Collection Summary
Title: Elliott Carter Music Manuscripts and Other Papers
Inclusive Dates: 1933-1971
Creator: Carter, Elliott, 1908-2012
Extent: approximately 18,900 items
Extent: 55 containers plus bound scores
Extent: 19 linear feet
Extent: 22 microfilm reels
Language: Collection material in English
LC Catalog record: https://lccn.loc.gov/2020570075
Summary: Among other accolades, American composer Elliott Carter was a two-time winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Music for his second and third string quartets. A student of Nadia Boulanger, his works combined American and European styles of modernism, and his compositional style, based around collections of pitches, was later described as musical set theory. Carter was also known for his use of proportional tempo changes, which is referred to by scholars as metric modulation. Carter composed in a wide variety of genres, including symphonies, concertos, chamber music, ballets, and choral music. This finding aid collates classed holograph scores, sketches, and parts by Carter that were donated to the Music Division beginning in the 1960s. Additional music materials, programs, and a small amount of photographs and other papers will be added to this document in the future.

Provenance
Gifts, Elliott Carter, 1960s-1970s

Accruals
No further accruals are expected.

Processing History
Music Division staff processed the Elliott Carter Music Manuscripts and Other Papers. Anita M. Weber and Emily Baumgart compiled and coded the finding aid in 2020.

Additional Description
Much of the content within the Elliott Carter Music Manuscripts and Other Papers is described in Morgan Cundiff's "A guide to Elliott Carter research materials at the Library of Congress Music Division" in Charles Rosen's The Musical Languages of Elliott Carter, https://www.loc.gov/item/84003851/

Other Repositories
A substantial number of Elliott Carter compositions can be found in the Archive and Research Center for Music of the Twentieth and Twenty-First Centuries of the Paul Sacher Foundation, Basel, Switzerland. The New York Public Library holds the Elliott Carter papers, 1945-1995 [bulk 1980-1995].
Related Material
The following collections contain correspondence and other materials related to Carter: David Diamond Papers, Louise Talma Papers, Oliver Daniel Papers, and Lukas Foss Papers.

Copyright Status
Materials from the Elliott Carter Music Manuscripts and Other 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 Elliott Carter Music Manuscripts and Other 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.

Online Content
A selection of scores and sketches from the Elliott Carter Music Manuscripts and Other Papers is available on the Library of Congress Web site at https://www.loc.gov/collections/elliott-carter/about-this-collection/

Microfilm
Selected items from the Elliott Carter Music Manuscripts and Other Papers are available on 22 reels of microfilm that are shelved as 88/20,045; MUSIC-1813, 1813 B, 1813 C, 1813 D; MUSIC-1814 A, 1814 B, 1814 C, 1814 E; MUSIC-1815 A; MUSIC-1816, 1816 C; MUSIC-1817; MUSIC-1820; MUSIC-1821; MUSIC-1822 A; MUSIC-1824 A; MUSIC-1826; MUSIC-1833 A; MUSIC-1834; MUSIC-1835; and MUSIC-1836.

Preferred Citation
Materials described in this finding aid should be cited using the following information: Last name, first name. Title of work, year. Format of material. Music Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>1908 December 11</td>
<td>Born in New York City to Elliott Cook Carter Sr., and Florence Chambers</td>
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<tr>
<td>1924</td>
<td>Met Charles Ives, who exposed him to modern music</td>
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<tr>
<td>1926</td>
<td>Studied piano, oboe, and solfeggio at the Longy School of Music in Cambridge, Massachusetts</td>
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<tr>
<td>1926-1932</td>
<td>Studied at Harvard University; earned a BA in English and an MA in Music under the tutelage of Gustav Holst and Walter Piston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1932-1935</td>
<td>Studied music with Nadia Boulanger as a private student and at École Normale de Musique de Paris</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Studied choral conducting with Henri Expert</td>
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<tr>
<td>1935-1940</td>
<td>Music director of Ballet Caravan</td>
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<tr>
<td>1936</td>
<td>Composed Pocahontas ballet commissioned by Lincoln Kirstein</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1939 July 6</td>
<td>Married sculptor and art critic Helen Frost-Jones (1907 July 4-2003 May 17) in Cheltenham, Massachusetts</td>
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</table>
1943 January 4    Son David Chambers Carter born
1943-1944    Worked for the Office of War Information
1945-1946    Received a Guggenheim Fellowship in musical composition; composed Piano Sonata
1947 March 27    Premiere of the Minotaur, a ballet commissioned by Lincoln Kirstein for the Ballet Society
1950    Received a Guggenheim Fellowship in musical composition; composed String Quartet no. 1
1960    Awarded Pulitzer Prize for Music for String Quartet no. 2
1961    Awarded Sibelius Medal
1971    Received American Academy of Arts and Letters gold medal
1973    Awarded Pulitzer Prize for Music for String Quartet no. 3
1985    Awarded the Ernst von Siemens Prize
1996    Awarded Royal Philharmonic Society gold medal
1998    Inducted into the Classical Music Hall of Fame
1998    Received Prince Rainier Foundation Music Award
2012 October 25    Dialogues II premiered in Milan
2012 November 5    Died in New York City

Bibliography

Scope and Content Note
The Elliott Carter Music Manuscripts and Other Papers chiefly contain manuscript scores, parts, and sketches created by Carter between 1933 and 1971. The works represent a wide range of his compositional output, featuring materials from his first three string quartets, Symphony no. 1, ballet scores for Lincoln Kirstein, vocal and choral music, and extensive sketches for the Double Concerto and Piano Concerto. Also included among the materials are several boxes of programs, a handful of photographs, and a small quantity of personal papers. A more thorough description of these items, as well as the other uncataloged music materials, will be added to this finding aid in the future. All of the materials are classed in ML96.C288.

Arrangement
The Elliott Carter Music Manuscripts and Other Papers are organized in one series:
• Music, 1933-1971

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
Carter, Elliott, 1908-2012--Archives.
Carter, Elliott, 1908-2012.

Subjects
Ballets--Scores.
Chamber music--Scores.
Concertos--Scores.
Madrigals--Scores.
Music--United States--History and criticism.
Musical sketches.
Operas--Scores.
Orchestral music--Scores.
Sonatas (Piano)
String quartets--Scores.
Symphonies--Scores.
Variations (Orchestra)--Scores.

**Form/Genre**
Arrangements (Music)
Autographs (Manuscripts)
Ballets (Music)
Chamber music.
Concert programs.
Madrigals (Music)
Musical sketches.
Operas.
Parts (Music)
Photographs.
Scores.
Sonatas.
Symphonies.
Variations (Music)
## Description of Series

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<td><strong>Music, 1933-1971</strong></td>
<td>Chiefly holograph scores, sketches, and parts for original compositions by Carter. Includes extensive sketches for his Piano Concerto, Variations for Orchestra, and his Pulitzer Prize-winning String Quartet no. 3. A microfilm edition of select manuscripts are available on 22 reels that are shelved under various call numbers detailed in the container list. To promote preservation of the originals, researchers are required to consult the microfilm edition. Arranged alphabetically by title.</td>
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Elliott Carter Music Manuscripts and Other Papers  6
Container List

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| LCCN: 88754185 | 6 Pieces for Kettledrums, 1950 November Onionskins of holograph scores; sketches; fragments  
Note: Includes more than one version of most of the six original pieces |
<p>| LCCN: 64033138 | 8 Etudes and a Fantasy, 1950 Photocopy of holograph score for flute, oboe, clarinet, and bassoon; revised holograph score (1961) Also available on microfilm, MUSIC-1816 C |
| LCCN: 88754405 | 8 Etudes and a Fantasy, 1949 Sketches for flute, oboe, clarinet, and bassoon Also available on microfilm, MUSIC-1816 |
| LCCN: 2009547038 | Canonic Suite, 1950s? Holograph score for four alto saxophones |
| LCCN: 2009547037 | Canonic Suite, movement 1, 1954 Onionskin of holograph score for four alto saxophones with revisions Also available on microfilm, MUSIC-1835 |
| LCCN: 2009547039 | Canonic Suite: Fanfare, 1939? Onionskin of holograph score for four alto saxophones |
| LCCN: 2009547040 | Canonic Suite, movements 1 and 3, 1950s? Onionskin of holograph score for four trumpets with revisions; sketches |
| LCCN: 2009547047 | Cello Sonata, 1948 Onionskin of holograph score and part |
| LCCN: 2009547048 | Cello Sonata, 1948 Ozalid of holograph score with revisions (bound) |
| LCCN: 2008561148 | Cello Sonata, 1948 Sketches |
| LCCN: 88754116 | Concerto for Orchestra, 1969 November 25 Photocopy of holograph score; holograph score (rejected pages); diagram; photocopy of sketches |
| LCCN: 63050672 | The Defense of Corinth, 1941 Onionskin of holograph score with revisions |
| LCCN: 88753677 | Double Concerto, 1961 August Onionskin of holograph score for harpsichord, piano, and two chamber orchestras Also available on microfilm, MUSIC-1813 D |</p>
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| LCCN: 88753679 | Double Concerto, 1961  
Photocopy of holograph score for harpsichord, piano, and two ensembles, with annotations  
Also available on microfilm, MUSIC-1813 D |
| LCCN: 88753675 | Double Concerto, 1961  
Sketches for harpsichord, piano, and two instrumental ensembles; holograph score (rejected)  
Also available on microfilm, MUSIC-1813 D |
| LCCN: 88753674 | Double Concerto, 1961  
Sketches for harpsichord, piano, and two instrumental ensembles (nine boxes)  
Also available on microfilm, MUSIC-1813, 1813 B, 1813 C, 1813 D |
| LCCN: 63050670 | Elegy, 1944  
Title on score: Adagio for Viola and Piano  
Holograph score and part; photocopy of holograph score, with annotations  
Also available on microfilm, MUSIC-1814 A |
| LCCN: 63050629 | Elegy, 1961  
Holograph score for viola and piano; sketches for piano  
Also available on microfilm, MUSIC-1814 B |
| LCCN: 88754249 | Elegy, 1943?  
Title on score: Prelude for Viola and Piano  
Holograph score for viola and piano |
| LCCN: 64033139 | Elegy, 1944?  
Title on score: Adagio for Cello and Piano  
Onionskin of holograph score for cello and piano; onionskin of holograph part  
Also available on microfilm, MUSIC-1814 C |
| LCCN: 88754246 | Elegy, 1946?  
Holograph score for string quartet  
Also available on microfilm, MUSIC-1814 E |
| LCCN: 88754250 | Elegy, 1946?  
Holograph score for string quartet with revisions  
Also available on microfilm, MUSIC-1814 C |
| LCCN: 88754251 | Elegy, 1953?  
Onionskin of holograph score for string orchestra |
| LCCN: 88754248 | Elegy, 1944?  
Onionskin of holograph viola part |
| LCCN: 88754247 | Elegy, 1961 September  
Sketches |
| LCCN: 63050623 | Emblems, 1947  
Onionskin of holograph score for TTBB chorus and piano |
| LCCN: 88754489 | Emblems, 1947  
Sketch for TTBB chorus and piano  
Also available on microfilm, MUSIC-1815 A |
| LCCN: 88754031 | Exercises, 1933-1935  
Title on box: Counterpoint Exercises with Nadia Boulanger, 1933-1935  
Holograph score  
Also available on microfilm, MUSIC-1817 |
| LCCN: 88754323 | Harmony of Morning, 1944  
Text by Mark van Doren  
Onionskin of holograph chorus score |
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| LCCN: 88754320 | *Harmony of Morning*, 1944  
Text by Mark van Doren  
Onionskin of holograph piano-vocal score (incomplete) |
| LCCN: 88754319 | *Harmony of Morning*, 1944  
Sketches for SSAA chorus and chamber orchestra |
| LCCN: 88754182 | *Heart Not So Heavy As Mine*, 1938 Dec  
Text by Emily Dickinson  
Onionskin of holograph score for SATB chorus |
| LCCN: 63050616 | Holiday Overture, 1944  
Onionskin of holograph score |
| LCCN: 88754407 | Holiday Overture, 1960 November 2  
Onionskin of holograph score (incomplete) |
| LCCN: 2015560551 | Holiday Overture, 1944?  
Holograph score for piano, four hands  
Note: Labeled as Piano-Duet Score no. 94 |
| LCCN: 88754408 | Holiday Overture, 1960  
Sketches |
| LCCN: 89750026 | Let's Be Gay: Act 2, Scene 4, 1937?  
Holograph score (incomplete) |
| LCCN: 2009536229 | *Minotaur*, 1947  
Sketches |
| LCCN: 88754120 | *Mostellaria*: Tarantella, 1936  
Text by Ovid  
Holograph score for TTBB chorus and piano, four hands  
Also available on microfilm, 88/20,045 |
| LCCN: 89750024 | *Mostellaria*: Recordatus mult’ et diu cogitavi, 1936?  
Text by Ovid  
Holograph piano-vocal score |
| LCCN: 88754191 | Musicians Wrestle Everywhere, 1948?  
Text by Emily Dickinson  
Holograph score for SSATB chorus |
| LCCN: 88754187 | Musicians Wrestle Everywhere, 1945 June  
Text by Emily Dickinson  
Onionskin of holograph score for SSATB chorus |
| LCCN: 88754189 | Musicians Wrestle Everywhere, 1945?  
Text by Emily Dickinson  
Holograph score for SSATB chorus and optional string orchestra  
Also available on microfilm, MUSIC-1820 |
| LCCN: 88754494 | Pastoral for Piano and Viola (or English Horn or Clarinet), 1940  
Photocopy of holograph score (pasteovers); parts  
Also available on microfilm, MUSIC-1822 A |
| LCCN: 64059755 | Pastoral, for Piano and Viola (or English Horn or Clarinet), 1945  
Proof of printed score and parts |
| LCCN: 88754492 | Pastoral for Piano and Viola (or English Horn or Clarinet), 1940  
Photocopy of holograph score with annotations  
Also available on microfilm, MUSIC-1822 A |
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| LCCN: 63050617 | String Quartet no. 2, 1959  
Onionskin of holograph score |
| LCCN: 88753760 | String Quartet no. 3, 1970-1971  
Sketches (5 boxes) |
| LCCN: 2009547072 | Symphony no. 1, 1942  
Onionskin of holograph score |
| LCCN: 2009547073 | Symphony no. 1, 1942-1954  
Ozalid of holograph score with handwritten revisions |
| LCCN: 88754028 | Symphony no. 1: movements 2 and 3, 1942?  
Holograph score for piano |
| LCCN: 88753769 | Symphony no. 1, 1942  
Holograph score (rejected pages) |
| LCCN: 2009547074 | Symphony no. 1, 1942  
Sketches |
| LCCN: 88753768 | Symphony no. 1, 1942?  
Sketchbook |
| LCCN: 88754192 | To Music, 1936  
Text by Robert Herrick  
Onionskin of holograph score for SATB chorus  
Also available on microfilm, 88/20,045 |
| LCCN: 88753758 | Variations for Orchestra, 1955?  
Sketches (.5 linear feet)  
Also available on microfilm, MUSIC-1833 A |
| LCCN: 63050620 | Variations for Orchestra, 1954-1955  
Onionskin of holograph score |
| LCCN: 88754326 | Warble for Lilac Time, 1943  
Text by Walt Whitman  
Holograph score for soprano and chamber orchestra  
Also available on microfilm, MUSIC-1834 |
| LCCN: 88754328 | Warble for Lilac Time, 1955  
Text by Walt Whitman  
Onionskin of holograph score for soprano or tenor and chamber orchestra  
Also available on microfilm, MUSIC-1834 |
| LCCN: 88754404 | Warble for Lilac Time, 1942?  
Text by Walt Whitman from "Autumn Rivulets"  
Photocopy of holograph score for voice and piano; holograph revised score (1955)  
Also available on microfilm, MUSIC-1834 |
| LCCN: 88754483 | Woodwind Quintet, 1948  
Onionskin of holograph score for flute, oboe, clarinet, horn, and bassoon |
| LCCN: 88754485 | Woodwind Quintet: movement 2, 1940s  
Title on score: Piece for W.W. Quintet  
Holograph parts for flute, oboe, clarinet, horn, and bassoon; manuscript score (incomplete)  
Note: Early version of second movement  
Also available on microfilm, MUSIC-1826 |
| LCCN: 88754486 | Woodwind Quintet, 1948?  
Sketches for flute, oboe, clarinet, horn, and bassoon  
Also available on microfilm, MUSIC-1826 |
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| LCCN: 88754487 | Woodwind Quintet, 1948?  
Sketches for flute, oboe, clarinet, horn, and bassoon  
Also available on microfilm, MUSIC-1826 |