

Charles Miller Collection of 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/2020570155>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.music/eadmus.mu022002>

Prepared by the Music Division of the Library of Congress

Finding aid encoded by Jane Cross, 2021 December

Collection Summary

Title: Charles Miller Collection of Music Manuscripts

Inclusive Dates: 1924-1945

Call No.: ML31.M547

Creator: Miller, Charles, approximately 1883-1979

Extent: 31 items

Extent: 1 container

Extent: 1 linear foot

Language: Collection material in English

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/2020570155>

Summary: Charles Miller was an arranger, orchestrator, copyist, and editor who worked with many prominent Broadway composers of the early twentieth century. The collection primarily contains holograph and manuscript piano-vocal scores and scores for piano by Victor Herbert, Victor Jacobi, Werner Janssen, Jerome Kern, Fritz Kreisler, and Vincent Youmans, as well as a typescript article about Victor Herbert written by Miller.

Acquisition Information

These materials were purchased from a dealer in September 2007.

Accruals

No further accruals are expected.

Processing History

Loras Schissel processed the Charles Miller Collection of Music Manuscripts in the 1990s. Jane Cross coded the finding aid in 2021.

Related Material

The [Jerome Kern Collection](#) and the [Warner/Chappell Collection](#) contain several arrangements by Charles Miller.

Copyright Status

Materials from the Charles Miller Collection of 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 Charles Miller Collection of Music Manuscripts 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 number], Charles Miller Collection of Music Manuscripts, Music Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Charles Miller was born around 1883 in Amsterdam and emigrated to the United States in 1888. He worked as a music secretary, copyist, arranger, orchestrator, and music publisher. The composers with whom he worked included John Philip Sousa, Victor Herbert, Jerome Kern, Vincent Youmans, and Rudolf Friml. The orchestration for which Miller is perhaps best well known is his Symphonic Scenario from *Show Boat*. He served as an editor and general manager at T. B. Harms, Inc. music publishers in New York City in the 1910s-1920s. In 1929, he founded the publishing house Miller Music, Inc., which was taken over by Robbins Music, the music branch of MGM Studios. Miller moved to Hollywood in 1937 and began working in the film music industry. He was married to Adela Mieles (1883-1965) and they had one son, Everett (born 1908). Miller died in New Hope, Pennsylvania, on October 20, 1979.

Bibliography

Suskin, Steven. *The Sound of Broadway Music: A Book of Orchestrators and Orchestration*. Oxford University Press, 2011.
Bartlet, Chuck and Barbara Bergeron, ed. *Variety Obituaries*, Volume 8. Garland Publishing, 1988.

Scope and Content Note

The Charles Miller Collection of Music Manuscripts spans from 1924 to 1945, with many of the musical works undated. Holograph and manuscript piano-vocal scores and scores for piano primarily comprise the [Music](#) series, which contains works by Victor Herbert, Victor Jacobi, Werner Janssen, Jerome Kern, Fritz Kreisler, and Vincent Youmans. The [Writings](#) series contains a typescript article about Victor Herbert written by Charles Miller.

Organization of the Charles Miller Collection of Music Manuscripts

The collection is arranged in two series:

- [Music, 1924-1945 and undated](#)
- [Writings, 1941](#)

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

Friml, Rudolf, 1879-1972.
Herbert, Victor, 1859-1924.
Jacobi, Victor, 1809-1892.
Janssen, Werner, 1899-1990.
Kern, Jerome, 1885-1945.
Kreisler, Fritz, 1875-1962.
Miller, Charles, approximately 1883-1979--Archives.
Miller, Charles, approximately 1883-1979.
Sousa, John Philip, 1854-1932.
Youmans, Vincent, 1898-1946.

Subjects

Musicals--Excerpts, Arranged--Scores.
Operas--Excerpts, Arranged--Scores.
Piano music.
Popular music--United States.

Form/Genre

Arrangements (Music)
Art music.
Autographs (Manuscripts)
Chamber music.
Excerpts.
Musical sketches.
Musicals.
Operas.
Scores.
Vocal scores.

Description of Series

Container

BOX 1

Series

Music, 1924-1945 and undated

This series contains music by Victor Herbert, Victor Jacboi, Werner Janssen, Jerome Kern, Fritz Kreisler, and Vincent Youmans. The works are primarily piano-vocal scores and scores for piano and all are either composer holographs or copyist manuscripts. The exception is the lyric sheet for "God Spare the Emerald Isle," which is typescript. Arranged alphabetically by composer and title therein.

BOX 1

Writings, 1941

This series contains an article about Victor Herbert written by Charles Miller. Arranged alphabetically by title.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	Music, 1924-1945 and undated This series contains music by Victor Herbert, Victor Jacobi, Werner Janssen, Jerome Kern, Fritz Kreisler, and Vincent Youmans. The works are primarily piano-vocal scores and scores for piano and all are either composer holographs or copyist manuscripts. The exception is the lyric sheet for "God Spare the Emerald Isle," which is typescript. Arranged alphabetically by composer and title therein. Herbert, Victor
BOX-FOLDER 1/2	Allegretto grazioso, undated Alternate title: Dance Routine Holograph score for piano
BOX-FOLDER 1/3	At the Rain-bow's End, undated Holograph piano-vocal score
BOX-FOLDER 1/4	Duo for Two Violins, undated Holograph score
BOX-FOLDER 1/5	God Spare the Emerald Isle, undated Holograph score for voice and piano
BOX-FOLDER 1/6	God Spare the Emerald Isle, undated Lyric sheet
BOX-FOLDER 1/7	If Somebody Would Only Find Me, undated Holograph piano-vocal score
BOX-FOLDER 1/8	If Someone Would Find Me, undated Holograph piano-vocal score
BOX-FOLDER 1/9	Skipping Rope Dance from <i>Tiller Girls</i> , 1924 Holograph score for piano
BOX-FOLDER 1/10	Weaving My Dreams, undated Holograph piano-vocal score without lyrics
BOX-FOLDER 1/11	When Knighthood Was in Flower, undated Holograph piano-vocal score
	Jacobi, Victor
BOX-FOLDER 1/12	What Would a Lady or Gentleman Do?, undated Manuscript piano-vocal score
	Janssen, Werner
BOX-FOLDER 1/13	Quartet in E major, 1934 Photocopy of manuscript score
BOX-FOLDER 1/14	Slow Waltz Song, undated Holograph score for piano
	Kern, Jerome
BOX-FOLDER 1/15	Air de ballet, undated Holograph score for piano <i>Note:</i> "New Show Boat" in parenthesis
BOX-FOLDER 1/16	Canzonetta, undated Holograph score for piano

Music, 1924-1945 and undated

Container	Contents
BOX-FOLDER 1/17	Jerry's last composition, 1945 Holograph sketch for piano
BOX-FOLDER 1/18	Old Rip, undated Holograph piano-vocal score without lyrics
BOX-FOLDER 1/19	Scenario on Themes from <i>Show Boat</i> , undated Arranged by Charles Miller Copyist manuscript short score
BOX-FOLDER 1/20	Unidentified sketches, undated Kreisler, Fritz
BOX-FOLDER 1/21	Finale no. 2, undated Manuscript vocal score Youmans, Vincent
BOX-FOLDER 1/22	Dearest Dear, undated Manuscript score for piano; manuscript lead sheet
BOX-FOLDER 1/23	Look Me in the Eye, undated Manuscript piano-vocal score without lyrics; manuscript score for piano
BOX-FOLDER 1/24	Take a Little Walk, undated Manuscript piano-vocal score without lyrics
BOX 1	Writings, 1941 This series contains an article about Victor Herbert written by Charles Miller. Arranged alphabetically by title.
BOX-FOLDER 1/1	"A Frustrated Composer," 1941 By Charles Miller Article about Victor Herbert