Guide to the Aaron Copland Oral History

OHVI

Compiled by Anne Rhodes

2016-03-21

P.O. Box 208307
New Haven, CT 06520-8307
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http://guides.library.yale.edu/oham/collectionsguide
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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
Series II. Bean, Betty

Bean, Betty
Call Number: OHVI 943 a
Approximate Running Time: 32 mins
Transcript Page Count: 11 pages
Owens, William, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 943 a
New York, NY

Names:
   Bean, Betty
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 VI. Burkat, Leonard

Burkat, Leonard
Call Number: OHVI 952 a-b
Approximate Running Time: 76 mins
Transcript Page Count: 30 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 952 a-b
Danbury, CT

Names:
Burkat, Leonard, 1919-1992
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 IX. Copland, Irving

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

1981 April 7
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
Series XII. Daniel, Minna Lederman

Daniel, Minna Lederman
Call Number: OHVI 905 a
Approximate Running Time: 42 mins
Transcript Page Count: 13 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 905 a
New York, NY

Names:
Lederman, Minna, 1896-1995

Daniel, Minna Lederman
Call Number: OHVI 905 b
Approximate Running Time: 36 mins
Transcript Page Count: 13 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 905 b
New York, NY

Names:
Lederman, Minna, 1896-1995
Series XIII. Davidovsky, Mario

Davidovsky, Mario
Call Number: OHVI 929 a-b
Approximate Running Time: 62 mins
Transcript Page Count: 21 pages
Owens, William, interviewer

[Aviary] OHVI 929 a-b

Columbia University, New York, NY

Names:
   Davidovsky, Mario, 1934-2019
Series XIV. De Mille, Agnes

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 XVI. Denby, Edwin

Denby, Edwin
Call Number: OHVI 910 a-b
Approximate Running Time: 82 mins
Transcript Page Count: 31 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 910 a-b
New York, NY

Names:
  Denby, Edwin
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
Series XIX. Druckman, Jacob

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

Names:
Druckman, Jacob, 1928-1996
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 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

New Haven, CT

Names:
  Foss, Lukas, 1922-2009

1986 November 4
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 XXVII. Friedman, Madeleine

Friedman, Madeleine
Call Number: OHVI 922 a
Approximate Running Time: 35 mins
Transcript Page Count: 20 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 922 a
New York, NY

Names:
  Friedman, Madeleine
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
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
Series XXXV. Heinsheimer, Hans

Heinsheimer, Hans
Call Number: OHVI 921 a
Approximate Running Time: 33 mins
Transcript Page Count: 13 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 921 a
New York, NY

Names:
Heinsheimer, Hans W., 1900-1993
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 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.
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

1985 December 19
Series XL. Lescaze, Mary

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
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

1982 June 1

1982 January 7

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
Series XLVI. Moross, Jerome

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 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

1983 May 12
Series L. Perry, Tod

Perry, Tod
Call Number: OHVI 955 a-b
Approximate Running Time: 93 mins
Transcript Page Count: 44 pages
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer
[Aviary] OHVI 955 a-b
West Stockbridge, MA

Names:
   Perry, Tod

1987 July 31
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 LII. Ramey, Phillip

Ramey, Phillip  
Call Number: OHVI 956 a-d  
1987 November 10

Names:  
Ramey, Phillip, 1939-

Approximate Running Time: 115 mins  
Transcript Page Count: 64 pages  
Perlis, Vivian, interviewer  
[Aviary] OHVI 956 a-d  
New York, NY
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
Series LVIII. Siegmeister, Elie

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
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
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

1989 February 8

Warfield, William
Call Number: OHVI 961 b
Pfeiffer, Matthew, interviewer
Boston, MA

Names:
  Warfield, William

2002 April 27
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