

Sadie Molin Perazzini Collection of Claudia Muzio Photographs



**Music Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2022**

Contact information: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.music/perform.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/2016570575>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.music/eadmus.mu022026>

Prepared by the Music Division of the Library of Congress

Finding aid encoded by Shantel Lambert and Melissa Capozio Jones, 2022

Collection Summary

Title: Sadie Molin Perazzini Collection of Claudia Muzio Photographs

Inclusive Dates: 1927-1932

Call No.: ML31.M89

Creator: Muzio, Claudia, 1889-1936

Collector: Perazzini, Sadie Molin

Extent: 19 items

Extent: 1 container

Extent: .25 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English.

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/2016570575>

Summary: Claudia Muzio (1889-1936) was an Italian operatic soprano who performed throughout the United States, Europe, and South America. She sang at the Metropolitan Opera in New York, the San Francisco Opera, and the Chicago Civic Opera. Most of the photographs show Muzio in costume for operatic roles, and most are inscribed. Sadie Molin Perazzini, a fan of Muzio, collected the photographs.

Acquisition Information

Gift, Sadie Molin Perazzini, 1988

Accruals

No further accruals are expected.

Processing History

Shantel Lambert processed the Sadie Molin Perazzini Collection of Claudia Muzio Photographs in 2022. Lambert and Melissa Capozio Jones coded the finding aid in 2022.

Related Material

The [Glenn Dillard Gunn Collection](#) contains a small quantity of materials related to Claudia Muzio's career. The [Geraldine Farrar Papers](#) contains correspondence with Claudia Muzio.

Copyright Status

Materials from the Sadie Molin Perazzini Collection of Claudia Muzio Photographs 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 Sadie Molin Perazzini Collection of Claudia Muzio Photographs 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], Sadie Molin Perazzini Collection of Claudia Muzio Photographs, Music Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Claudia Muzio was born Claudina Emilia Maria Muzio on February 7, 1889, in Pavia, Italy, to Carlo Muzio and Giovanna Gavirati. Her father was an opera house stage manager and her mother was an opera chorister. From about 1891 to 1908 their primary residence was London, where both of her parents worked at Covent Garden. They also worked in New York City at the Metropolitan Opera. Muzio began musical training while in London, studying both harp and piano under the tutelage of her mother. She returned to Italy in 1908 to live with family and continue her piano studies with mezzo-soprano Annetta Casaloni. At Casaloni's insistence, Muzio began vocal studies. She studied briefly with soprano Elettra Callery-Viviani in Milan, then pursued formal vocal training for a little more than two years. Muzio made her official debut in 1910 at the Teatro Petrarca in Arezzo, in the title role in Jules Massenet's *Manon*. She made her London debut at Covent Garden in 1914 and her United States debut in December 1916 with the Metropolitan Opera in New York City. Immediately following the 1916-1917 season she began recording arias for Pathé, making more than thirty records. Between 1920 and 1925 she made thirty recordings for the Edison Company. In 1922 she began performing with the Chicago Civic Opera and performing alternate seasons with the San Francisco Opera. For the next decade she toured throughout North America, South America, and Italy. Her final U.S. performance was in January 1934 with the Metropolitan Opera. She died on May 24, 1936, in Rome after experiencing poor health on a trip to South America.

Bibliography

Barnes, Harold M., Jr. *Claudia Muzio: A Biographical Sketch and Discography*. Princeton, 1941.
Arnosí, Eduardo. *Claudia Muzio: La única*. Buenos Aires: Ars Lyrica, 1986.

Scope and Content Note

The Sadie Molin Perazzini Collection of Claudia Muzio photographs spans the years 1927 to 1932 and consists of nineteen photographs. The majority of these feature Muzio in costume for various operatic roles or posed in other settings. The collection includes one photograph of Rosa Raisa in the title role of *Norma*. Most of the photographs are inscribed to Sadie Molin Perazzini. Perazzini was an admirer of Muzio and Raisa and collected the photographs before donating them to the Library of Congress.

Organization of the Sadie Molin Perazzini Collection of Claudia Muzio Photographs

The collection is arranged in one series:

- [Photographs, 1927-1932](#)

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

Muzio, Claudia, 1889-1936.

Muzio, Claudia, 1889-1936.

Perazzini, Sadie Molin.

Raisa, Rosa, 1893-1963.

Subjects

Sopranos (Singers)--Italy--Photographs.

Titles

Sadie Molin Perazzini photograph collection relating to Claudia Muzio, 1927-1932

Form/Genre

Photographs.

Description of Series

Container

BOX 1

Series

Photographs, 1927-1932

This series contains posed photographs of Claudia Muzio in various operatic roles as well as in more general settings. There is one photograph of Rosa Raisa in the title role of *Norma*.

The majority of the photographs are inscribed by Muzio. One is inscribed by Raisa.
Arranged by production or subject.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	<p>Photographs, 1927-1932</p> <p>This series contains posed photographs of Claudia Muzio in various operatic roles as well as in more general settings. There is one photograph of Rosa Raisa in the title role of <i>Norma</i>. The majority of the photographs are inscribed by Muzio. One is inscribed by Raisa. Arranged by production or subject.</p>
BOX-FOLDER 1/1	<p>Muzio, as Violetta in <i>La traviata</i>, 1932 Photography by Daguerre, Chicago <i>Note:</i> Inscribed "To my dear Sadie Molin. With love, Claudia Muzio, 1932"</p>
BOX-FOLDER 1/1	<p>Muzio, as Violetta in <i>La traviata</i>, undated Photography by Root, Chicago</p>
BOX-FOLDER 1/1	<p>Muzio, as Violetta in <i>La traviata</i>, undated Photography by Rosenfeld, San Paulo</p>
BOX-FOLDER 1/1	<p>Muzio, as Violetta in <i>La traviata</i>, undated <i>Note:</i> Inscribed "To Sadie. Love and kisses, Claudia Muzio"</p>
BOX-FOLDER 1/1	<p>Muzio, as Violetta in <i>La traviata</i>, 1931 <i>Note:</i> Inscribed "To Sadie. With love, Claudia, 1931"</p>
BOX-FOLDER 1/1	<p>Muzio, as Leonora in <i>Il travatore</i>, 1928 Photography by Atwell, Chicago <i>Note:</i> Inscribed "To Sadie Molin. Very sincerely, Claudia Muzio, 1928"</p>
BOX-FOLDER 1/1	<p>Muzio, as Leonora in <i>Il travatore</i>, undated Photography by Van Riel</p>
BOX-FOLDER 1/1	<p>Muzio, as Desdemona in <i>Otello</i>, undated <i>Note:</i> Signed "Claudia Muzio"</p>
BOX-FOLDER 1/1	<p>Muzio, as Norma, 1928 Photography by Van Riel <i>Note:</i> Inscribed "To Sadie Molin, souvenir, Claudia Muzio, 1928"</p>
BOX-FOLDER 1/1	<p>Muzio, as Norma, 1930 <i>Note:</i> Inscribed "To Sadie Molin. Very sincerely, Claudia Muzio, 1930"</p>
BOX-FOLDER 1/2	<p>Muzio, as Tosca, 1927 Photography by Atwell, Chicago <i>Note:</i> Inscribed "To my dear friend Sadie Molin. Merry Exmass, Claudia Muzio, 1927"</p>
BOX-FOLDER 1/2	<p>Muzio, as Tosca, undated Photography by Root, Chicago <i>Note:</i> Signed "Claudia Muzio"</p>
BOX-FOLDER 1/2	<p>Muzio, headshot, 1927 Photography by Rosenfeld, San Paulo <i>Note:</i> Inscribed "To Sadie Molin. Sincerely, Claudia Muzio, 1927"</p>
BOX-FOLDER 1/2	<p>Muzio, standing in garden, undated <i>Note:</i> Inscribed "To dear Dorothy. Love, Claudia"</p>
BOX-FOLDER 1/2	<p>Muzio, formal portrait with dog, undated Photography by Root, Chicago <i>Note:</i> Signed "Claudia Muzio"</p>

Photographs, 1927-1932

Container	Contents
BOX-FOLDER 1/2	Muzio, headshot, 1931-1932 Photography by Daguerre, Chicago <i>Note:</i> Inscribed "To my dear Sadie Molin. With very best wishes, Claudia Muzio, 1931-32"
BOX-FOLDER 1/2	Muzio, headshot, undated <i>Note:</i> Inscribed "Sadie dear, remember. Claudia Muzio"
BOX-FOLDER 1/2	Raisa, Rosa, as Norma, undated Photography by Daguerre, Chicago <i>Note:</i> Inscribed "To Sadie Molin, with best wishes. Sincerely, Rosa Raisa"