

William Cosel Papers



**Music Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2023**

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/2020570059>

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Prepared by the Music Division of the Library of Congress

Finding aid encoded by Jane Cross and Shantel Lambert, 2023 June

Collection Summary

Title: William Cosel Papers

Inclusive Dates: 1961-2000

Call No.: ML31.C74

Creator: Cosel, William N.

Extent: approximately 100 items

Extent: 3 containers

Extent: 2 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/2020570059>

Summary: Television producer and executive director William Cosel produced Evening at Pops featuring the Boston Pops orchestra on public television station WGBH from 1970 to 2004. The collection contains photographs of performers who appeared on Evening at Pops, as well as production and publicity materials related to the series.

Acquisition Information

Gift of Bill Cosel, 2008

Accruals

No further accruals are expected.

Processing History

Jane Cross and Loras Schissel processed the William Cosel Papers, and Cross and Shantel Lambert coded the finding aid in 2023.

Transfers

Video recordings will be transferred to the Library of Congress National Audiovisual Conservation Center (NAVCC).

Copyright Status

Materials from the William Cosel Papers 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 William Cosel Papers are 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], William Cosel Papers, Music Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

William Cosel earned his bachelors degree at Saint Michael's College (1958-1962) in Vermont, studying philosophy and theology in anticipation of a career as a missionary before developing an interest in television. He graduated with a masters degree in communications and journalism in 1963 from Boston University through a scholarship program sponsored by public television station WGBH. Cosel began his career at WGBH directing and producing children's programs and jazz and classical music shows, eventually becoming director of program production. He produced Evening at Pops for 35 years, from 1970 to 2004.

His freelance producer-director experience includes *Andrea Bocelli: Sacred Arias from the Basilica of Santa Maria Sopra Minerva in Rome, Italy*. This PBS Great Performances program was nominated for an Emmy Award for Outstanding Classical Music-Dance Program in 2000. Cosel also produced *The Three Tenors in Concert* (1994); *The Three Tenors* with Jose Carreras, Placido Domingo, and Luciano Pavarotti at Giant's Stadium (1996); *In Performance at the White House* hosted by James Naughton, with Patti LuPone, Brian Stokes Mitchell, and Jennifer Holliday (1998); *My Favorite Broadway: The Leading Ladies*, a gala evening at Carnegie Hall hosted by Julie Andrews featuring Liza Minnelli, Rosie O'Donnell, and the Rockettes (1999); and *A Centennial Toast to [Boston's] Symphony Hall* (2002).

Bibliography

IMDb. "William Cosel." Accessed June 12, 2023. <https://www.imdb.com/name/nm0181761/>.

LinkedIn. "William Cosel." Accessed May 2, 2023. <https://www.linkedin.com/in/william-cosel-1304727>.

Norton, Chas and Bill Francis. "An Era Comes to a Close With Bill Cosel Conducting His Own Swan Song." WGBH Alumni website, June 20, 2004. <https://www.wgbhalumni.org/2004/06/20/bill-cosel/>.

PBS. "William Cosel, Executive Producer." Accessed June 12, 2023. <https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pops/about/cosel.html>.

Scope and Content Note

The William Cosel Papers span from 1961 to 2000. The [Photographs](#) series contains black and white images of performers who appeared on Evening at Pops, including conductors Arthur Fiedler and John Williams, instrumentalists Dave Brubeck and Pete Fountain, vocalists Ella Fitzgerald and Marilyn Horne, and other popular entertainers such as Tom Smothers, C-3PO, and Gregory Hines. The [Production Materials](#) consist of publicity materials, including brochures, programs, and a small poster; and timings for musical works.

Organization of the William Cosel Papers

The collection is arranged in two series:

- [Photographs, 1999 and undated](#)
- [Production Materials, 1961-2000](#)

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

Brubeck, Dave.

Cosel, Bill--Archives.

Cosel, Bill.

Fiedler, Arthur, 1894-1979.

Fitzgerald, Ella.

Hines, Gregory.

Horne, Marilyn.

Smothers, Tom, 1937-

Williams, John, 1932-

Organizations

Boston Pops Orchestra--History.

Subjects

Conductors (Music)--United States--Photographs.

Entertainers--United States--Photographs.

Musicians--United States--Photographs.

Popular culture--United States--History--20th century.

Titles

Bill Cosel papers, 1950-1980s.

Evening at Pops.

Form/Genre

Biographies.

Photographs.

Posters.

Programs (Promotional materials)

Description of Series

Container

BOX 1, 3

Series

Photographs, 1999 and undated

This series consists primarily of black and white photographs of performers who appeared on Evening at Pops, including conductors, instrumentalists, vocalists, and other popular entertainers.

Arranged alphabetically by name.

BOX 1-3

Production Materials, 1961-2000

This series contains publicity materials and timings for musical works.

Arranged alphabetically by type of material.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1, 3	Photographs, 1999 and undated This series consists primarily of black and white photographs of performers who appeared on Evening at Pops, including conductors, instrumentalists, vocalists, and other popular entertainers. Arranged alphabetically by name.
BOX-FOLDER 1/2	Bailey, Pearl and Arthur Fiedler, undated
BOX-FOLDER 3/1	Ballet at Westpoint, undated
BOX-FOLDER 1/1	Boston Esplanade and Hatch Memorial Shell, undated
BOX-FOLDER 3/2	Boston Pops, undated
BOX-FOLDER 3/3	Brubeck, Dave, undated
BOX-FOLDER 3/4	C-3PO, undated
BOX-FOLDER 3/5	Canadian Brass, undated
BOX-FOLDER 3/6	Carter, Nell and John Williams, undated
BOX-FOLDER 3/7	Cosel, William and Johnny Cash, undated
BOX-FOLDER 3/8	Clark, Roy, undated
BOX-FOLDER 3/9	Collins, Judy and Arthur Fiedler, undated
BOX-FOLDER 3/10	Dickson, Harry Ellis, undated
BOX-FOLDER 3/11	Domingo, Placido with Renée Flemming, Daniel Barenboim, Lynn Redgrave, and Timothy Dalton, 1999
BOX-FOLDER 1/3, 3/12	Fiedler, Arthur, undated
BOX-FOLDER 1/4	Fitzgerald, Ella, undated
BOX-FOLDER 3/13	Fountain, Pete, undated
BOX-FOLDER 3/14	Gormé, Eydie and Steve Lawrence, undated
BOX-FOLDER 3/15	Gray, Joel, undated
BOX-FOLDER 3/16	Hayman, Richard, undated
BOX-FOLDER 3/17	Hines, Gregory, undated
BOX-FOLDER 3/18	Horne, Marilyn, undated
BOX-FOLDER 3/19	Hutcherson, Bobby, undated
BOX-FOLDER 3/20	Jones, Joela, undated
BOX-FOLDER 1/5	Lee, Peggy, undated
BOX-FOLDER 3/21	Mills Brothers, The, undated
BOX-FOLDER 3/22	Milnes, Sherrill and Arthur Fiedler, undated
BOX-FOLDER 1/6	Morris, Joan and William Bolcom, undated
BOX-FOLDER 3/23	Muti, Riccardo, undated
BOX-FOLDER 3/24	Peter, Paul, and Mary, undated
BOX-FOLDER 1/7	Peters, Roberta and Robert Merrill, undated
BOX-FOLDER 3/25	Peterson, Oscar, undated
BOX-FOLDER 3/26	Schickele, Peter and Itzhak Perlman
BOX-FOLDER 1/8	Smothers, Tom, undated
BOX-FOLDER 1/9	Williams, John, undated
BOX-FOLDER 1/10	Ma, Yo-Yo, undated

Photographs, 1999 and undated

Container	Contents
BOX-FOLDER 1/11, 3/27-29	Unidentified, undated
BOX 1-3	Production Materials, 1961-2000 This series contains publicity materials and timings for musical works. Arranged alphabetically by type of material.
BOX-FOLDER 3/30	Brochures and programs, 1979, 1993, 2000
BOX-FOLDER 1/12	Poster, undated
BOX-FOLDER 3/31-33	Promotion Report for Evening at Pops, 1999
BOX-FOLDER 1/13	Publication about Arthur Fiedler, 1977
BOX-FOLDER 2/1	Timings for musical works, 1961-1971