

Mildred Spiegel Zucker Collection of Leonard Bernstein Correspondence and Related Materials

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



Music Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2013

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/2013568038>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.music/eadmus.mu013008>

Processed by the Music Division of the Library of Congress

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Music Division, 2013

Collection Summary

Title: Mildred Spiegel Zucker Collection of Leonard Bernstein Correspondence and Related Materials

Span Dates: 1936-1991

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1936-1951)

Call No.: ML31.Z83

Creator: Zucker, Mildred Spiegel, 1916-

Extent: 135 items

Extent: 1 container

Extent: 0.5 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/2013568038>

Summary: Music teacher Mildred Spiegel Zucker was a childhood friend of Leonard Bernstein's, with whom she maintained a lifelong friendship. The collection mostly consists of correspondence that Bernstein sent to Zucker dating from his time as a counselor at Camp Onata, as a student at the Curtis Institute of Music, and during the beginning of his career in New York.

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

Bernstein, Leonard, 1918-1990--Correspondence.

Bernstein, Leonard, 1918-1990.

Copland, Aaron, 1900-1990.

Gebhard, Heinrich, 1878-1963--Correspondence.

Green, Adolph.

Koussevitzky, Serge, 1874-1951.

Mitropoulos, Dimitri, 1896-1960.

Peysner, Joan--Correspondence.

Vengerova, Isabelle.

Zucker, Mildred Spiegel, 1916-

Zucker, Mildred Spiegel, 1916-

Organizations

Curtis Institute of Music.

Subjects

Conservatories of music--Pennsylvania--Philadelphia.

Music teachers--United States.

Music--Instruction and study.

Women music teachers--United States.

Form/Genre

Correspondence.

Provenance

Gift, Mildred Spiegel Zucker, 2013.

Accruals

No further accruals are expected.

Processing History

The Mildred Spiegel Zucker Collection of Leonard Bernstein Correspondence and Related Materials was processed by Mark Horowitz in 2013. Janet McKinney coded the finding aid for EAD format in 2013.

Related Material

Correspondence from and pertaining to Mildred Spiegel Zucker can be found in the Library of Congress Music Division's [Leonard Bernstein Collection](#) (ML31.B49).

Copyright Status

Materials from the Mildred Spiegel Zucker Collection of Leonard Bernstein Correspondence and Related Materials 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 Mildred Spiegel Zucker Collection of Leonard Bernstein Correspondence and Related Materials 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], Mildred Spiegel Zucker Collection of Leonard Bernstein Correspondence and Related Materials, Music Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Mildred Spiegel was born June 12, 1916, in Boston, Massachusetts. She studied piano and music theory at the Julia Lubit Pianoforte School and with Heinrich Gebhard. As a member of the Madison Trio, a group she formed with Dorothy Rosenberg (violin) and Sara Kruskall (cello), Spiegel performed throughout New England. After graduating with honors from the Julia Lubit School, Spiegel taught at the school for thirteen years. In 1951, she took a sabbatical and traveled to Israel, a destination suggested by Bernstein. After her marriage to Zvi (Harry) Zucker in Israel, the Zuckers moved to the United States where Mildred continued giving private music lessons, as well as teaching in the music departments of Lowell State University and the Westchester Conservatory. She and her husband settled in White Plains, New York where she now resides. Her husband passed away in 2012. Spiegel met Leonard Bernstein when he was fifteen, and it was she who recommended that he study with Gebhard. For years, she and Bernstein met every week to play piano duets at the Harvard Musical Society, and every weekend for six years to attend the Boston Symphony. They remained life-long friends.

Scope and Content Note

The collection includes postcards, letters, telegrams and cards that Leonard Bernstein sent his childhood friend, Mildred Spiegel, later Mildred Spiegel Zucker. The correspondence dates from Bernstein's time as a counselor at Camp Onata, as a student at the Curtis Institute of Music, and during the beginning of his career in New York. He discusses his family, friends, teachers and mentors, as well as his feelings about music and his future in it. The collection also includes some correspondence with mutual friends, Bernstein biographers, and Bernstein's business associates. In addition, there is a biographical essay and notes about Zucker's relationship with Bernstein.

Organization of the Mildred Spiegel Zucker Collection of Leonard Bernstein Correspondence and Related Materials

The Mildred Spiegel Zucker Collection of Leonard Bernstein Correspondence and Related Materials is organized in one series:

- [Correspondence, 1936-1991](#)

Description of Series

Container
BOX 1

Series
Correspondence, 1936-1991, undated

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	Correspondence, 1936-1991, undated