**Collection Summary**

**Title:** Allesandro and Speranza Liberati Papers  
**Inclusive Dates:** 1880-1947  
**Bulk Dates:** 1881-1930  
**Call No.:** ML31.L52  
**Creator:** Liberati, Allesandro (1847-1927); Liberati, Speranza  
**Extent:** approximately 355 items  
**Extent:** 5 containers  
**Extent:** 3 linear feet  
**Language:** Collection material in English, with some in Italian  
**Location:** Music Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.  
**LC Catalog record:** [https://lccn.loc.gov/2006568224](https://lccn.loc.gov/2006568224)  
**Summary:** Allesandro Liberati (1847-1927) was an Italian-born American cornetist, bandmaster, and composer. After making his public debut at age fourteen, he had extensive musical and military careers in Italy, Canada, and eventually the United States. This collection contains manuscript and printed scores and parts, iconography, books, correspondence, clippings, and other assorted personal papers from Allesandro's life, as well as several documents from his daughter, Speranza Liberati.

**Acquisition Information**

Purchase, Steve Orlando, 1991

**Accruals**

No further accruals are expected.

**Processing History**


**Related Material**

The [Leonard B. Smith Papers](https://lccn.loc.gov/2006568224) contain several works composed by Allesandro Liberati.

**Copyright Status**

Materials from the Allesandro and Speranza Liberati 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 Allesandro and Speranza Liberati 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 on using or copying materials may apply.
Preferred Citation
Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [item, date, container or reel or digital ID number], Allesandro and Speranza Liberati Papers, Music Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1847</td>
<td>Born in Frascati, Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>circa 1859</td>
<td>Began studying cornet with his father</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1861</td>
<td>Made his public debut performing an aria from <em>Il Trovatore</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1864</td>
<td>Enlisted in the Papal Army and performed with the First Cacciatori Band of Rome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1866</td>
<td>Performed as chief bugler and cornet soloist in Giuseppe Garibaldi's army</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1866-1871</td>
<td>Toured throughout Italy as a performer, conductor, and educator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1871</td>
<td>Enlisted in the French Foreign Legion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1872</td>
<td>Invited to be a special soloist for the Peace Jubilee of 1872, organized by Patrick Gilmore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1873</td>
<td>Became director and soloist for the Canadian Artillery Band</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1875</td>
<td>Became director of the Michigan National Guard Band and the Detriot Police Bugle Band</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1876</td>
<td>Became a United States citizen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Performed with his bands at the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1881</td>
<td>Married Elsie Liberati</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>circa 1883</td>
<td>Daughter Speranza Liberati born (died before 1940)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1885</td>
<td>Son Allesandro Liberati born</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1889</td>
<td>Formed the World Renowned Liberati Band, later known as the Grand Military Band</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1890s</td>
<td>Made multiple recordings for Thomas Edison</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1907</td>
<td>Formed the Liberati Grand Opera Company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1919</td>
<td>Became bandmaster of the Dodge Brothers Concert Band</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1923</td>
<td>Moved to New York City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1927 Nov 6</td>
<td>Died in New York City</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Scope and Content Note

The Allesandro and Speranza Liberati Papers span the years 1880 to 1947, the bulk of which dates from 1881 to 1930. The *Music* series is primarily comprised of Allesandro and Speranza's works, as well as several arrangements by others. Included are manuscript scores, instructional methods, printed scores for piano, music for solo cornet, and parts.

The *Iconography* series contains photographs of Allesandro alone and with his band, as well as images of the Liberati family.

The *Papers* series contains personal and business-related documents from Allesandro's life and career. Materials related to Speranza include correspondence and teaching materials. The series also contains clippings, correspondence from or about Allesandro, legal and financial papers, promotional materials and programs, contracts, miscellaneous teaching materials, two books from Allesandro's personal collection, and a scrapbook.

Organization of the Allesandro and Speranza Liberati Papers

The collection is arranged in three series:

- *Music, 1881-1941*
- *Iconography, 1889-1919*
- *Papers, 1880-1947*
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
Liberati, Allesandro, 1847-1927--Archives.
Liberati, Allesandro, 1847-1927--Correspondence.
Liberati, Allesandro, 1847-1927--Photographs.
Liberati, Allesandro, 1847-1927.
Liberati, Speranza--Correspondence.
Liberati, Speranza.
Liberati, Speranza.

Subjects
Band music--Scores.
Cornet players--Correspondence.
Popular music--United States.

Titles
Alessandro Liberati collection

Form/Genre
Albums (Books)
Autographs (Manuscripts)
Books.
Business correspondence.
Clippings (Information artifacts)
Concert programs.
Contracts.
Dance music.
Financial records.
Instructional and educational works.
Marches (Music)
Personal correspondence.
Photographs.
Popular music.
Promotional materials.
Scores.
Description of Series

Container  | Series  | Description
-----------|---------|-------------
BOX 1       | **Music, 1881-1941** | This series is primarily comprised of Allesandro and Speranza's works, but also contains several arrangements by others. Included are manuscript scores, instructional methods, printed scores for piano, music for solo cornet, and parts. Items are manuscripts unless otherwise noted.
            |         | Arranged alphabetically by title.
BOX 3, 5   | **Iconography, 1889-1919** | This series consists of photographs of Allesandro alone and with his band, as well as images of the Liberati family.
            |         | Arranged by subject.
BOX 2, 4-5 | **Papers, 1880-1947** | This series includes personal and business-related documents from Allesandro's life and career. Materials related to Speranza include correspondence and teaching materials. The series consists of clippings, correspondence from or about Allesandro, legal and financial papers, promotional materials and programs, contracts, miscellaneous teaching materials, two books from Allesandro's personal collection, and a scrapbook.
            |         | Arranged alphabetically by format.
Container List

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This series is primarily comprised of Allesandro and Speranza's works, but also contains several arrangements by others. Included are manuscript scores, instructional methods, printed scores for piano, music for solo cornet, and parts. Items are manuscripts unless otherwise noted.  
Arranged alphabetically by title. |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/1 | Akdar Fanfare March, 1922  
Lead sheet |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/15 | Alaska-Yukon Pacific Exposition March, 1909  
Printed score for piano |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/16 | America March for Bugler, 1916  
Printed score for piano |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/17 | The Battle Cry of Freedom, 1881  
Printed score for solo cornet and piano |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/19 | Belle of the East, 1896  
Printed score for piano |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/18 | The Belle of Manila, 1913  
Printed score for piano |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/2 | The Bugler's Dream Valse, undated  
Lead sheet |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/20 | Centennial March, 1918  
Printed score for piano |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/3 | Christmas, undated  
Score for voice and piano |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/4 | Cornet Method for Single Tongueing and Slurring, undated  
Instructional method |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/21 | Dodge Brothers March, 1919  
Printed score for piano |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/5 | Exercises to Develop Volume and High Register, undated  
Instructional method |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/6 | Foxtrot, 1922  
Score for piano and vocal part without lyrics |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/22 | The Hella Temple March, 1894  
Printed score for piano |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/23 | Jockey Club March, 1906  
Arranged by A. P. Scheurman  
Printed score for piano |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/24 | Just in Time March, 1910  
Arranged by Speranza Liberati  
Score for piano |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/7 | Kansas City Star March, undated  
Arranged by Francesco Nitti-Nisi  
Full score for band |
<table>
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| BOX-FOLDER 1/25 | Kansas City Star March, 1899  
Score for piano |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/8 | Ma Dad's Birthday, undated  
Part for solo cornet |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/9 | March for Bugles, undated  
Score for piano |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/26 | March of the Inland Tribes, 1913  
Score for piano |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/33 | Method for Cornet, undated  
Instructional method |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/27 | My Own Dear Cherished Home, 1882  
Piano-vocal score |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/28 | La Mia Speranza, Valse Lento, 1913  
Score for piano |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/27 | On the Delaware, Barcarole, 1898  
Score for piano |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/10 | Our Hero in Command March and The Commander in Chief March, undated  
Arranged by August Damm  
Incomplete set of parts for band |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/27 | Potlatch March, 1913  
Score for piano |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/11 | Reminiscence of Liberati, undated  
By E. Giannone  
Parts for band |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/28 | Suffragette Parade March, 1912  
Arranged by Speranza Liberati  
Score for piano |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/29 | Valse Caprice, 1941  
Revised by Clifford Barnes  
Score for solo cornet and piano |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/12 | Walse Elise, undated  
Arranged by August Halter  
Score for solo cornet and piano |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/13 | Unidentified medley, undated |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/14 | Unidentified fragments, undated |

**BOX 3, 5**  
**Iconography, 1889-1919**  
This series consists of photographs of Allesandro alone and with his band, as well as images of the Liberati family.  
Arranged by subject.

**BOX-FOLDER 5/5, 3/2**  
Liberati, Allesandro, 1908 and undated

**BOX-FOLDER 5/6, 3/1**  
Liberati, Allesandro, and his band, 1889, 1909, 1919, and undated

**BOX-FOLDER 5/4**  
Liberati, Speranza, undated

**BOX-FOLDER 5/3, 3/3**  
Liberati family, undated

**BOX 2, 4-5**  
**Papers, 1880-1947**  
This series includes personal and business-related documents from Allesandro's life and career.  
Materials related to Speranza include correspondence and teaching materials. The series
consists of clippings, correspondence from or about Allesandro, legal and financial papers, promotional materials and programs, contracts, miscellaneous teaching materials, two books from Allesandro's personal collection, and a scrapbook.

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<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 4/1</td>
<td>Clippings, 1880s-1890s and undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 5/1</td>
<td>Correspondence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 5/2</td>
<td>Liberati, Allesandro, 1887-1926 and undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 2/3</td>
<td>Liberati, Speranza, 1927-1947 and undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 2/2</td>
<td>Legal and financial papers, 1909, 1915, 1946</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 2/2</td>
<td>Miscellany, 1883-1923 and undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 2/1</td>
<td>Promotional materials, contracts, lists, and other papers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 2/1</td>
<td>Programs, 1883-1928 and undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 4/2</td>
<td>Scrapbook, 1880s-1890s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 5/7</td>
<td>Teaching materials, 1887, 1910-1946</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 5/7</td>
<td>Speranza Liberati's program, roll book, identification card, and printed music</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>