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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: MSS 84

CREATOR: Simon, Eric

TITLE: The Eric Simon Papers

DATES: 1938–1978

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 1 linear foot (2 boxes)

SUMMARY: Compositions and arrangements by the Austrian-American clarinetist and composer Eric Simon (1907-1984)

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/music.mss.0084

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.mss.0084.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:
b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

The Eric Simon Papers were established in the Music Library of Yale University in 1994 by the bequest of Eric Simon.

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.

Conditions Governing Use

The Eric Simon 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

Born in Vienna, Eric Simon (1907-1994) studied piano from the age of 8, and at the age of 14 he began studying the clarinet with Victor Polatschek, the principal clarinetist of the Vienna Philharmonic. Simon later studied with Polatschek’s successor, Leopold Wlach. After spending one year in the Soviet Union, where he played in the Moscow Philharmonic, Simon subsequently held positions playing the clarinet in the Vienna State Opera orchestra and the Prades Festival Orchestra. In 1938 Simon left Europe for the United States, moving first to New York, and in 1949 settling in Sherman, Connecticut, where he maintained his home for the rest of his life. Following his move to the U.S., Simon played in the New York City Symphony under Leopold Stokowski and Leonard Bernstein.

In 1940 and 1941 Simon gave clarinet lessons to Benny Goodman, who had been recommended to Simon by John Hammond. Simon’s work with Goodman was indicative of the esteem in which he was held by his musical colleagues, first in Europe and later in the United States. The list of friends with whom Simon carried on correspondence and musical collaborations constitutes a veritable who’s who of twentieth-century music. An important collection of Simon’s correspondence with composers, conductors, and other musicians now resides in the Music Library at the University of California, Los Angeles, under the shelf-mark Collection no. 128.

Throughout his teaching career, both in his private studio and at the Mannes School of Music and the New School, Simon insisted that students of all ages be engaged with the best musical models possible, and he often created his own transcriptions and arrangements to facilitate such interactions. Simon’s musical transcriptions also show an abiding love of the Viennese masters Beethoven, Schubert, Strauss, and Brahms, whose music figures prominently both in this collection of manuscripts and in the several published editions of Simon’s arrangements. In addition to his active career as a teacher and arranger, Simon also turned his attention on occasion to original composition. Of particular note in this collection are the original works for organ and choir that he composed in the 1970s for the First Congregational Church in New Milford, Connecticut.

Scope and Contents

The Eric Simon Papers consist of scores and parts of manuscript and photocopied music, the majority of which are Simon’s own musical compositions and arrangements. A short pedagogical work co-written by Simon is also included.

Arrangement

In 1 series: I. Music.
Collection Contents
Series I. Music

b. 1, f. 1  
15 manuscript parts (30 p.) ; 32 cm.  
Beethoven, Ludwig van, 1770-1827  
Copyist’s manuscript in ink.  
Contents: [WoO 18] -- [WoO 19]  

b. 1, f. 2  
[Marches, piano, 4 hands, op. 45; arr.] Three marches for piano 4 hands / by Beethoven ; orchestrated by Eric Simon.  
1 manuscript score (23 p.) ; + 12 manuscript parts (32 p. total) ; 34 & 32 cm.  
Beethoven, Ludwig van, 1770-1827  
Copyist’s manuscript in ink.  

b. 1, f. 3  
24 manuscript parts (29 p. total) ; 32 cm.  
Berg, Alban, 1885-1935  
Copyist’s manuscript in ink and colored pencil.  

b. 1, f. 4  
[Ernste Gesänge; arr.] Vier ernste Gesänge, op. 121 / Brahms ; orchestrated by Eric Simon.  
1 manuscript score (56 p.) + 11 manuscript parts (68 p. total) ; 35 & 32 cm.  
Brahms, Johannes, 1833-1897  
Copyist’s manuscript in ink.  
At end: New York, September 8, 1940.  
Includes 2nd set of manuscript parts (37 p. total)

b. 1, f. 5  
1 manuscript cond. score (4 p.) + 26 manuscript parts (26 p. total) ; 32 cm.  
Bruckner, Anton, 1824-1896  
Copyist’s manuscript in ink and colored pencil.  

b. 1, f. 6  
7 p. of manuscript music ; 35 cm.  
Kurka, Robert, 1921-1957  
Copyist’s manuscript in ink.  
Arr. for piano.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</table>
| b. 1, f. 7 | **[Symphonies pour petit orchestre. No. 5] 5e symphonie / D. Milhaud.** 10 manuscript parts (19 p. total) ; 32 cm. Milhaud, Darius, 1892-1974  
Copyist’s manuscript in ink.  
For pic, fl, ob, Eh, cl, b cl, bsn-I-II, hnl-II. |
| b. 1, f. 8 | **[Balletti; woodwinds, horn, strings] Balletti a 9 / Jan Novák. -- Praha : eský hudební fond, 1958.** 9 parts (79 p. total) ; 34 cm. Novák, Jan, 1921-  
For fl, ob, cl, bsn, hn, vln, vla, vc, b. |
| b. 1, f. 9 | **[Lischen et Fritzchen]**  
1 manuscript score (50 p.) + 7 manuscript parts (53 p. total) ; 35 & 32 cm. Offenbach, Jacques, 1819-1880  
Copyist’s manuscript in ink, pencil, and colored pencil.  
Parts for fl, clII-I, bsn, hn, vlnI (1p. transposition only), vla (1p. transposition only) |
| b. 1, f. 10 | **[Lischen et Fritzchen. Vocal score]**  
1 manuscript vocal score (31 p.) ; 36 cm. Offenbach, Jacques, 1819-1880  
Copyist’s manuscript in ink. |
| b. 1, f. 11 | **[Divertissement à la hongroise; arr.] Divertissement à la hongroise (Hungarian divertimento), op. 54 / Schubert ; orchestral transcription by Eric Simon.** 1 manuscript score (56 p.) + 23 manuscript parts (79 p. total) ; 34 & 32 cm. Schubert, Franz, 1797-1828  
Copyist’s manuscript in ink and pencil.  
| b. 1, f. 12 | **[Divertissement à la hongroise; arr.] Divertissement à la hongroise (Hungarian divertimento), op. 54 / Franz Schubert ; orchestral transcription by Eric Simon.** 1 manuscript score (34 p.) ; 35 cm. Schubert, Franz, 1797-1828  
Copyist’s manuscript in ink.  
Abbreviated version.  
For flI/, obl/II, clI/II, bsnI/II, hnl/I-IV, tptI/II, tbnI/II, b tbn, perc, vlnI, vlnII, vla, vc, b. |
| b. 1, f. 12 | **[Divertissement à la hongroise; arr.] Andante.** 1 manuscript score (27 p.) ; 34 cm. Schubert, Franz, 1797-1828  
Copyist’s manuscript in ink.  
Abbreviated version.  
For flI/, obl/II, clI/II, bsnI/II, hnl/I-IV, tptI/II, tbnI/II, b tbn, perc, vlnI, vlnII, vla, vc, b, pno/cond. |
### Series I. Music

#### The Eric Simon Papers

**MSS 84**

### Container Description

#### b. 1, f. 12

*Divertissement à la hongroise; arr.* Divertissement à la hongroise (Hungarian divertimento), op. 54 / Franz Schubert; orchestral transcription by Eric Simon.

1 manuscript condensed score (7 p.); 34 cm.

Schubert, Franz, 1797-1828

Copyist's manuscript in ink.

Abbreviated version.

Score for pno/cond.

#### b. 1, f. 13

*Grande marche funèbre; arr.* Trauermarsch / F. Schubert.

13 manuscript parts (13 p. total); 32 cm.

Schubert, Franz, 1797-1828

Copyist's manuscript in ink.


#### b. 2, f. 14


1 manuscript score (11 p.) + 28 manuscript parts (48 p. total); 35 & 32 cm.

Schubert, Franz, 1797-1828

Copyist's manuscript in ink and colored pencil.

Lacks hnl part.


#### b. 2, f. 15


18 parts (68 p.); 32 cm.

Schubert, Franz, 1797-1828


#### b. 2, f. 16


1 manuscript score (2 p.); 32 cm.

Simon, Eric

Holograph in ink.

For voice and piano.

#### b. 2, f. 16

*Disillusion* Disillusion / [words by] Langston Hughes; music [by] Eric Simon.

1 manuscript score (3 p.); 32 cm.

Simon, Eric

Holograph in ink.

For voice and piano.

#### b. 2, f. 16

*Disillusion. German* Erkenntnis.

1 manuscript score (3 p.); 34 cm.

Simon, Eric

Holograph in ink.

For voice and piano.
b. 2, f. 17


1 manuscript vocal score (17 p.) ; 28 cm.
Simon, Eric

Photocopy of holograph.

“Libretto adapted after the drama by G.E. Lessing, English translation [and] piano reduction by the composer.”

b. 2, f. 18


1 score (7 p.) ; 28 cm.
Simon, Eric

For SATB chorus a capella.

b. 2, f. 19


1 manuscript score (3 p.) ; 32 cm.
Simon, Eric

Holograph in ink.


b. 2, f. 19


1 manuscript score (1 p.) ; 28 cm.
Simon, Eric

Photocopy of holograph.

b. 2, f. 19


1 manuscript score (2 p.) ; 32 cm.
Simon, Eric

Holograph in ink.

At end: Sherman, Conn, Aug. 8, 1977.

b. 2, f. 19

[Organ works (1977) (sketches)]

8 manuscript p. of music ; 32 cm.
Simon, Eric

Holograph in pencil.

b. 2, f. 20


1 manuscript score (3 p.) ; 34 cm.
Simon, Eric

Holograph in ink.

For SATB chorus a capella.


b. 2, f. 20

[Psalm 1, chorus (sketch)] The first psalm : as rhymed by Robert Burns / Eric Simon.

1 manuscript score (3 p.) ; 34 cm.
Simon, Eric

Holograph in ink and pencil.

For SATB chorus a capella.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
1 manuscript score (18 p.) + 5 manuscript parts (15 p. total); 44 & 34 cm.  
Simon, Eric  
Holograph in ink, and photocopy of copyist’s manuscript  
“For the fiftieth birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who liberated his people peacefully, thereby helping to liberate his enemies.”  
For SATB, cl, tpt, tbn, perc., b. |
1 manuscript vocal score (24 p.); 34 cm.  
Simon, Eric  
Photocopy of copyist’s manuscript  
| b. 2, f. 22 | **[Toccata in tempore belli civilis]** Toccata in tempore belli civilis / Eric Simon.  
1 manuscript score (6 p.); 34 cm.  
Simon, Eric  
Photocopy of holograph.  
For organ. |
| b. 2, f. 23 | **[Nocturne, band, op. 34, C major]** Notturno, op. 34 / L. Spohr.  
16 manuscript parts (71 p. total); 32 cm.  
Spohr, Louis, 1784-1859  
Copyist’s manuscript in ink.  
| b. 2, f. 24 | **[Suites, flute, piano, op. 737]** A suite for flute or violin with piano accompaniment, op. 737 / by Robert Stolz. -- c1943.  
1 manuscript score (8 p.); 35 cm.  
Stolz, Robert, 1880-1975  
Photocopy of holograph. |
| b. 2, f. 24 | **[Suites, flute, piano, op. 737. Autumn memories; arr.]** Autumn memories / R. Stolz; orch. E. Simon.  
1 manuscript score (3 p.) + 8 manuscript parts (9 p. total); 34 & 32 cm.  
Stolz, Robert, 1880-1975  
Copyist’s manuscript in ink.  
For fl, cl, vlnI, vlnII, vla, vc, b, pno. |
1 manuscript score (4 p.) + 8 manuscript parts (9 p. total); 34 & 32 cm.  
Stolz, Robert, 1880-1975  
Copyist’s manuscript in ink.  
For fl, cl, vlnI, vlnII, vla, vc, b, pno. |
| b. 2, f. 25 | **[Radetzky-Marsch; arr.]** Radetzkymarsch, op. 228 / J. Strauss (elder)  
1 manuscript score (8 p.) + 27 manuscript parts (53 p. total); 35 & 32 cm.  
Strauss, Johann, 1804-1849  
Copyist’s manuscript in ink and pencil.  
| b. 2, f. 26 | [Suites, woodwinds, horns (4), op. 4, B-flat major] Suite, op. 4 / R. Strauss.  
13 manuscript parts (122 p. total); 32 cm.  
Strauss, Richard, 1864-1949  
Copyist's manuscript in ink.  
Parts for flI-II, obl-II, clI-II, bsnI-II, contra bsn/tba, hnl-IV. |
32 p.; 27 cm.  
Pl. no.: 12605-29 |
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.

Names
Simon, Eric