

# Léo Delibes Music Manuscripts



**Music Division, Library of Congress  
Washington, D.C.  
2021**

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/2020570106>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.music/eadmus.mu021002>

Prepared by the Music Division of the Library of Congress

Finding aid encoded by Emily Baumgart, 2021

## Collection Summary

**Title:** Léo Delibes Music Manuscripts

**Inclusive Dates:** 1857-1890

**Creator:** Delibes, Léo, 1836-1891

**Extent:** 85 items

**Extent:** 6.5 linear feet

**Language:** Collection material in French

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

**LC Catalog record:** <https://lccn.loc.gov/2020570106>

**Summary:** Léo Delibes was a French composer known primarily for his stage works, including operas, ballets, and incidental music. His compositions display the wit, lightness, and elegance characteristic of nineteenth century French music and were premiered at the Théâtre des Bouffes-Parisiens, Opéra-Comique, and Théâtre Lyrique, among others. His ballets *Coppélia* and *Sylvia* and opera *Lakmé* have remained standards of the repertoire. The collection includes holograph manuscripts and sketches for many of his operas, ballets, and vocal and piano music.

## Acquisition Information

Purchase, Delibes family, 1921

## Accruals

No further accruals are expected.

## Processing History

The Music Division cataloged the Léo Delibes Music Manuscripts in ML96.D39 (Case) prior to 1980. Emily Baumgart coded the finding aid in 2021.

## Related Material

A copyist score of Delibes' *Coppélia* can be found in the [Tams-Witmark Collection](#) and a piano score of his *Fanfares Composées pour la Distribution des Récompenses à l'Exposition Universelle de 1889* is located in the [Moldenhauer Archives](#).

## Copyright Status

Materials from the Léo Delibes 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 Léo Delibes 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

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

Date	Event
1836 February 21	Born in St Germain du Val, France
1848	Began studies at the Paris Conservatoire
1849	Sang in the première of Giacomo Meyerbeer's <i>Le Prophète</i>
1850	Earned premier prix in solfège at the Conservatoire
1853	Became the organist of St Pierre-de-Chaillot and the accompanist at the Théâtre Lyrique
1856 February 9	First stage work, <i>Deux Sous de Charbon</i> , performed at Folies-Nouvelles
1856 August 8	First comic work, <i>Deux Vieilles Gardes</i> , performed at Théâtre des Bouffes-Parisiens
1864	Became chorus master at the Opéra
1866	Composed first ballet, <i>La Source</i> , with Ludwig Minkus
1870 May 2	Most famous ballet, <i>Coppélia, ou La Fille aux yeux d'émail</i> , premiered at the Opéra
1871	Relinquished duties as an organist and at the Opéra to focus on composition Married Léontine Estelle Denain
1876	Ballet <i>Sylvia</i> premiered at the Opéra
1877	Made a Chevalier de la Legion d'honneur
1880 March 8	<i>Jean de Nivelle</i> première at the Opéra-Comique
1881	Became professor of composition at the Conservatoire de Paris
1883 April 14	Most famous opera, <i>Lakmé</i> , premiered at the Opéra-Comique
1884	Elected to the Institut de France
1891 January 16	Died in Paris
1893 March 24	<i>Kassaya</i> , orchestrated by Jules Massenet, premiered at the Opéra-Comique

## Bibliography

Macdonald, Hugh. "Delibes, (Clément Philibert) Léo." *Grove Music Online*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2001.  
<https://doi.org/10.1093/gmo/9781561592630.article.07469>

## Scope and Content Note

The Léo Delibes Music Manuscripts contain holograph scores and sketches that represent a range of the composer's theatrical compositions, including the operas *Les Deux Vieilles Gardes*, *Jean de Nivelle*, and *Lakmé*, as well as ballets *La Source* and *Sylvia*. Also included are lesser known cantatas and works for piano and seven notebooks of sketches and fragments. All of these materials are classed in ML96.D39 (Case).

## Arrangement

The Léo Delibes Music Manuscripts are organized in one series:

- [Music, 1857-1890](#)

## 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

Delibes, Léo, 1836-1891.

Delibes, Léo, 1836-1891. Works. Selections.

### Subjects

Ballets--Scores.

Cantatas, Secular--Scores.

Choruses, Secular.

Incidental music--Scores.

Musical sketches.

Operas--Scores.

Operas--Vocal scores with piano.

Piano music.

Songs with piano.

### Form/Genre

Arrangements (Music)

Autographs (Manuscripts)

Ballets (Music)

Cantatas.

Chamber music.

Excerpts.

Incidental music.

Musical sketches.

Operas.

Scores.

Songs.

## Description of Series

### Container

### Series

#### Music, 1857-1890

The Music series chiefly contains holograph scores and sketches for original works by Delibes. Arranged alphabetically by title.

# Container List

Container	Contents
	<b>Music, 1857-1890</b> The Music series chiefly contains holograph scores and sketches for original works by Delibes. Arranged alphabetically by title.
LCCN: <a href="#">2012570092</a>	Air de ballet Interculé dans La Maschera, undated Holograph full score
LCCN: <a href="#">2012570093</a>	Alger, 1865 August 9 Libretto by Joseph Méry Holograph full score
LCCN: <a href="#">2012570094</a>	Au Lac Lomand, undated Holograph sketch
LCCN: <a href="#">2012570095</a>	<i>Le Boeuf Apis</i> , undated Libretto by Philippe Gille and Eugène Furpille Holograph full score
LCCN: <a href="#">unk84043563</a>	<i>Le Boeuf Apis</i> : No. 4, Chant de Fleur de Lotus, undated Libretto by Philippe Gille and Eugène Furpille Holograph full score <i>Laid in</i> : Holograph score for piano of "Fanfare"
LCCN: <a href="#">2012570096</a>	Le Chant du Depart, undated Holograph full score for mixed chorus and orchestra; fragment
LCCN: <a href="#">2012570097</a>	<i>La Cour du Roi Pétaud</i> , undated Libretto by Philippe Gille and Adolphe Jaime Holograph full score
LCCN: <a href="#">2012570098</a>	Cynthia, 1890 May 30 Holograph full score; holograph piano-vocal score
LCCN: <a href="#">2012570099</a>	<i>Les Deux Vieilles Gardes</i> , undated Libretto by Ferdinand de Villeneuve and Alphonse Lemonnier Holograph full score
LCCN: <a href="#">2012570150</a>	<i>Les Eaux d'Ems</i> , undated Libretto by Hector-Jonathan Crémieux and Ludovic Halévy Holograph full score
LCCN: <a href="#">2012570151</a>	<i>L'Ecossais de Chatou</i> , undated Libretto by Philippe Gille and Adolphe Jaime Holograph full score
LCCN: <a href="#">2012570152</a>	Enfants Graine d'Officiers, undated Holograph sketch
LCCN: <a href="#">2012570200</a>	Épithalame, 1887 November 11 Text by Édouard Grenier Holograph score for voice and piano <i>Note</i> : Inscribed "à mademoiselle Valentine de Menasce, composé pour le jour de son mariage avec mon ami Isaac Léon"
LCCN: <a href="#">2012570201</a>	Fanfares A B Exposition Universelle, 1889 September Two holograph full scores; holograph short score; manuscript full score

## Music, 1857-1890

Container	Contents
LCCN: <a href="#">2012570203</a>	Honneur au Frere Garnier!, 1889 June Holograph piano-vocal score
LCCN: <a href="#">2012570204</a>	Horse-guard's March, 1861 June Holograph full score for orchestra
LCCN: <a href="#">2012570205</a>	Hymne National Russe, undated Holograph full score
LCCN: <a href="#">2012570206</a>	<i>Le Jardinier et Son Seigneur</i> , 1861 Libretto by Michel Carré and Théodore Barrière Holograph full score
LCCN: <a href="#">2012570207</a>	<i>Jean de Nivelle</i> , 1877-1880 Libretto by Edmond Gondinet and Philippe Gille Holograph full score; fragments
LCCN: <a href="#">2012570209</a>	<i>Jean de Nivelle</i> , undated Libretto by Edmond Gondinet and Philippe Gille Holograph full score
LCCN: <a href="#">2012570208</a>	<i>Jean de Nivelle</i> , undated Libretto by Edmond Gondinet and Philippe Gille Holograph piano-vocal score
LCCN: <a href="#">unk85065555</a>	<i>Jean de Nivelle</i> , 1880 and undated Libretto by Edmond Gondinet and Philippe Gille Printed piano-vocal score (1880); holograph recitations (undated) Paris: Heugel et Fils, second edition
LCCN: LCCN TBA	<i>Kassya</i> , 1886-1890 Libretto by Henri Meilhac and Philippe Gille Holograph piano-vocal score
LCCN: <a href="#">unk84108099</a>	<i>Lakmé</i> , 1882-1883 Libretto by Edmond Gondinet and Philippe Gille Holograph full score; fragments
LCCN: <a href="#">2012570210</a>	<i>Lakmé</i> , 1881-1882 Libretto by Edmond Gondinet and Philippe Gille Holograph piano-vocal score <i>Note:</i> Includes added recitatives
LCCN: <a href="#">2012570211</a>	<i>Marlbrough s'en Va-t-en Guerre</i> , undated By Delibes, Georges Bizet, Émile Jonas, and Isidore Legouix Libretto by Paul Siraudin and William Bertrand Busnach Holograph full score
LCCN: <a href="#">unk84119024</a>	Mazurka Coppelia, undated Holograph score for piano four hands
LCCN: <a href="#">2012570202</a>	Miscellaneous fragments, 1871 April and undated Thirteen holograph, manuscript, and printed fragments
LCCN: <a href="#">2012570221</a>	Miscellaneous sketches, undated Seven notebooks containing holograph fragments of many Delibes compositions
LCCN: <a href="#">2012570213</a>	<i>Mon Ami Pierrot</i> , 1862 July 3 Libretto by Lockroy Holograph full score; manuscript libretto
LCCN: <a href="#">2012570214</a>	<i>Monsieur de Bonne-Étoile</i> , undated Libretto by Philippe Gille and Adolphe Jaime

## Music, 1857-1890

### Container

### Contents

---

- LCCN: [2012570215](#) Holograph full score  
*Monsieur Griffard*, 1857 September 26  
Libretto by Eugène Mestépès and Adolphe Jaime  
Holograph full score
- LCCN: [2012570218](#) Monte d'Auvergne: Grand Fantasia pour Trompes ce chasse en Ré, undated  
Holograph score  
*Note*: "Concours ouvert par la Saint-Hubert Vichysoise" on cover
- LCCN: [2012570217](#) Monte d'Auvergne: Fantasia pour Trompes ce chasse en Ré, 1890 August 31-September 10  
Holograph score  
*Note*: "Fanfare Lyre Vichysoise" on cover
- LCCN: [2012570219](#) Musique Composee pour Garin (Theatre francais), undated  
Two holograph full scores; two holograph piano-vocal scores
- LCCN: [2012570220](#) Nice, undated  
Holograph sketches
- LCCN: [unk84073923](#) Les Norvegiennes, 1867-1868  
Text by Philippe Gille  
Holograph piano-vocal score
- LCCN: [2012570227](#) Les Nymphes des Bois, 1867 May  
Holograph full score
- LCCN: [2012570101](#) Les Nymphes des Bois, undated  
Text by Charles Nutter  
Holograph piano-vocal score
- LCCN: [2012570224](#) Les Nymphes des Bois, undated  
Text by Charles Nutter  
Holograph piano-vocal score
- LCCN: LCCN TBA Oluber, 1881 January 6  
Holograph piano-vocal score
- LCCN: [2012570228](#) *L'omelette à la Follembuche*, undated  
Libretto by Marc-Michel and Eugène Labiche  
Holograph full score
- LCCN: [unk84106214](#) *L'omelette à la Follembuche*, undated  
Libretto by Marc-Michel and Eugène Labiche  
Holograph full score
- LCCN: LCCN TBA Rigaudon, 1887 October 24  
Holograph score for piano
- LCCN: [2012570216](#) *Le Roi l'a Dit*, undated  
Libretto by Edmond Gondinet  
Holograph piano-vocal score
- LCCN: [2012570231](#) *Le Roi S'amuse*, 1882 September-October  
Incidental music to play by Victor Hugo  
Holograph full score
- LCCN: [unk84224346](#) Romance Hongroise (sans paroles), undated  
Holograph score for piano
- LCCN: [2012570233](#) Sérénade (à Ninon?), undated  
Text by Alfred de Musset  
Manuscript score for voice and piano; parts for mandolin and harp; sketches; fragments



## Music, 1857-1890

### Container

### Contents

---

- LCCN: [2012570234](#) *Le Serpent à Plumes*, undated  
Libretto by Philippe Gille  
Holograph full score
- LCCN: [2012570235](#) *Six Demoiselles à Marier*, undated  
Libretto by Adolphe Jaime and Adolphe Joseph Choler  
Holograph full score
- LCCN: [2012570237](#) Solo Violin (*Sylvia*), undated  
Holograph score for violin and piano; manuscript violin part
- LCCN: [2012570238](#) *La Source*, undated  
By Delibes and Ludwig Minkus  
Choreography by Arthur Saint-Léon  
Holograph full score (incomplete; second and third tableaux of Act 2 only)
- LCCN: [2012570239](#) *La Source*, 1866  
By Delibes and Ludwig Minkus  
Choreography by Arthur Saint-Léon  
Holograph full score (incomplete; second and third tableaux of Act 2 only); libretto with performance annotations; letter
- LCCN: [2012570229](#) *La Source: La Pas des Fleurs*, 1867 September  
Holograph full score  
*Laid in:* Also includes holograph full scores for *Le Rhin Allemand* and *Variation de Mlle. Grantzow*  
*Note:* From *Naila*
- LCCN: [2012570240](#) *Souvenir d'Allemagne - Impromptu*, 1866 August 10?  
Holograph score for piano
- LCCN: [2012570241](#) *Souvenir Lointain (Romance sans Paroles)*, undated  
Holograph score for piano
- LCCN: [2012570243](#) *Sylvia*, 1876 May  
Choreography by Louis Mérante  
Holograph full score of numbers 1-18
- LCCN: [2012570242](#) *Sylvia*, undated  
Choreography by Louis Mérante  
Holograph full score; holograph vocal-score
- LCCN: [unk84159087](#) *Sylvia*, 1875 October 24  
Choreography by Louis Mérante  
Holograph piano-vocal score of numbers 1-18; fragments  
*Note:* Some fragments not in Delibes' hand