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


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**
Herbert, Victor, 1859-1924.
Jacobi, Victor, 1809-1892.
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Series</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td><strong>Music, 1924-1945 and undated</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>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 &quot;God Spare the Emerald Isle,&quot; which is typescript. Arranged alphabetically by composer and title therein.</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td><strong>Writings, 1941</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>This series contains an article about Victor Herbert written by Charles Miller. Arranged alphabetically by title.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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## Container List

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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 *Tiller Girls*, 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  |
| **Kern, Jerome** |  
BOX-FOLDER 1/14  
Slow Waltz Song, undated  
Holograph score for piano  |
|  |  
BOX-FOLDER 1/15  
Air de ballet, undated  
Holograph score for piano  |
|  |  
BOX-FOLDER 1/16  
Canzonetta, undated  
Holograph score for piano |

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<tr>
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| 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 *Show Boat*, 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 |