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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Oral History of American Music
P.O. Box 208307
New Haven, CT 06520-8307
musicspecialcollections@yale.edu
http://guides.library.yale.edu/oham/collectionsguide

CALL NUMBER: OHVI

CREATOR: Perlis, Vivian, interviewer

TITLE: Aaron Copland Oral History

DATES: 1948–1989

BULK DATES: 1980–1989

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 141 Computer Files

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The Aaron Copland Oral History comprises approximately 75 interviews with colleagues, friends, and family of Aaron Copland (note: for interviews with Copland himself, see the Major Figures in American Music collection). Oral History of American Music (OHAM) founder Vivian Perlis first became friends with Copland while working on the Charles Ives Oral History. Copland later wrote the preface for her book, Charles Ives Remembered. As the Ives project finished, Perlis focused on Copland as her new subject. From 1975 to 1976, she conducted many hours of interviews with Copland and those closest to him. Finally, in 1984 and 1989, their efforts culminated in the autobiographies, Copland: 1900 through 1942 and Copland: Since 1943, co-authored by Perlis.

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

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research. Streaming access to sound recordings in this collection is available when connected to the Yale network, or otherwise by request.

Conditions Governing Use

Rights and permissions for Oral History of American Music materials vary between individual interviews. Researchers wishing to publish or broadcast Oral History of American Music materials are responsible for obtaining direct authorization from copyright holders: generally, the interviewees or their estates.
Preferred Citation

Scope and Contents
The Aaron Copland Oral History comprises approximately 75 interviews with colleagues, friends, and family of Aaron Copland (note: for interviews with Copland himself, see the Major Figures in American Music collection). Oral History of American Music (OHAM) founder Vivian Perlis first became friends with Copland while working on the Charles Ives Oral History. Copland later wrote the preface for her book, Charles Ives Remembered. As the Ives project finished, Perlis focused on Copland as her new subject. From 1975 to 1976, she conducted many hours of interviews with Copland and those closest to him. Finally, in 1984 and 1989, their efforts culminated in the autobiographies, Copland: 1900 through 1942 and Copland: Since 1943, co-authored by Perlis.

General
68 interviews

Arrangement
The collection is arranged alphabetically by surname of interviewee.
Collection Contents
Series I. Baker, Caroll

Baker, Caroll
Call Number: OHVI 951 a
Approximate Running Time: 28 mins
Transcript Page Count: 11 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 951 a
By telephone

Names:
Baker, Caroll, 1930-1983

1987 May 14
Series III. Berger, Arthur

Berger, Arthur
Call Number: OHVI 932 a-b
Approximate Running Time: 74 mins
Transcript Page Count: 28 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 932 a-b
Cambridge, MA

Names:
Berger, Arthur, 1912-2003

1981 November 13
Series IV. Bernier, Rosamond

Bernier, Rosamond
Call Number: OHVI 933 a-b
Approximate Running Time: 74 mins
Transcript Page Count: 32 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 933 a-b

New York, NY

Names:
   Bernier, Rosamond
Bernstein, Leonard
Call Number: OHVI 962 a-d
Approximate Running Time: 149 mins
[Aviary] OHVI 962 a-d

Names:
   Bernstein, Leonard, 1918-1990
Series VII. Clurman, Harold

Clurman, Harold
Call Number: OHVI 901 a-c
Approximate Running Time: 105 mins
Transcript Page Count: 50 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 901 a-c
New York, NY

Names:
Clurman, Harold, 1901-1980
Series VIII. Conroy, William

Conroy, William
Call Number: OHVI 920 a
Approximate Running Time: 44 mins
Transcript Page Count: 19 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 920 a
Yale Club, New York, NY

Names:
Conroy, William
Copland, Irving
Call Number: OHVI 917 a-b
Approximate Running Time: 74 mins
Transcript Page Count: 38 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 917 a-b
Roosevelt Island, NY

Names:
Copland, Irving
Series X. Copland, Milton

Copland, Milton
Call Number: OHVI 925 a
Approximate Running Time: 21 mins
Transcript Page Count: 10 pages
Owens, William, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 925 a
New York, NY

Names:
  Copland, Milton
De Mille, Agnes
Call Number: OHVI 904 a-b
Approximate Running Time: 46 mins
Transcript Page Count: 20 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 904 a-b
New York, NY

Names:
  De Mille, Agnes, 1905-1993
Series XV. Del Tredici, David

Del Tredici, David  
Call Number: OHVI 938 a  
Approximate Running Time: 28 mins  
Transcript Page Count: 13 pages  
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer  
New Haven, CT

This material is restricted. Access may be granted to a patron who has obtained direct permission from the interviewee or their estate.

Names:

Del Tredici, David
Series XVII. Diamond, David

Diamond, David
Call Number: OHVI 907 a-c
Approximate Running Time: 112 mins
Transcript Page Count: 49 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 907 a-c
Juilliard, New York, NY

Names:
Diamond, David, 1915-2005

1980 November 10
Series XVIII. Dreblatt, Martha

Dreiblatt, Martha
Call Number: OHVI 923 a
Approximate Running Time: 45 mins
Transcript Page Count: 21 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 923 a
New York, NY

Names:
  Dreblatt, Martha
Druckman, Jacob
Call Number: OHVI 965 a
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer

Names:
  Druckman, Jacob, 1928-1996

1985
Series XX. Duke, John

Duke, John
Call Number: OHVI 944 a
Approximate Running Time: 12 mins
Transcript Page Count: 5 pages
Miratti, Richard, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 944 a
Northampton, MA

Names:
  Duke, John
Series XXI. Engel, Lehman

Engel, Lehman
Call Number: OHVI 928 a-b
Approximate Running Time: 63 mins
Transcript Page Count: 27 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 928 a-b
New York, NY

Names:
   Engel, Lehman, 1910-1982
Series XXII. Feld, Eliot

Feld, Eliot
Call Number: OHVI 913 a-b
Approximate Running Time: 52 mins
Transcript Page Count: 20 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 913 a-b
New York, NY

Names:
Feld, Eliot
Series XXIII. Fine, Verna

Fine, Verna
Call Number: OHVI 931 a-b
Approximate Running Time: 72 mins
Transcript Page Count: 34 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 931 a-b
New York, NY

Names:
Fine, Verna

1981 November 7

Fine, Verna
Call Number: OHVI 931 c-e
Approximate Running Time: 135 mins
Transcript Page Count: 82 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 931 c-e
New York, NY

Names:
Fine, Verna

1987 November 9
Series XXIV. Fizdale, Robert

Fizdale, Robert
Call Number: OHVI 936 a-b
Approximate Running Time: 73 mins
Transcript Page Count: 25 pages
Owens, William, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 936 a-b
New York, NY

Names:
Fizdale, Robert, 1920-1995
Series XXV. Foss, Lukas

Foss, Lukas
Call Number: OHVI 948 a
Approximate Running Time: 41 mins
Transcript Page Count: 19 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer

[Aviary] OHVI 948 a
New Haven, CT

Names:
Foss, Lukas, 1922-2009
Series XXVI. Franchetti, Arnold

Franchetti, Arnold
Call Number: OHVI 927 a
Approximate Running Time: 40 mins
Transcript Page Count: 16 pages
Owens, William, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 927 a
Lyme, CT

Names:
Franchetti, Arnold, 1906-1993
Series XXIX. Garfein, Jack

Garfein, Jack
Call Number: OHVI 953 a-b
Approximate Running Time: 71 mins
Transcript Page Count: 36 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 953 a-b
New York, NY

Names:
Garfein, Jack
Series XXXI. Goldstein, Sylvia

Goldstein, Sylvia
Call Number: OHVI 960 a-b
Transcript Page Count: 44 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer

[Aviary] OHVI 960 a-b
New York, NY

Names:
   Goldstein, Sylvia
Series XXXII. Gould, Morton

Gould, Morton
Call Number: OHVI 935 a-b
*Approximate Running Time: 71 mins*
Owens, William, interviewer

[Aviary] OHVI 935 a-b
Great Neck, NY

Names:
Gould, Morton, 1913-1996

1982 April 23
Series XXXIII. Haieff, Alexei

Haieff, Alexei
Call Number: OHVI 916 a-c
Approximate Running Time: 81 mins
Transcript Page Count: 32 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 916 a-c
New York, NY

Names:
Haieff, Alexei, 1914-1994
Hawkins, Erick  
Call Number: OHVI 940 a-b  
Approximate Running Time: 86 mins  
Transcript Page Count: 39 pages  
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer  
[Aviary] OHVI 940 a-b  

Names:  
  Hawkins, Erick

Page 39 of 70
Heinsheimer, Hans
Call Number: OHVI 921 a
Approximate Running Time: 33 mins
Transcript Page Count: 13 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer

Names:
Heinsheimer, Hans W., 1900-1993
Series XXXVI. Johns, Erik

Johns, Erik
Call Number: OHVI 937 a-b
Approximate Running Time: 52 mins
Transcript Page Count: 14 pages
Owens, William, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 937 a-b
Carmel, NY

Names:
  Johns, Erik
Series XXXVII. Kober, John

Kober, John  
Call Number: OHVI 919 a  
Approximate Running Time: 23 mins  
Transcript Page Count: 11 pages  
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer

[Aviary] OHVI 919 a

Garden City

Names:
  Kober, John
Series XXXVIII. Kraut, Harry

Kraut, Harry
Call Number: OHVI 954 a-b
Approximate Running Time: 96 mins
Transcript Page Count: 40 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 954 a-b

Names:
   Kraut, Harry J.

1987 July 21
Series XXXIX. Lang, Pearl

Lang, Pearl
Call Number: OHVI 945 a-b
Approximate Running Time: 55 mins
Transcript Page Count: 26 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 945 a-b

Names:
Lang, Pearl, 1921-2009
Lescaze, Mary
Call Number: OHVI 903 a
Approximate Running Time: 44 mins
Transcript Page Count: 21 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer

[Aviary] OHVI 903 a
New York, NY

Names:
Lescaze, Mary Hughes, 1901-1983
Series XLI. Lewis, Bobby

Lewis, Bobby
Call Number: OHVI 924 a
Approximate Running Time: 35 mins
Transcript Page Count: 14 pages
Owens, William, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 924 a
New York, NY

Names:
Lewis, Bobby, 1909-1997
Series XLIII. Marlin, Felice

Marlin, Felice
Call Number: OHVI 918 a-b
Approximate Running Time: 44 mins
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 918 a-b
New York, NY

Names:
   Marlin, Felice

1981 April 22
Series XLIV. Mittenthal, Arnold

Mittenthal, Arnold
Call Number: OHVI 915 a-b
Approximate Running Time: 60 mins
Transcript Page Count: 23 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 915 a-b
New York, NY

Names:
  Mittenthal, Arnold
Series XLV. Moor, Paul

Moor, Paul  
Call Number: OHVI 939 a-b  
Approximate Running Time: 97 mins  
Transcript Page Count: 26 pages  
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer  
[Aviary] OHVI 939 a-b  
Peekskill, NY  

Names:  
Moor, Paul

---

Moor, Paul  
Call Number: OHVI 939 c-d  
Approximate Running Time: 86 mins  
Transcript Page Count: 15 pages  
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer  
[Aviary] OHVI 939 c-d  
Peekskill, NY  

Names:  
Moor, Paul
Moross, Jerome

Call Number: OHVI 926 a

Approximate Running Time: 33 mins

Transcript Page Count: 11 pages

Owens, William, interviewer

[Aviary] OHVI 926 a

New York, NY

Names:

Moross, Jerome, 1913-1983
Series XLVII. O'Donnell, May

O'Donnell, May
Call Number: OHVI 950 a-b
Approximate Running Time: 94 mins
Transcript Page Count: 54 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 950 a-b
New York, NY

Names:
O'Donnell, May, 1906-2004
Series XLVIII. Orbon, Julian

Orbon, Julian
Call Number: OHVI 930 a
Approximate Running Time: 47 mins
Transcript Page Count: 20 pages
Owens, William, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 930 a
New York, NY

Names:
Orbón, Julián, 1925-1991
Series XLIX. Palmer, Robert

Palmer, Robert
Call Number: OHVI 941 a
Approximate Running Time: 32 mins
Transcript Page Count: 16 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 941 a
By telephone

Names:
Palmer, Robert, 1915-2010
Series LI. Pope, Stuart

Pope, Stuart
Call Number: OHVI 958 a-b
Approximate Running Time: 92 mins
Transcript Page Count: 45 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer

[Aviary] OHVI 958 a-b

New York, NY

Names:
  Pope, Stuart, 1921-2005
Series LIII. Robbins, Jerome

Robbins, Jerome
Call Number: OHVI 912 a
Approximate Running Time: 30 mins
Transcript Page Count: 13 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 912 a
New York, NY

Names:
   Robbins, Jerome, 1918-1998
Series LVI. Shanet, Howard

Shanet, Howard
Call Number: OHVI 957 a-d
Approximate Running Time: 129 mins
Transcript Page Count: 51 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 957 a-d
New York, NY

Names:
Shanet, Howard
Series LVII. Shapero, Harold

Shapero, Harold
Call Number: OHVI 908 a-b
Approximate Running Time: 73 mins
Transcript Page Count: 33 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 908 a-b
Natick, MA

Names:
Shapero, Harold, 1920-2013
Siegmeister, Elie
Call Number: OHVI 934 a-b
Approximate Running Time: 62 mins
Transcript Page Count: 26 pages
Owens, William, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 934 a-b
Great Neck, NY

Names:
Siegmeister, Elie, 1909-1991
Series LIX. Smit, Leo

Smit, Leo
Call Number: OHVI 914 a-c
Approximate Running Time: 119 mins
Transcript Page Count: 51 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 914 a-c
New York, NY

Names:
Smit, Leo, 1921-1999
Sykes, Gerald
Call Number: OHVI 906 a-b
Approximate Running Time: 78 mins
Transcript Page Count: 30 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 906 a-b
New York, NY

Names:
  Sykes, Gerald, 1903-
Series LXI. Thomson, Virgil

Thomson, Virgil
Call Number: OHVI 902 a-b
Approximate Running Time: 56 mins
Transcript Page Count: 20 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 902 a-b
Chelsea Hotel, New York, NY

Names:
Thomson, Virgil, 1896-1989

1979 June 6
Series LXII. Uris, Harold

Uris, Harold
Call Number: OHVI 911 a
Approximate Running Time: 28 mins
Transcript Page Count: 14 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 911 a
New York, NY

Names:
Uris, Harold D., 1905-1982
Series LXIII. Walker, David

Walker, David
Call Number: OHVI 959 a
Approximate Running Time: 6 mins
Transcript Page Count: 3 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 959 a
Weston, CT

Names:
  Walker, David
Series LXIV. Warfield, William

Warfield, William
Call Number: OHVI 961 a
Approximate Running Time: 25 mins
Transcript Page Count: 12 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 961 a
By telephone
Names:
  Warfield, William

Warfield, William
Call Number: OHVI 961 b
Pfeifferberger, Matthew, interviewer
Boston, MA
Names:
  Warfield, William
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.

**Occupations**
Composers -- United States -- 20th Century

**Subjects**
Copland, Aaron, 1900-1990