Register to The Papers of the Society for the Publication of American Music

Misc. Ms. 172

Compiled by Susan Landskröner

1996-2007

120 High Street
PO Box 208240
New Haven, CT 06520
musicspecialcollections@yale.edu

https://guides.library.yale.edu/MusicSpecialCollections

Last exported at 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 20th, 2018
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Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Yale University Music Library  
120 High Street  
PO Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520  
musicspecialcollections@yale.edu  
https://guides.library.yale.edu/MusicSpecialCollections

**CALL NUMBER:** Misc. Ms. 172

**CREATOR:** Society for the Publication of American Music

**TITLE:** The Papers of the Society for the Publication of American Music

**DATES:** 1924–1974

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 2 linear feet (5 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** Materials chiefly in English.

**SUMMARY:** Correspondence and other documents from the Society for the Publication of American Music (SPAM)

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/music.misc.0172

**Requesting Instructions**

To request items from this collection for use on site, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/music.misc.0172.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

- b. box
- f. folder

**Administrative Information**

**Conditions Governing Access**

The Papers are open to researchers by appointment. There are no restricted materials in the collection. Please contact the Special Collections staff to schedule an appointment. Some of the materials may be stored at the Library's off-campus shelving facility, so researchers should allow at least two business days to have the appropriate boxes paged.

**Conditions Governing Use**

The Papers are the physical property of the Irving S. Gilmore Music Library of Yale University. Copyrights belong to the composers and authors, or their legal heirs and assigns.
Preferred Citation


Biographical / Historical

The Society for the Publication of American Music (SPAM) was founded in 1919 as a vehicle for relatively unknown contemporary composers to have their works published and then distributed to individual subscribers as well as university libraries. Each year, the board of directors examined numerous proposals and selected one or two works for publication.

Yale University figured prominently in the history of SPAM. At the time of SPAM’s dissolution in 1969, Luther Noss, Dean of the School of Music, was the president, and Music Librarian Brooks Shepard was the treasurer. Many Yale composers were honored by SPAM, including Howard Boatwright, Jacob Druckman, Daniel Gregory Mason, Mel Powell, Quincy Porter, and David Stanley Smith.

Scope and Contents

This collection documents the activities of the Society for the Publication of American Music from its inception in 1919 to its dissolution in May, 1969. The bulk of materials dates from the last 10 years of the Society’s existence and consists of: correspondence; subscription records; royalty, bank, and other financial records; officers’ notes; and a small number of programs and reviews.

Arrangement

In 2 series as follows: I. Original Holdings. II. Later additions.
## Collection Contents

### Series I. Original Holdings

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<td>Bank Statements</td>
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<td>b. 1, f. 2</td>
<td>Bank Statements</td>
<td>1964–1974</td>
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<td>Income Tax Returns</td>
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<td>Treasurer’s bills and requisitions</td>
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<td>b. 1, f. 5</td>
<td>Membership purchase orders</td>
<td>1964–1965</td>
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<td>b. 1, f. 6</td>
<td>Correspondence - Subscribers</td>
<td></td>
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<td>b. 1, f. 7</td>
<td>List of publications and agents</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 8</td>
<td>Biographical sketches of SPAM composers</td>
<td></td>
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<td>b. 1, f. 9</td>
<td>By-laws, form letters, forms</td>
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<td>b. 1, f. 10</td>
<td>Meetings, Notices, and Minutes</td>
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<td>b. 2, f. 1</td>
<td>Correspondence: National Music Council</td>
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<td>b. 2, f. 2</td>
<td>Correspondence: SPAM composers</td>
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<tr>
<td>b. 2, f. 3</td>
<td>Miscellaneous correspondence</td>
<td>1939–1959</td>
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<tr>
<td>b. 2, f. 4</td>
<td>Miscellaneous correspondence</td>
<td>1960–1962</td>
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<td>b. 2, f. 5</td>
<td>Miscellaneous correspondence</td>
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<td>b. 2, f. 6</td>
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<td>b. 2, f. 7</td>
<td>Correspondence: Carl Fischer</td>
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<td>b. 2, f. 8</td>
<td>Correspondence: Oxford University Press</td>
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<td>b. 3, f. 2</td>
<td>Bulletins and correspondence: ASCAP</td>
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<td>b. 3, f. 3</td>
<td>Correspondence: 1962 Theodore Presser Agreement</td>
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<td>Correspondence: Theodore Presser</td>
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<td>Royalties and correspondence: Theodore Presser</td>
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<td>b. 3, f. 6</td>
<td>Correspondence: Theodore Presser - SPAM dissolution</td>
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<td>b. 3, f. 8</td>
<td>Programs, articles, and tickets</td>
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<td>b. 3, f. 9</td>
<td>Miscellaneous scores</td>
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<td>b. 3, f. 10</td>
<td>Embosser</td>
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b. 4, f. 1  Subscriber file
### Series II. Later Additions

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<th>Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
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| b. 5, f. 1 | Correspondence  
17 items           | 1947–1957  |
| b. 5, f. 2 | Minutes  
7 items           | 1954–1957  |
| b. 5, f. 3 | Lists of publications  
7 items           | ?          |
| b. 5, f. 4 | Voting proxies for meetings  
95 items          | 1954–1957  |
| b. 5, f. 5 | Incorporation and by-laws  
3 items           | 1919–1955  |
| b. 5, f. 6 | Contracts  
20 items          | 1920–1929  |
| b. 5, f. 7 | Contracts  
8 items           | 1930–1936  |
| b. 5, f. 8 | Contracts  
31 items          | 1940–1950  |
| b. 5, f. 9 | Biographical sketches  
9 items          | 1925, ?    |
| b. 5, f. 10 | Miscellaneous items  
22 items          | 1926–1954, ? |
Selected Search Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

**Subjects**
Music -- United States -- 20th Century
Music publishing

**Names**
Bailey, Parker
Barzin, Leon
Bassett, Leslie, 1923-2016
Bauer, Marion, 1882-1955
Bergsma, William, 1921-1994
Bezanson, Philip, 1916-1975
Blackwood, Easley
Boatwright, Howard
Brunswick, Mark, 1902-1971
Cole, Ulric, 1905-1992
Cone, Edward T.
Coolidge, Elizabeth Sprague, 1864-1953
Dahl, Ingolf, 1912-1970
Diamond, David, 1915-2005
Donato, Anthony
Druckman, Jacob, 1928-1996
Engel, Lehman, 1910-1982
Feist, Leonard, 1910-1996
Fetler, Paul
Fine, Irving, 1914-1962
Finney, Ross Lee, 1906-1997
Foss, Lukas, 1922-2009
Gold, Ernest, 1921-1999
Heilman, William Clifford
Heller, James G. (James Gutheim), 1892-1971
Holden, David, 1911-1996
Hughes, Edwin, 1884-1965
Jacobi, Frederick, 1891-1952
James, Philip, 1890-1975
Korn, Richard, 1908-1981
Kortschak, Hugo, 1884-1957
Koutzen, Boris, 1901-1966
Kramer, A. Walter (Arthur Walter), 1890-1969
Kroll, William, 1901-1980
Lockwood, Normand, 1906-2002
Luening, Otto, 1900-1996
Mason, Daniel Gregory, 1873-1953
Moore, Douglas, 1893-1969
Morris, Harold, 1890-1964
Noss, Luther
Overton, Hall, 1920-1972

**Corporate Bodies**
Carl Fischer Music
National Music Council (U.S.)
Society for the Publication of American Music