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**SUMMARY:** Published and unpublished music and other materials by and about the American composer Elliot Griffis (1893-1967)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

#### Series I. Music

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<tr>
<th>Call Number: I.A</th>
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| b. 1, f. 1 | À La Chaconne Op. 12, No. 2 : Study for the Left Hand Alone  
SCHROEDER & GUNThER (1923) New York |
| b. 1, f. 1 | Arabesque, For Piano  
(signed by composer) |
| b. 1, f. 1 | Arabesque, For Piano  
COMPOSERS PRESS, INC. (1956) Brooklyn, N.Y. |
| b. 1, f. 1 | Bluebell Op. 15, No. 3  
COMPOSERS PRESS, INC. (1960) Brooklyn, N.Y.  
(2 copies, both signed by composer) |
| b. 1, f. 1 | Corporal Lollipop, G.C.M.  
THEODORE PRESSER CO. (1951) Bryn Mawr, Pa.  
(2 copies) |
| b. 1, f. 2 | Dixie Parade : March for Piano  
D.L. Schroeder (1930) Flushing, N.Y. |
| b. 1, f. 2 | For A Broken Doll  
COMPOSERS PRESS, INC. (1960) Brooklyn, N.Y.  
(2 copies, both signed by composer) |
| b. 1, f. 2 | A Fun Package : Ragtime with a Modern Touch  
| b. 1, f. 2 | Ghosts : A Keyboard Palpititation  
D.L. Schroeder (1930) Flushing, N.Y. |
| b. 1, f. 2 | Happy Song  
Also included: Workout for the Left Hand (Hornpipe)  
| b. 1, f. 2 | Invention : Piano Solo in Two-part Counterpoint  
CLAYTON F. SUMMY CO. (1951) |
| b. 1, f. 2 | Jig  
### I. A Piano Music (continued)

- **b. 1, f. 2**
  - *Julianne*: 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)

- **b. 1, f. 4**
  - *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)

#### b. 1, f. 5

*Rousseau Variations*: Melody by Jean Jacques Rousseau  
Composers Press, Inc. (1937) Brooklyn, N.Y.  
(2 copies, both signed by composer)

#### b. 1, f. 6

“A Set Of Eight”: Poems and Studies for Piano  
1. Intrata  
2. Improvisation  
3. Summer  
4. Brief Stanza  
5. Fantasie  
6. A Child Asleep  
7. The North Wind  
8. The Willow Tree  
Composers Press, Inc. (1936) Brooklyn, N.Y.  
(3 copies, all signed by composer)

#### b. 1, f. 6

Brief Stanza  
Composers Press, Inc. (1936) Brooklyn, N.Y.  
(copy)

#### b. 1, f. 7

Sonata In A-Flat Major For Piano  
I. The Palace  
II. The Lake  
III. The Goblins  
IV. The Fête  
Composers’ Music Corporation (1919) New York  
(2 copies, 1 signed by composer)

#### b. 1, f. 8

*Tango Español*: Spanish Tango  
Composers Press, Inc. (1936) Brooklyn, N.Y.  
(3 copies)

#### b. 1, f. 8

*Teddie And The Terrible Dodum*: From “Ten Little Stories”  
(2 copies, 1 signed by composer)

#### b. 1, f. 8

*A Thought*: Pensée  
Art Publication Society (1936) St. Louis, Mo.  
(3 copies)
### I.A Piano Music (continued)

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<td>b. 1, f. 8</td>
<td>To A Daffodil : Mélodie</td>
<td>Schroeder &amp; Gunther, Inc. (1922) New York</td>
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<td>Transmutations : 44 Developments of a Five-measure Original Theme for Piano</td>
<td>Carlvi Music Company, Ltd. (1956) Hollywood, Calif.</td>
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<td>Three Dances</td>
<td>Carlvi Music Company, Ltd. (1958) Hollywood, Calif.</td>
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<td>Dances</td>
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<td>Trillium Op. 15, No. 9</td>
<td>Composers’ Music Corporation (1922) New York</td>
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<td>b. 1, f. 10</td>
<td>Tunes For 2, 3, And 4 Hands : A Book of Duets for a Beginner and an Experienced Player</td>
<td>D.L. Schroeder (1943) Flushing, N.Y.</td>
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<td>Workout For The Left Hand : Hornpipe</td>
<td>See: Happy Song</td>
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<td>b. 1, f. 10</td>
<td>Yellow Rose : Mazurka for Piano</td>
<td>D.L. Schroeder (1947) Flushing, N.Y.</td>
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<td>b. 1, f. 11</td>
<td>Sonata For Violin And Piano In G Major</td>
<td>Composers Press, Inc. (1941) New York</td>
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<td>A Caravan From China Comes: After Hafiz</td>
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<th>The Enchanted Hour: High voice</th>
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<td>To The River</td>
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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
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## Series II. Miscellaneous

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<td>Autograph letter signed to Roland Tiemann (On back, early sketches of “Transmutations, for Piano”)</td>
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<td>Self Portrait - Elliot Griffis (drawing)</td>
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<td>Photographed drawing of Elliot Griffis</td>
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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