale (soprano, women's chorus, chamber orchestra) 1971 &lt;br&gt;Score, sketches, parts, lyric sheets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 15/2</td>
<td>String quartet 1957 &lt;br&gt;Scores, sketches, parts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 15/3</td>
<td>Suite for orchestra, undated &lt;br&gt;Score &lt;br&gt;Incomplete; pages 29-135 only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 9/9</td>
<td>Suite in E-flat (piano) 1940 &lt;br&gt;Score</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 10/1</td>
<td>Tango with the Frog Prince (piano) 1984 &lt;br&gt;Score</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 10/2</td>
<td>Teishō (for eight solo singers or small chorus and string quartet) 1975 &lt;br&gt;Score</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 10/3</td>
<td>Teishō (for eight solo singers or small chorus and string quartet) 1975 &lt;br&gt;Parts (for string quartet)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 10/4</td>
<td>Teishō 1975 &lt;br&gt;Notes, correspondence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 10/5</td>
<td>Teishō (for violin and piano) 1977 &lt;br&gt;Score, violin part</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| BOX-FOLDER 10/5 | Teishō (for mezzo soprano, violin, and piano) 1979 <br>Vocal score <br>Note at bottom: "This vocal part is to be used in conjunction with Teishō for violin and piano."
<p>| BOX-FOLDER 10/6 | There is a garden in her face (soprano, flute, violin, cello, piano) 1947 &lt;br&gt;Flute, violin, and cello parts |
| BOX-FOLDER 10/7 | They too are exiles (2 pianos) 1939 &lt;br&gt;Score |
| BOX-FOLDER 10/8 | Three &quot;ings&quot; (flute, bassoon, harp) 1961 &lt;br&gt;Score, sketches &lt;br&gt;Titles: Chasing; Loving; Marching |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Contents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| BOX-FOLDER 10/9 | Three October pieces for piano and cello 1962  
Score, cello part |
| BOX-FOLDER 10/10 | Three pieces for violin and piano 1940  
Score, violin part |
| BOX-FOLDER 10/11 | Three sonnets for baritone and orchestra 1976  
Score, parts  
Laid in: note from copyist |
| BOX-FOLDER 10/12 | Toccata on the Soviet anthem (piano) 1944  
Score |
| BOX-FOLDER 10/13 | Toccatas and arias for harpsichord 1986  
Score |
| BOX-FOLDER 10/14 | Toccatas and arias for piano 1986  
Score, sketches |
| BOX-FOLDER 10/15 | Toccata for piano 1981  
Score |
| BOX-FOLDER 10/16 | Tomorrow and tomorrow (soprano, piano) 1986  
Words by Francisco Tanzet  
Score  
Dedicated to Continuum for their 20th year |
| BOX-FOLDER 10/17 | Tragic exodus (baritone, piano) 1939  
Score |
| BOX-FOLDER 10/18 | Trio concertante on aspects of nature (string trio, string quintet) 1976  
Sketches  
From Fine's "Works not completed" folder |
| BOX-FOLDER 10/19 | Trio for violin, cello and piano 1980  
Score, sketches, parts |
| BOX-FOLDER 10/20 | Trio in three movements: for violin, viola and cello 1930  
Score, parts |
| BOX-FOLDER 11/1 | The Triple Goddess (concert band) 1988  
Score, sketch, parts, notes |
| BOX-FOLDER 11/2 | Two Neruda poems: The turtle; Ode to the piano (mezzo-soprano, piano) 1971  
Words by Pablo Neruda  
Score, lyric sheets |
| BOX-FOLDER 11/3 | Two sonnets (voice, xylophone, violin, bassoon) 1939  
Words by John Keats  
Sketches for "To one who has been long in city pent" only |
| BOX-FOLDER 15/4 | Valedictions (chorus, soprano, tenor, instrumental ensemble) 1959  
Words by John Donne  
Scores, sketches |
| BOX-FOLDER 11/4 | Valedictory songs (voice, strings, bells) 1939-1941  
Words by William Shakespeare, Sir William Jones, and anonymous authors  
Scores  
Titles: Come away, come away; Adios Bilbadito; Epigram; Dirge |
| BOX-FOLDER 11/5 | Variations (piano) 1952  
Score |
| BOX-FOLDER 11/6 | Variations for harp: remembrance of things in the past of Erik Satie 1953  
Score |
### Music, 1929-1993

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Contents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **BOX-FOLDER 11/7** | When lilacs last in the dooryard bloom'd (voice, string quartet) 1941  
   Words by Walt Whitman  
   Score, sketch |
| **BOX-FOLDER 11/8, 12/1-2, 15/5** | The women in the garden (chamber opera) 1977  
   *see also* The human mind  
   Score, sketches, parts, text |
| **BOX-FOLDER 12/3** | Unidentified parts (violins, viola, cello) 1945  
   Parts  
   Quotes noted in the parts from "Peter the Great" by John Lothrop Motley |
| **BOX-FOLDER 12/4** | Unidentified sketch (piano, orchestra) 1945  
   Sketch score |

#### BOX 16  
**Correspondence, 1929-1933**

| BOX-FOLDER 16/1 | Antheil, George, 1932  
   1 postcard |
| BOX-FOLDER 16/1 | Copland, Aaron, undated  
   1 letter |
| BOX-FOLDER 16/1 | Cowell, Henry, 1930  
   1 letter |
| BOX-FOLDER 16/2 | Crawford, Ruth, 1929-1931 and undated  
   6 letters |
| BOX-FOLDER 16/3 | Fine, Vivian to Dmitri Shostakovich, 1930  
   1 letter (not sent) |
| BOX-FOLDER 16/3 | Fine, Vivian to Norman [?], 1931  
   1 letter |
| BOX-FOLDER 16/3 | Rudhyar, Dane, 1930  
   2 letters  
   Seeger, Ruth Crawford  
   *see* Crawford, Ruth |
| BOX-FOLDER 16/3 | Wallingford, Riegger, 1932  
   1 letter |
| BOX-FOLDER 16/3 | Weidman, Charles to Nini Theilade, 1933  
   1 letter  
   Weidman recommending Fine as an accompanist |

#### BOX 16  
**Miscellany, 1927-2004**

Concert programs documenting premieres and other performances, clippings regarding  
*Alcestis*, and one personal writing.

| BOX-FOLDER 16/4 | Clippings, 1960, 1988 |
| BOX-FOLDER 16/5-10 | Programs, 1932-2004 and undated |
| BOX-FOLDER 16/11 | Writing, 1927  
   Holograph manuscript; 8 pages  
   Fine's account of meeting in support of the Sacco and Vanzetti case of the 1920s |
| BOX-FOLDER 16/11 | Writing, 1936  
   Holograph manuscript; 7 pages  
   Fine's notes on various religious works |