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://lccn.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
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

Container                  Series
BOX 1                      **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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Contents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td><strong>Music, 1924-1945 and undated</strong>&lt;br&gt;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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Herbert, Victor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 1/2</td>
<td>Allegretto grazioso, undated&lt;br&gt;Alternate title: Dance Routine&lt;br&gt;Holograph score for piano</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 1/3</td>
<td>At the Rain-bow’s End, undated&lt;br&gt;Holograph piano-vocal score</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 1/4</td>
<td>Duo for Two Violins, undated&lt;br&gt;Holograph score</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 1/5</td>
<td>God Spare the Emerald Isle, undated&lt;br&gt;Holograph score for voice and piano</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 1/6</td>
<td>God Spare the Emerald Isle, undated&lt;br&gt;Lyric sheet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 1/7</td>
<td>If Somebody Would Only Find Me, undated&lt;br&gt;Holograph piano-vocal score</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 1/8</td>
<td>If Someone Would Find Me, undated&lt;br&gt;Holograph piano-vocal score</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 1/9</td>
<td>Skipping Rope Dance from <em>Tiller Girls</em>, 1924&lt;br&gt;Holograph score for piano</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 1/10</td>
<td>Weaving My Dreams, undated&lt;br&gt;Holograph piano-vocal score without lyrics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 1/11</td>
<td>When Knighthood Was in Flower, undated&lt;br&gt;Holograph piano-vocal score</td>
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<td>Jacobi, Victor</td>
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<td>BOX-FOLDER 1/12</td>
<td>What Would a Lady or Gentleman Do?, undated&lt;br&gt;Manuscript piano-vocal score</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Janssen, Werner</td>
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<td>BOX-FOLDER 1/13</td>
<td>Quartet in E major, 1934&lt;br&gt;Photocopy of manuscript score</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 1/14</td>
<td>Slow Waltz Song, undated&lt;br&gt;Holograph score for piano</td>
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<td>Kern, Jerome</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 1/15</td>
<td>Air de ballet, undated&lt;br&gt;Holograph score for piano&lt;br&gt;<em>Note:</em> &quot;New Show Boat&quot; in parenthesis</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 1/16</td>
<td>Canzonetta, undated&lt;br&gt;Holograph score for piano</td>
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</table>
Music, 1924-1945 and undated

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Contents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 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