MUSIC MANUSCRIPTS in the Princeton University Library.

Checklist of post-1600 music manuscripts in the Manuscripts Division, Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, and in The Scheide Library

ANTHEIL, GEORGE (1900-1959). Autograph sketchbook for “Ballet Mécanique,” piano sonatas nos. 5 and 6, and a string quartet, ca. 1919-25. Manuscripts Division (Sylvia Beach Papers, C0108)

ARAJA, FRANCESCO (1709-1770), et al. A bound collection of vocal music, chiefly Italian arias dating from the mid-18th century, probably collected in England by someone who signed the table of contents “Fra. Carter Twysden.” Includes works by Francesco d’Araja, Carlo Arrigoni, Faustina Bordoni Hasse, Nicolò Porpora, Alessandro Scarlatti, and other composers. Manuscripts Division (General Manuscripts [Bound] C0199, no. 191)

BACH, JOHANN SEBASTIAN (1685-1750). Autograph scores to cantatas 33 (“Allein zu dir Herr Jesu Christ”) and 118 (“O Jesu Christ, meins Lebens Licht”); autograph fragment of BWV 80 (“Ein feste Burg is unser Gott”); Bach’s copy of the “Schübler Chorales,” with manuscript annotations; contemporary orchestral and vocal parts for BWV 130, 168, 176, and 187. The Scheide Library. Also music fragments, one of the 2nd violin part of Bach’s cantata No. 168, and one of the Chorale, from Bach’s set of performing parts, manuscript of the Chorale in the hand of copyist Christian Gottlieb Meissner, one of Bach’s principal Leipzig copyists, 1 leaf, undated. Manuscripts Division (General Manuscripts [Misc.] C0140)

BEETHOVEN, LUDWIG VAN (1770-1827). Two autograph sketches for the Hammerklavier Sonata, op. 106; autograph sketchbook for the year 1815; three autograph studies for variations in G minor. The Scheide Library. Also an unidentified autograph sketch for a cello sonata. Manuscripts Division (Mixsell Collection, C0085)


BERLIOZ, HECTOR (1803-1869). Autograph harp part to “Le Spectre de la Rose,” a song that is part of “Les Nuits d’été,” ca. 1856; also signed by Berlioz. Manuscripts Division (Mixsell Collection, C0085)

BÜHLER, FRANZ (1760-1824). Vocal and orchestral parts, in unknown hand, for his “Missa,” with parts to another unidentified mass. Manuscripts Division (General Manuscripts [Bound] C0199, no. 167)

CONE, EDWARD T. Autograph manuscript of “Fanfare,” 1948. Manuscripts Division (General Manuscripts [Bound] C0199, no. 1228)

FRANCK, CÉSAR (1822-1890). Musical autograph of “Le sylphe” for cello, undated. Manuscripts Division (Mixsell Collection, C0085)

GERBER, HEINRICH NIKOLAUS (1702-1775). Autograph commonplace book of music for organ written and compiled in 1727 by Gerber, a pupil of J.S. Bach and court organist at Sondershausen, Germany. Manuscripts Division (General Manuscripts [Bound] C0199, no. 423)

GLAZUNOV, ALEKSANDR KONSTANTINOVICH (1865-1936). Musical autograph copy of his “Valse de concert” for piano, dated 1892-93, copied in 1934. Manuscripts Division (Mixsell Collection, C0085)

GOUNOD, CHARLES (1818-1893). Musical autograph copy of “Canon à quatre voix égales,” dated 1883. Manuscripts Division (Mixsell Collection, C0085)

“Greek Liturgical Music.” An open series (currently 13 vols.) of Post-Byzantine Greek Orthodox liturgical music manuscripts, dating from the 17th-19th century. Includes manuscripts, written either in Late-Byzantine or Modern (Chrysantine) notation. Manuscripts Division (Princeton Greek Manuscripts Collection, C0879)

GUILMANT, ALEXANDRE (1837-1911). Autograph copy of his “Ave verum” for four-part chorus and organ, op. 7. Manuscripts Division (Mixsell Collection, C0085)
HANDEL, GEORGE FRIDERIC (1685-1759). 10 volumes of contemporary manuscript copies of Handel works, such as the full score of “Belshazzar,” dated ca. 1744 and written in the hand of John Christopher Smith, Sr., Handel’s chief copyist. Some of these copybooks include works by contemporary composers. Manuscripts Division (James S. Hall Collection, C0640). Manuscript piano reductions of opera overtures of George Frideric Handel, written in unknown hand, dated ca. 1740. Manuscripts Division (General Manuscripts [Bound] C0199, no. 444).


LISZT, FRANZ (1811-1886). Two unidentified autograph sketches. Manuscripts Division (Mixsell Collection, C0085).


MENDELSSOHN-BARTHOLDY, FELIX (1809-1847). Manuscript copy of Mendelssohn's piano variations, op. 82, E flat major and op. 83, B flat major, in the hand of one of his main copyists, Louis Weissenborn, dated 1841. Manuscripts Division (General Manuscripts [Bound] C0199, no. 707).

MOZART, WOLFGANG AMADEUS (1756-1791). Autograph manuscript of “Klaversonata III” in F major (K.332). The Scheide Library. Also an early manuscript copy of a Mozart quintet for piano and winds in E flat major (K.452); and a 19th-century copyist's score to “Die Entführung aus dem Serail,” with French translations of the text. Manuscripts Division (General Manuscripts [Bound] C0199, no. 743 and 744).

NABOKOV, NICOLAS (1903-). Autograph manuscript score of Nabokov's ballet “Union Pacific,” together with the orchestral score for “Mexican dance,” dated 1934. Manuscripts Division (General Manuscripts [Bound] C0199, no. 1339).


REIF, PAUL (1910-1978). Musical scores by Reif, including two operas, “Mad Hamlet,” dated 1961-62; “Portrait in Brownstone,” dated 1968; songs based on works of Walt Whitman, T.S. Eliot, Edna St. Vincent Millay, and other poets; concertos for string orchestra; music for brass quintets; secular choruses for mixed voices with piano; chamber music of flute and piano, flute trios, and woodwind quartets; and organ music, dated 1959-76. Manuscripts Division (Paul Reif Collection, C0639).


SCHUBERT, FRANZ (1797-1828). Autograph score (1 leaf) of the song “Die Sterne” with piano accompaniment, D.176. Written in Schubert’s hand on verso, are the words of the second through the fifth verses (text by Johann Georg Felligner, 1781-1816), signed by Schubert and dated 6 April 1818. The Scheide Library.

SESSIONS, ROGER (1896-). Manuscripts of Session’s compositions reflecting his use of the 12-tone system of composition and ranging from exercises and studies to concertos, sonatas, operas (“Lancelot and Elaine” and “Montezuma”), and symphonies (1 through 9); also included are miscellaneous musical works such as divertimenti, nocturnes, chorale studies, quintets, and the cantata “When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloom’d,” dated 1911-67; additions to the papers include ozalid copies of various cantatas, concertos, symphonies, and miscellaneous works, original scores for a violin concerto, sketches for Symphony No. 1, correspondence with Luigi Dallapiccola and two musical manuscripts by Jean Binet. Manuscripts Division (Roger Sessions Scores, C0288).
Stravinsky, Igor (1882-1971). Signed autograph manuscript of the orchestral score of “Requiem Canticles,” dated 1966 and dedicated to the memory of Helen Buchanan Seeger. Restricted access; readers should use the preservation photocopy of the ms. found in General Mss. [Misc.] C0140. Manuscripts Division (General Manuscripts [Bound] C0199, no. 1009)

Vogel, Cajetan M. (1747-1794). Orchestral parts to his “Stabat Mater” in D minor. Manuscripts Division (General Manuscripts [Misc.] C0140)


For complete bibliographic details of the above items, please consult the online catalog.

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dcskemer@princeton.edu

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Tel.: (609)-258-3241
needham@princeton.edu

Revised Oct. 24, 2003