

# Luigi Dallapiccola Correspondence with Rudy Shackelford



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

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Prepared by the Music Division of the Library of Congress

Finding aid encoded by Emily Baumgart and Alicia Patterson, 2021 August

## Collection Summary

**Title:** Luigi Dallapiccola Correspondence with Rudy Shackelford

**Inclusive Dates:** 1953-1973

**Bulk Dates:** 1969-1973

**Call No.:** ML31.D328

**Creator:** Dallapiccola, Luigi, 1904-1975

**Creator:** Shackelford, Rudy, 1944-

**Extent:** 20 items

**Extent:** 1 container

**Extent:** 0.25 linear feet

**Language:** Collection material in Italian and English.

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

**LC Catalog record:** <https://lccn.loc.gov/2016570551>

**Summary:** Luigi Dallapiccola was an Italian composer known for his use of serial techniques. His works ranged from large dramatic forms, such as his ballet *Marsia* and his opera *Ulisse*, to chamber works, including *Liriche Greche*, his first completely dodecaphonic composition. Rudy Shackelford is an American composer, organist, and writer. During the late 1960s and early 1970s, he began corresponding with Dallapiccola regarding the transcription of the latter's *Quaderno Musicale di Annalibera* for organ. The collection contains letters related to this activity, as well as an annotated score of the work itself.

## Acquisition Information

Gift of Rudy Shackelford, 1988.

## Accruals

No further accruals are expected.

## Processing History

Music Division staff processed the Luigi Dallapiccola Correspondence with Rudy Shackelford prior to 2012. Emily Baumgart and Alicia Patterson coded the finding aid in August 2021.

## Related Material

Several collections in the Music Division contain music and correspondence by Luigi Dallapiccola, most notably the [Margaret \("Peggie"\) Dwight Collection on Luigi Dallapiccola](#), the [Harold Spivacke Collection](#), and the [Nicolas Slonimsky Collection](#).

## Copyright Status

Materials from the Luigi Dallapiccola Correspondence with Rudy Shackelford 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 Luigi Dallapiccola Correspondence with Rudy Shackelford 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 on using or copying materials may apply.

## Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [item, date, container], Luigi Dallapiccola Correspondence with Rudy Shackelford, Music Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## Biographical Notes

### Luigi Dallapiccola

Luigi Dallapiccola was born in Pisino d'Istria, now part of Croatia, on February 3, 1904. Territorial disputes over the area and his family's Italian nationalist ties resulted in the family's internment at Graz. They returned to Pisino after World War I when the region was transferred to Italy. In Graz, Dallapiccola was influenced by operatic works, particularly those by Mozart and Wagner; later in the 1910s, he was also influenced by the music of Debussy as well as early Italian composers. He began studying at the Florence Conservatory in 1922, piano with Ernesto Consolo and composition with Roberto Casiraghi and Vito Frazzi. He joined the faculty of the Conservatory in 1931 and remained there until his retirement in 1967. By the early 1930s, he had become familiar with the serial music of Arnold Schoenberg, Anton Webern, and Alban Berg, and began experimenting with 12-tone techniques in his *Cori di Michelangelo* (1933-1936) and *Tre Laudi* (1936-1937), focusing on using serial techniques to create melodic lines. His last work in diatonic style, the ballet *Marsia*, and his first fully serialist composition, *Liriche Greche*, were both composed in 1942. Many of his works focus on protests against fascism, including the one-act opera *Il Prigioniero* (1944-1948) and the cantata *Canti di Liberazione* (1951-1955). After World War II, Dallapiccola's music gained more widespread recognition, leading to international success and teaching appointments at Tanglewood. His last largescale work, the opera *Ulisse*, was completed in 1968. He died in Florence on February 19, 1975.

### Rudy Shackelford

Rudy Shackelford was born in Newport News, Virginia, on April 18, 1944. He studied at Virginia Commonwealth University and received his MM and DMA degrees in composition from the University of Illinois, studying under Gordon Binkerd. He received several fellowships in composition from the MacDowell Colony during the 1970s and began corresponding with Dallapiccola in 1969 regarding his organ transcription project of Dallapiccola's *Quaderno Musicale di Annalibera*. He also edited the first English-language collection of essays by Dallapiccola, *Dallapiccola on Opera*, and has written multiple scholarly articles as well as poetry.

## Scope and Content Note

The Luigi Dallapiccola Correspondence with Rudy Shackelford chiefly consists of typescript letters, written from 1969 to 1973, pertaining to Shackelford's plans to transcribe Dallapiccola's *Quaderno Musicale di Annalibera* for organ. An annotated copy of the work is included in the collection. The composers also discuss some of Dallapiccola's other compositions and his professional travels during this time period. Included on some letters are musical excerpts in Dallapiccola's hand. The letters are in English and Italian, and a set of translations is available.

## Organization of the Luigi Dallapiccola Correspondence with Rudy Shackelford

The collection is arranged in two series:

- [Correspondence, 1969-1973](#)
- [Music, 1953](#)

## 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**

Dallapiccola, Luigi, 1904-1975--Correspondence.  
Dallapiccola, Luigi, 1904-1975.  
Dallapiccola, Luigi, 1904-1975.  
Dallapiccola, Luigi, 1904-1975. Quaderno musicale di Annalibera.  
Dallapiccola, Luigi, 1904-1975. Quaderno musicale di Annalibera.  
Shackelford, Rudy, 1944-  
Shackelford, Rudy, 1944- --Correspondence.

**Subjects**

Arrangement (Music)  
Composers--Italy--Correspondence.  
Piano music.  
Twelve-tone system.

**Titles**

*Dallapiccola / Shackelford correspondence*

**Form/Genre**

Art music.  
Autographs (Manuscripts)  
Personal correspondence.  
Scores.

## Description of Series

### Container

### Series

BOX 1

#### Correspondence, 1969-1973

Letters between Luigi Dallapiccola and Rudy Shackelford, primarily pertaining to Shackelford's organ transcription project. Some of these include musical excerpts and annotations. All items in Folder 1 are typescript letters, signed.  
Arranged chronologically.

BOX 1

#### Music, 1953

Score for Dallapiccola's *Quaderno Musicale di Annalibera*.

# Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	<b>Correspondence, 1969-1973</b> Letters between Luigi Dallapiccola and Rudy Shackelford, primarily pertaining to Shackelford's organ transcription project. Some of these include musical excerpts and annotations. All items in Folder 1 are typescript letters, signed. Arranged chronologically.
BOX-FOLDER 1/1	Dallapiccola, Luigi to Rudy Shackelford, 1969 July 9
BOX-FOLDER 1/1	Dallapiccola, Luigi to Rudy Shackelford, 1969 September 14 <i>Note:</i> Includes notated music in Dallapiccola's hand
BOX-FOLDER 1/1	Shackelford, Rudy to Luigi Dallapiccola, 1969 October 8
BOX-FOLDER 1/1	Dallapiccola, Luigi to Rudy Shackelford, 1969 October 13
BOX-FOLDER 1/1	Shackelford, Rudy to Luigi Dallapiccola, 1969 December 30
BOX-FOLDER 1/1	Dallapiccola, Luigi to Rudy Shackelford, 1970 January 24
BOX-FOLDER 1/1	Dallapiccola, Luigi to Rudy Shackelford, 1970 March 11
BOX-FOLDER 1/1	Dallapiccola, Luigi to Rudy Shackelford, 1970 May 7
BOX-FOLDER 1/1	Dallapiccola, Luigi to Rudy Shackelford, 1970 June 7 <i>Note:</i> Includes corrected tone rows in Dallapiccola's hand
BOX-FOLDER 1/1	Dallapiccola, Luigi to Rudy Shackelford, 1970 July 1
BOX-FOLDER 1/1	Dallapiccola, Luigi to Rudy Shackelford, 1970 August 18
BOX-FOLDER 1/1	Dallapiccola, Luigi to Rudy Shackelford, 1970 October 26 <i>Note:</i> Includes musical notation of tone row in Dallapiccola's hand
BOX-FOLDER 1/1	Dallapiccola, Luigi to Rudy Shackelford, 1970 November 16
BOX-FOLDER 1/1	Dallapiccola, Luigi to Rudy Shackelford, 1970 December 10
BOX-FOLDER 1/1	Dallapiccola, Luigi to Rudy Shackelford, 1971 January 12
BOX-FOLDER 1/1	Dallapiccola, Luigi to Rudy Shackelford, 1971 March 29
BOX-FOLDER 1/1	Dallapiccola, Luigi to Rudy Shackelford, 1971 September 5
BOX-FOLDER 1/1	Dallapiccola, Luigi to Rudy Shackelford, 1973 September 8
BOX-FOLDER 1/2	English translations of letters from Dallapiccola to Shackelford, 1969-1973
BOX 1	<b>Music, 1953</b> Score for Dallapiccola's <i>Quaderno Musicale di Annalibera</i> .
BOX-FOLDER 1/3	<i>Quaderno Musicale di Annalibera</i> , 1953 Photocopied score for piano, with annotations in Dallapiccola's hand <i>Note:</i> Annotations pertain mostly to row iterations. Originally included with letter from Dallapiccola to Shackelford, 1970 June 7