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DESCRIPTION OF COLLECTION

Shelf location:  M2B 8,1-2
Physical extent:  4 linear feet

Biographical Sketch

Jacques Gordon was born in Odessa, Russia, on March 7, 1899. He graduated from the Imperial Conservatory at Odessa in 1912, and continued studies at the Institute of Musical Art, N.Y.C., with Kneisel (violin) and Goetschius (theory.) He made his debut as violinist in 1911 in Berlin. He was a member of the Berkshire String Quartet from 1918-1920, and founded the Gordon String Quartet in 1921. From 1921-1930 he was concertmaster of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, and violin teacher at the American Conservatory in Chicago. In the 1930s he was instrumental in the founding of Music Mountain in Falls Village, Connecticut. The first concert at Music Mountain was given by the Gordon String Quartet on August 22, 1930. Jacques Gordon was the first conductor of the Hartford Symphony Orchestra under WPA auspices in the 1930s. He was also a guest conductor of the New Haven Orchestra, and served as early as 1928 as a guest teacher at the Julius Hartt School of Music in Hartford. In 1938 he was awarded the Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge medal for services to chamber music. He published some violin music and arrangements. On May 10, 1942, it was announced in the Democrat & Chronicle of Rochester, New York, that Dr. Howard Hanson named Gordon to the Eastman School Faculty as head of the violin department. It was also announced that the Gordon String Quartet would be under the sponsorship of the Eastman School of Music. Jacques Gordon suffered a stroke and collapsed while playing a violin concerto with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra in May.
1947. He died September 15, 1948 in Hartford, Connecticut, and was buried in the Music Mountain cemetery.

**Provenance**

This collection was purchased from Mrs. Jacques Gordon in May 1967.

**Scope and Content**

This collection is the remainder of a number of musical items purchased from Mrs. Jacques Gordon in May 1967. Much of the collection has been catalogued and is now either in circulation or among the Rare Books holdings. The remaining items comprise published scores and manuscripts of music for solo violin, string quartet, and other ensembles. A section of these are arrangements of other works for solo violin and string quartet, some of which were made by Jacques Gordon himself. Many of the items in this collection contain markings which are most likely those of Jacques Gordon and members of the Gordon String Quartet, and are evidence of musical interpretive decisions made by these musicians. The collection also contains a small box of ephemera.

**Restrictions**

None, save for those of United States copyright law (where applicable).

**Associations**

The extensive performance library of the longtime Eastman violin and chamber music professor John P. Celentano contains material similar to that of the Jacques Gordon Collection. In addition, several scrapbooks and clipping files offer information about musical life in Rochester during the years of Gordon’s career.
DESCRIPTION OF SERIES

The Jacques Gordon Collection is divided by material type into series and sub-series according to the following rubrics:

**Series 1: Published Scores**

*Sub-series A: Compositions for String Quartet*

*Sub-series B: Compositions for Solo Violin*

*Sub-series C: Other works*

**Series 2: Manuscripts of Original Compositions**

*Sub-series A: Compositions for String Quartet*

*Sub-series B: Compositions for Solo Violin*

*Sub-series C: Other works*

**Series 3: Manuscript Arrangements**

*Sub-series A: Compositions for String Quartet*

*Sub-series B: Compositions for Solo Violin*

*Sub-series C: Other works*

**Series 4: Ephemera**

This series contains programs, clippings, and assorted other documents.
Jacques Gordon. Cadenza to the Violin Concerto by Leo Sowerby. Ink manuscript. From Jacques Gordon Collection, Box 8, Folder 8.
INVENTORY

Series 1: Published Scores

Sub-series A: Compositions for String Quartet

Box 1


Box 2


folder 3  Three bound quartet albums: Peters Quartett Album; Carl Fischer Flonzaley Quartet Favorite Encore Album; Carl Fischer Zoellner Quartet Repertoire.

Box 4


Sub-series B: Compositions for Solo Violin

Box 2


folder 28  Busch, Carl. *Indian Legend*. Boston: Oliver Ditson, 1907.

Box 3


folder 2  [Various.] Fritz Kreisler Violin Compositions. Includes works by Kreisler, and transcriptions by Kreisler of works by other composers for violin. 2 Volumes, various editions put together. No piano parts.

folder 3  [Various.] Fritz Kreisler Works for Violin and Piano. Includes works by Kreisler, and transcriptions by Kreisler of works by other composers for violin. 2 Volumes, various editions put together. Piano part included.
folder 4  Kreisler, Fritz.  *Fritz Kreisler Favorite Encore Folio*.


Box 4


Sub-series C: Other works

Box 4


Folder 16  Corelli, Arcangelo. La Folia: Variations Serieuses. For strings and winds (parts.) Includes hand-written copies.


Folder 18  Garibaldi, G. Suite Pour Instruments a Cordes. London: J. R. Lafleur and Son, [n.d.].
folder 19  Reinecke, Carl. *Concertstuck.*


folder 21  Wuerst, R. *Intermezzo.* Berlin: Bote und Bock. Score only.

folder 23  Hermann, Friedrich. *Burlesque.* Second violin part only.


folder 25  Debussy, Claude. [Miscellaneous.] Includes piano score for Debussy's "La Fille aux Cheveux de Lin" and fragment of a violin part.

**Series 2: Manuscripts of Original Compositions**

*Sub-series A: Compositions for String Quartet*

**Box 6**

folder 1  Spohr, Louis. *Quartet.* Parts only.

folder 2  Templeton, Alec. *Bach goes to town.* Parts only.

folder 3  Yost, Gaylord. *Etching.* Parts only.

folder 4  Yost, Gaylord. *Pastel.* Parts only.

folder 5  Yost, Gaylord. *Rustic dance.* Parts only.

folder 6  Vactor, David Van. *Quartetto no.1.* 1940. Parts only.

folder 7  Mason, Daniel Gregory. *Variations on a theme of John Powell.* Score only.


folder 9  Spalding, Albert. *Quartet #2.* Parts only.

folder 10  Bauer, Marion. *String Quartet.* Score only.

folder 11  Donato, Anthony. *Three Intimations.* Parts only.

folder 12  Gardner, Samuel. *From the Canebrake.* Parts only.
folder 13  Geist, George A. “Moderato” from *String Quartet in C*. Score and parts.

folder 14  Hadley, Henry. *Red Rose, Marguerites, October Twilight, Daffodils*. Parts only.

folder 15  Janssen, Werner. *Quartetto in Mi maggiore*. Score only (two copies).

folder 16  Keller, Homer. *String Quartet no.2 in C*. Parts only.

folder 17  Glazunov, Alexander. *Quatuor*. Score and parts.


folder 19  Werner, Eric. *A Little Quartet in Old Vienna Style*. Score and violin I & II parts.


Box 7

folder 1  Whithorne, Emerson. *Quartet for Strings*. Score and parts.

folder 2  Smith, David Stanley. *Quartet no.9 in B-flat*. Score and parts.

folder 3  Borowski, Felix. *Premier Quatuor a cordes*. Score only.

folder 4  Donato, Anthony. Quartet in E minor. Parts only.

folder 5  Eichheim, Henry. *Quartet*. Parts only. Missing violin I part.

folder 6  Finney, Ross Lee. *String Quartet*. Parts only. Includes a note, presumably by the composer, regarding revisions.


folder 8  Anonymous. *Song of the brook*. Parts only.

folder 9  Dumler, Martin. *Andantino*. First violin part only.

folder 10  Verrall, John. *Quartet*. Viola and Cello parts only.


folder 13  Score fragment. [unknown]. Third movement of a string quartet.
folder 14  Maganini, Quinto.  *Quartet No.1*. Score and parts.

*Sub-series B: Compositions for Solo Violin*

Box 8

folder 1  Cadman, Charles.  *As The Crow Flies*. Solo violin part and piano accompaniment.

folder 2  Brinkman, Joseph.  A "Melanchlic" Tune. Violin and piano score only.

folder 3  Mignone, Francisco.  *Lenda Sertaneja No.2*. 1924. Violin and piano score only.


folder 7  Unidentified violin and piano score.

*Sub-series C: Other works*

Box 8

folder 8  Sowerby, Leo.  *Concerto for Violin and Orchestra*. Violin part only. Includes cadenza by Jacques Gordon.

folder 9  Stock, Frederick A.  *Konzert fur Violine mit Begleitung des Orchesters*. Score with piano reduction.


folder 11  Aubert, Jacques, rev. A. Pochon.  *La Reine des Peris*. Part only. For voice, 2 violins, viola, cello.

folder 12  Wagniere-Horton, M.  *Lontani Pensier*. Parts only. For voice, 2 violins, viola, cello.

folder 13  Anonymous.  *Elegir*. Parts only. For 2 violins, 2 violas, cello.

folder 14  Delamarter, Eric.  *Symphony No.3*. Full score.
folder 15  Carter, John.  *Music how pleasant is the sound.* Voice and piano score.

folder 16  Unidentified violin part.

folder 17  Miscellaneous incomplete and unidentified music.

**Series 3: Manuscript Arrangements**

*Sub-series A: Compositions for String Quartet*

**Box 8**


folder 27  Kozeluch, Leopold, arr. A. Pochon.  *Quatuor pour Deux Violons, Alto et Violoncelle, No.1.* Parts only.

folder 28  Debussy, Claude, arr. A. Pochon.  *La Fille.* Parts only.


folder 30  Yost, Gaylord, arr.  *Old Irish Melody.*

folder 31  Schumann, Robert; Frederic Chopin, arr. [anonymous].  Air; Melody; Polonaise. Louis XIII. Parts only.

**Box 9**

folder 1  Handel, G. F., ed. A. Pochon.  *Overture.* Parts only.

folder 2  Granados, Ibert, Rimsky-Korsakov, arr. [anonymous].  Intermezzo; Le petit ane blanc; Scherzo. Parts only. Violin I part missing.

folder 3  Foster, Stephen, arr. Gaylord Yost.  *Old Folks At Home.* Parts only.

folder 4  Schumann, Robert; Frederic Chopin, arr. [anonymous].  March funebre; Prelude; Widmung; An den Sonnenschein; Die Stille. Parts only.

folder 5  Kern, Jerome, arr. Charles Miller.  “‘Twas Not So Long Ago.” Parts only.


folder 7  Kern, Jerome, arr. Charles Miller.  “They Didn't Believe Me.” Parts only.
folder 8  Kern, Jerome, arr. Charles Miller. “The Crickets are Calling” and “The Siren's Song.” Parts only.


folder 10 Kern, Jerome, arr. Charles Miller. “I'm The Echo.” Parts only.


folder 12 Whithorne, Emerson. Dream Dusk. Score only.

Sub-series B: Compositions for Solo Violin

Box 8


folder 22  Glazunov, Alexander, arr. Jacques Gordon. Caprice-Variant, from "Ruses d'amour".

folder 23  Franko, Sam, arr. Deep River.


Sub-series C: Other works

Box 9


**Series 4: Ephemera**

Box 5

folder 1  Programs (complete and fragments.) Some feature Jacques Gordon.

folder 2  Newspaper clippings.

folder 3  Miscellaneous.

Box 9

folder 18  A "Volkwein's" envelope. Contained the following items: "Old folks at home by S. Foster; "Etching", "Pastel", and "Rustic dance" by G. Yost.