

# Med Flory Arrangements for Supersax



**Music Division, Library of Congress  
Washington, D.C.  
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Contact information: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.music/perform.contact>

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Prepared by the Music Division of the Library of Congress

Finding aid encoded by Alicia Patterson and Christopher Hartten, 2021 July

## Collection Summary

**Title:** Med Flory Arrangements for Supersax

**Inclusive Dates:** 1970s-1980s

**Call No.:** ML31.F63

**Creator:** Flory, Med, 1946-2014

**Extent:** 31 items

**Extent:** 1 container

**Extent:** 1.5 linear feet

**Language:** Collection material in English

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

**LC Catalog record:** <https://lccn.loc.gov/2006560768>

**Summary:** Med Flory was an American saxophonist, bandleader, actor, and screenwriter. He began working on arrangements of Charlie Parker choruses in 1956 and eventually founded Supersax in 1972, an ensemble dedicated to the performance of Parker's repertoire. The collection contains manuscript scores and several parts for Flory's arrangements for Supersax.

## Acquisition Information

Gift, Med Flory, 1994

## Accruals

No further accruals are expected.

## Processing History

Lloyd Pinchback processed the Med Flory Arrangements for Supersax in the 1990s. Alicia Patterson and Christopher Hartten coded the finding aid in 2021.

## Copyright Status

Materials from the Med Flory Arrangements for Supersax 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 Med Flory Arrangements for Supersax 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], Med Flory Arrangements for Supersax, Music Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## Biographical Note

Meredith "Med" Irwin Flory was born in Logansport, Indiana, on August 27, 1926. He was inspired to pursue music at an early age by his mother, Florence Flory, a voice teacher and organist. He began playing clarinet at age nine and continued to do so during his years at Logansport High School, where he graduated in 1944. Following a semester at Indiana University, Flory signed on with the U. S. Army Air Corps during the Second World War before later returning to the school to complete his bachelors degree in philosophy in 1950. He immediately moved to New York and joined up with bandleader Claude Thornhill, touring rigorously for several years throughout the country. During this time he met his future wife, Joan Barbara Fry, a singer with the band.

In 1956, Flory moved to California and immersed himself in the cool jazz movement on the West Coast. He joined Ray Anthony's band in 1955 and later performed with the likes of alto saxophonists Art Pepper and Joe Maini and bassist Buddy Clark, the latter with whom he founded Supersax in 1972. Flory was especially taken with the talents of Charlie Parker and began working on harmonized arrangements of Parker's signature tunes as early as 1956. Supersax, a nine-piece ensemble of five saxophones and rhythm section, made its live debut in North Hollywood in 1973. The band won the Grammy Award for Best Jazz Performance by a Group in 1974 for its album *Supersax Plays Bird* and went on to record eight more, the last being *Stone Bird* in 1988.

Flory also developed a successful parallel career as an actor beginning in 1960 with his appearance on the television series *Lawman*. Despite having no formal training, he cultivated his talent into a variety of successful stints on the screen, including *Bonanza* (three episodes), *Gunsmoke* (two episodes), *Lassie* (ten episodes), and *Daniel Boone* (seven episodes). Altogether, Flory starred in more than one hundred productions, including several films, such as *The Nutty Professor* (1963). He enjoyed the duality of his music and screen careers, although the success of Supersax dictated many of his later professional engagements. Flory died of a heart ailment in Hollywood, California, on March 12, 2014.

## Bibliography

- Myers, Marc. "Interview: Med Flory (Part 1)." *JazzWax* (blog). July 28, 2009. <https://www.jazzwax.com/2009/07/interview-med-flory-part-1.html>. Last accessed July 2, 2021.
- Myers, Marc. "Interview: Med Flory (Part 2)." *JazzWax* (blog). July 29, 2009. <https://www.jazzwax.com/2009/07/interview-med-flory-part-2.html>. Last accessed July 2, 2021.
- Heckman, Don. "Med Flory Dies at 87; Alto Saxophonist and Actor Founded Grammy-winning Jazz Group Supersax." *Los Angeles Times*, March, 15, 2014. <https://www.latimes.com/local/obituaries/la-xpm-2014-mar-15-la-me-med-flory-20140316-story.html>. Last accessed July 2, 2021.

## Scope and Content Note

The Med Flory Arrangements for Supersax consist of a single series of manuscript scores written during the 1970s and 1980s. Few of the arrangements bear dates of composition, although those that do are from the late 1970s. Several of these scores are accompanied by a single saxophone part. Flory's harmonizations represent many of Charlie Parker's best known originals and covers, including "Just Friends," "Donna Lee," "Ko Ko," and "Yardbird Suite," among others.

## Organization of the Med Flory Arrangements for Supersax

The collection is arranged in one series:

- [Music, 1970s-1980s](#)

## 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

Flory, Med, 1926-2014.  
Flory, Med, 1926-2014.  
Parker, Charlie, 1920-1955. Works. Selections; arranged.

**Organizations**

Supersax (Musical group)

**Subjects**

Jazz.

Saxophone ensembles--Scores and parts.

**Titles**

*Med Flory/Supersax collection, 1972-1987.*

**Form/Genre**

Arrangements (Music)

Autographs (Manuscripts)

Jazz.

Scores.

## Description of Series

### Container

BOX 1

### Series

Music, 1970s-1980s

This series consists of manuscript score arrangements by Med Flory for the nine-piece ensemble, Supersax. Some works may also include a separate saxophone part.

Arranged by title.

# Container List

<b>Container</b>	<b>Contents</b>
<b>BOX 1</b>	<b>Music, 1970s-1980s</b> This series consists of manuscript score arrangements by Med Flory for the nine-piece ensemble, Supersax. Some works may also include a separate saxophone part. Arranged by title.
<b>BOX-FOLDER 1/1</b>	April in Paris By Vernon Duke and E. Y. Harburg Full score
<b>BOX-FOLDER 1/2</b>	Au-Leu-Cha By Charlie Parker Full score; 1st alto saxophone part
<b>BOX-FOLDER 1/3</b>	Au Privave By Charlie Parker Full score
<b>BOX-FOLDER 1/4</b>	Bloomdido By Charlie Parker Full score
<b>BOX-FOLDER 1/5</b>	Blue 'n' Boogie By Dizzy Gillespie and Frank Paparelli Full score; 1st alto saxophone part
<b>BOX-FOLDER 1/6</b>	Blues for Alice By Charlie Parker Score for saxophones; score of top chorus
<b>BOX-FOLDER 1/7</b>	Chasin' the Bird By Charlie Parker Full score
<b>BOX-FOLDER 1/8</b>	Chi Chi By Charlie Parker Full score
<b>BOX-FOLDER 1/9</b>	Confirmation By Charlie Parker Full score; baritone saxophone part
<b>BOX-FOLDER 1/10</b>	Cool Blooz By Charlie Parker Full score
<b>BOX-FOLDER 1/11</b>	Dewey Square By Charlie Parker Full score
<b>BOX-FOLDER 1/12</b>	Donna Lee By Charlie Parker Full score
<b>BOX-FOLDER 1/13</b>	Don't Blame Me By Jimmy McHugh and Dorothy Fields Full score

## Music, 1970s-1980s

<b>Container</b>	<b>Contents</b>
<b>BOX-FOLDER 1/14</b>	If I Should Lose You By Ralph Rainer and Leo Robin Full score
<b>BOX-FOLDER 1/15</b>	In the Still of the Night By Cole Porter Full score
<b>BOX-FOLDER 1/16</b>	Just Friends By J. Klenner and S. M. Lewis Score for saxophones
<b>BOX-FOLDER 1/17</b>	K. C. Blues By Charlie Parker Full score
<b>BOX-FOLDER 1/18</b>	Ko Ko By Charlie Parker Full score
<b>BOX-FOLDER 1/19</b>	Moose the Mooche By Charlie Parker Full score
<b>BOX-FOLDER 1/20</b>	Oop Bop Sh'bam By Dizzie Gillespie Full score
<b>BOX-FOLDER 1/21</b>	Scrapple from the Apple By Charlie Parker Score for saxophones; 1st alto saxophone part
<b>BOX-FOLDER 1/22</b>	Shaw Nuff By Charlie Parker and Dizzy Gillespie Full score
<b>BOX-FOLDER 1/23</b>	The Song Is You By Jerome Kern and Oscar Hammerstein Full score
<b>BOX-FOLDER 1/24</b>	Tempus Fugit By Bud Powell Full score
<b>BOX-FOLDER 1/25</b>	They Can't Take That Away from Me By George and Ira Gershwin Full score
<b>BOX-FOLDER 1/26</b>	Yardbird Suite By Charlie Parker Full score