Selected Compositions of Elliot Griffis

Misc. Ms. 53

Compiled by Jean Elizabeth Roberts

1996-2007

120 High Street
PO Box 208240
New Haven, CT 06520
musicspecialcollections@yale.edu
https://guides.library.yale.edu/MusicSpecialCollections

Last modified at 1:01 a.m. on Saturday, December 8th, 2018
# Table of Contents

Collection Overview ........................................................................................................... 3
Requesting Instructions ....................................................................................................... 3
Administrative Information ................................................................................................. 3
  Immediate Source of Acquisition ..................................................................................... 3
  Conditions Governing Access ......................................................................................... 3
  Conditions Governing Use ............................................................................................... 3
  Preferred Citation ............................................................................................................ 4
Biographical / Historical .................................................................................................... 4
Scope and Contents ............................................................................................................ 4
Arrangement ....................................................................................................................... 4
Collection Overview ........................................................................................................... 5
  Series I. Music ................................................................................................................ 5
    I.A. Piano Music ............................................................................................................ 5
    I.B. Violin Music ......................................................................................................... 8
    I.C. Vocal Music ......................................................................................................... 8
    I.D. Holographs And Facsimiles ................................................................................. 10
  Series II. Miscellaneous ................................................................................................. 12
Selected Search Terms ....................................................................................................... 13
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. 53

CREATOR: Griffis, Elliot

TITLE: Selected Compositions of Elliot Griffis

DATES: 1919–1964

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 0.5 linear feet (1 box)

LANGUAGE: Materials chiefly in English.

SUMMARY: Published and unpublished music and other materials by and about the American composer Elliot Griffis (1893-1967)

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/music.misc.0053

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.0053.

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

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

The collection was established in the Music Library of Yale University by Ellsworth Grumman, Roland Tiemann, and Luther Noss.

Conditions Governing Access

Griffis’s compositions are open to researchers by appointment. There are no restricted materials in the collection. Please contact the Special Collections staff to schedule an appointment.
Conditions Governing Use
The collection is 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
Elliot Griffis was born on January 28, 1893 in Boston. He was educated at Ithaca College, the Yale School of Music (where he studied with Horatio Parker), and the New England Conservatory. He taught at numerous schools and performed widely as a pianist, before moving to Los Angeles to compose film music. He died there on June 8, 1967.

Scope and Contents
This collection consists primarily of published piano music, songs, and the violin sonata by Elliot Griffis. The collection also holds a holograph score of the composer’s Intrata for piano, as well as photocopies of holograph scores for 7 other compositions. The last folder of the collection contains a small amount of biographical material, including portraits, programs, and reviews.

Arrangement
In 2 series as follows: I. Music. II. Miscellaneous.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Call Number</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 1</td>
<td>À La Chaconne Op. 12, No. 2: Study for the Left Hand Alone</td>
<td>I.A</td>
<td>Schroeder &amp; Gunther (1923) New York</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 1</td>
<td>Bluebell Op. 15, No. 3</td>
<td>(2 copies, both signed by composer)</td>
<td>Composers Press, Inc. (1956) Brooklyn, N.Y.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 2</td>
<td>Dixie Parade: March for Piano</td>
<td>D.L. Schroeder (1930) Flushing, N.Y.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 2</td>
<td>For A Broken Doll</td>
<td>(2 copies, both signed by composer)</td>
<td>Composers Press, Inc. (1960) Brooklyn, N.Y.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 2</td>
<td>Happy Song</td>
<td></td>
<td>Also included: Workout for the Left Hand (Hornpipe)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 2</td>
<td>Invention: Piano Solo in Two-part Counterpoint</td>
<td>Clayton F. Summy Co. (1951)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 2</td>
<td>Jig</td>
<td>Oliver Ditson Company (1942) Philadelphia, Pa.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I. A Piano Music (continued)

| b. 1, f. 2 | Juliette: Waltz Memories of Vienna  
Composers Press, Inc. (1937) Brooklyn, N.Y.  
(2 copies, 1 signed by composer) |
| b. 1, f. 3 | Letters From A Maine Farm: Seven Pieces for the Piano  
Homage to MacDowell  
The Spider at My Window  
Woodchucks  
The Music Box  
The Girl on the Farm Below  
The Sunlit Woods  
A Forgotten Poem  
Composers’ Music Corporation (no date), New York  
(signed by composer, 1924) |
| b. 1, f. 3 | Letters From A Maine Farm  
Individual copies  
The Girl On The Farm Below Op. 9, No. 5  
Carl Fischer, Inc. (1924) New York  
(3 copies, 2 signed by composer)  
The Music Box Op. 9, No. 4  
Carl Fischer, Inc. (1957) New York  
(signed by composer)  
The Spider At My Window Op. 9, No. 2  
(2 copies, both signed by composer) |
| b. 1, f. 4 | Nina  
(signed by composer) |
| b. 1, f. 4 | Nocturne: Poem for Piano  
D.L. Schroeder (1951) Flushing, N.Y.  
(3 copies, 1 signed by composer) |
| b. 1, f. 4 | Piece For The Left Hand: À la chaconne  
D.L. Schroeder (1948) Flushing, N.Y.  
(4 copies) |
I. A Piano Music (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Cite</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Rousseau Variations: Melody by Jean Jacques Rousseau</td>
<td>Composers Press, Inc. (1937) Brooklyn, N.Y.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(2 copies, both signed by composer)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>&quot;A Set Of Eight&quot;: Poems and Studies for Piano</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. Intrata</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Improvisation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Summer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4. Brief Stanza</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5. Fantasie</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6. A Child Asleep</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7. The North Wind</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8. The Willow Tree</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Composers Press, Inc. (1936) Brooklyn, N.Y.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(3 copies, all signed by composer)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Brief Stanza</td>
<td>Composers Press, Inc. (1936) Brooklyn, N.Y.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(copy)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Sonata In A-Flat Major For Piano</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I. The Palace</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>II. The Lake</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>III. The Goblins</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>IV. The Fête</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Composers' Music Corporation (1919) New York</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(2 copies, 1 signed by composer)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Tango Español: Spanish Tango</td>
<td>Composers Press, Inc. (1936) Brooklyn, N.Y.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(3 copies)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(2 copies, 1 signed by composer)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>A Thought: Pensée</td>
<td>Art Publication Society (1936) St. Louis, Mo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(3 copies)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### I.A Piano Music (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| b. 1, f. 8 | **To A Daffodil : Mélodie**  
Schroeder & Gunther, Inc. (1922) New York  
(2 copies) |
| b. 1, f. 9 | **Transmutations : 44 Developments of a Five-measure Original Theme for Piano**  
(2 copies) |
| b. 1, f. 9 | **Three Dances**  
30. Upswing  
31. Polka  
33. Tango  
(3 copies, all signed by composer) |
| b. 1, f. 9 | **Dances**  
39. Second Waltz  
40. At Your Pleasure  
(2 copies, both signed by composer) |
| b. 1, f. 10 | **Trillium Op. 15, No. 9**  
Composers’ Music Corporation (1922) New York |
| b. 1, f. 10 | **Tunes For 2, 3, And 4 Hands : A Book of Duets for a Beginner and an Experienced Player**  
D.L. Schroeder (1943) Flushing, N.Y.  
(2 copies) |
| b. 1, f. 10 | **Workout For The Left Hand : Hornpipe**  
See: Happy Song |
| b. 1, f. 10 | **Yellow Rose : Mazurka for Piano**  
D.L. Schroeder (1947) Flushing, N.Y.  
(3 copies) |
| b. 1, f. 11 | **Sonata For Violin And Piano In G Major**  
Composers Press, Inc. (1941) New York  
(3 copies) |
I.C Vocal Music (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| b. 1, f. 12 | A Caravan From China Comes: After Hafiz  
Composers’ Music Corporation (1920) New York |
| b. 1, f. 12 | Dawn Song  
Composers’ Music Corporation (1920) New York |
| b. 1, f. 12 | Dorado  
See: Songs From Poe |
| b. 1, f. 12 | The Enchanted Hour: High voice  
(3 copies, all signed by composer) |
| b. 1, f. 12 | Goldenhair: High voice  
(signed by composer) |
| b. 1, f. 12 | Men Are The Devil: Medium voice  
(2 copies, signed by composer) |
| b. 1, f. 13 | The Mountains: Medium voice  
Composers’ Music Corporation (1920) New York |
| b. 1, f. 13 | The Mountains: Medium voice  
(2 copies, 1 signed by composer) |
| b. 1, f. 13 | Romance: Song  
D.L. Schroeder (1928) Flushing, N.Y.  
(2 copies, 1 signed by composer) |
| b. 1, f. 14 | Songs From Poe: medium voice  
To The River  
Eldorado  
Composers Press, Inc. (1937) Brooklyn, N.Y.  
(4 copies, 2 signed by composer) |
### I.C Vocal Music (continued)

#### b. 1, f. 15
- **Sunlight And Shadow Op. 16, Nos. 1-7**
  - Prelude
  - Sun Prayer
  - Shadows
  - Wind Prayer
  - The Grapes
  - Rain
  - Dusk
  - Schroeder & Gunther, Inc. (1924) New York
  - (2 copies)

#### b. 1, f. 16
- **To An Iris** : medium voice
  - G. Schirmer (1927) New York
  - (2 copies)

#### b. 1, f. 16
- **To An Iris** : medium voice
  - (2 copies, signed by composer)

#### b. 1, f. 16
- **To The River**
  - See: Songs From Poe

### Holographs And Facsimiles

#### Call Number: I.D

#### b. 1, f. 17
- **Intrata** : From “A Set of Eight Poems and Studies for Piano”
  - (signed holograph)

#### b. 1, f. 17
- **Mazurkas In A Minor And B Minor For Piano**
  - (facsimile)

#### b. 1, f. 17
- **Ostinato, For Organ**
  - (facsimile)

#### b. 1, f. 17
- **Playa Laguna, For Piano (1953)** : Greetings from the Workshop of Elliot Griffis
  - (3 facsimiles)

#### b. 1, f. 17
- **Tango Marcella, For Piano**
  - (facsimile)

#### b. 1, f. 17
- **Transmutations 1945 : 43 Developments of a Five-measure Theme for Piano**
  - (facsimile)

#### b. 1, f. 17
- **Transmutations**
  - Early sketches, see: Composer’s letter to Roland Tiemann
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I.D Holographs And Facsimiles (continued)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Series II. Miscellaneous

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>b. 1, f. 18</th>
<th>Correspondence, Photographs, Miscellaneous</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Autograph letter signed to Roland Tiemann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(On back, early sketches of “Transmutations, for Piano”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 November 1944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Self Portrait - Elliot Griffis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(drawing)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>no date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Photographed drawing of Elliot Griffis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1924</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Program of Elliot Griffis’ music</em>: Composers’ Music Corporation (no date)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Reviews of Elliot Griffis’ music</em>: D.L. Schroeder (no date) Flushing, N.Y.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Review of Elliot Griffis’ music</em>: St. Louis Globe-Democrat (no date)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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
Piano music
Sonatas (Violin and piano) -- Scores and parts
Songs