

The New York Public Library
New York Public Library for the Performing Arts, Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullman Center
Music Division

Guide to the
Stefan Auber papers
1920-1982
JPB 13-05

Compiled by Matthew Snyder, March 2013

Summary

Creator: Auber, Stefan

Title: Stefan Auber papers, 1920-1982

Size: 3.43 linear feet (8 boxes)

Source: Donated by Lawrence Gould in 2011.

Abstract: The Stefan Auber papers hold concert programs, images, scrapbooks, clippings, scores, promotional material, touring files, posters, and correspondence. The collection primarily documents the cellist's life and career from 1920 until the mid-1960s. Concert programs and images make up the largest portions of the papers.

Access: Collection is open to the public. Library policy on photography and photocopying will apply. Advance notice may be required.

Copyright information: For permission to publish, contact the Chief, Music Division, New York Public Library for the Performing Arts.

Preferred citation: Stefan Auber papers, JPB 13-05. Music Division, New York Public Library.

Processing note: Processing consisted of foldering and arranging papers, scores, photographs, and slides.

Creator history

Stefan Auber (1903-1986) was a cellist. He was born in Vienna, where his father was his first teacher, and made his performance debut at the age of eight. Later, he was a student of the cellist Julius Klengel. In the late 1930s, he immigrated to the United States, where he enjoyed a successful career as a chamber music, orchestral, and solo performer. He played for three years with the violinist Rudolf Kolisch's quartet, which took part in the first recording of Arnold Schoenberg's *Pierrot Lunaire* under the composer's direction in 1940. Following the breakup of the Kolisch Quartet in 1942, Auber became principal cellist of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra under Fritz Reiner, a post he held at least until the mid-1950s. He continued to perform into the 1970s.

Sources:

<http://www.naxos.com/person/Stefan_Auber/5316.htm>, accessed February 26, 2013.

<<http://www.discogs.com/artist/Stefan+Auber>>, accessed February 26, 2013.

<<http://www.cello.org/newsletter/articles/suggia.htm>>, accessed February 26, 2013.

"Stefan Auber In Soloist Role." *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, Nov. 19, 1947, p. 5.

Scope and content note

The Stefan Auber papers hold concert programs, images, scrapbooks, clippings, scores, promotional material, touring files, posters, and correspondence. The collection primarily documents the cellist's life and career from 1920 until the mid-1960s. Concert programs and images make up the largest portions of the papers.

The programs document solo performances, as well as work with the Kolisch Quartet and the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra. Images, primarily photographs but also including a box of slides, contain solo portraits of Auber; pictures of him with the Kolisch Quartet and the Pittsburgh Symphony (some including Fritz Reiner); and many photos and slides of friends, colleagues, and family, most undated and unidentified. The Pittsburgh Symphony photos contain many informal images taken while on tour in the mid-1950s. Other photographs document Auber's Far East tour with the Little Orchestra Society in 1959. A few later photographs of Auber date from the 1980s.

The scrapbooks, which document Auber's career in Europe before his move to the United States, contain photographs, clippings, and programs. (Additional loose clippings are in the first folder of the collection list.) The scores contain works for solo cello, cello and piano, string quartet, and violin and piano. Composers include Béla Bartók (String Quartet No. VI) and Jerzy Fitelberg. Unless otherwise noted, the scores are manuscripts, some signed or inscribed by the composer, or containing markings by Auber. The scores also hold Auber's sketches and exercise manuscripts.

The promotional material contains resumes, biographies, and clippings. The posters advertise concerts in Germany and the United States, and the touring files contain itineraries, correspondence and contracts. There is a small set of letters in the general correspondence file. It includes a manuscript in German which may be an essay by Auber.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged by format.

Key terms

Names

Auber, Stefan
Bartók, Béla, 1881-1945
Fitelberg, Jerzy, 1903-1951
Kolisch Quartett
Kolisch, Rudolf, 1896-1978
Little Orchestra Society
Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra
Reiner, Fritz, 1888-1963

Occupations

Conductors (musicians)
Musicians
Violoncellists

Special formats

Black-and-white photographs
Clippings (information artifacts)
Color slides
One-sheet posters
Programs (documents)
Promotional materials
Scores
Scrapbooks

Container list

- b.1 f.1 Clippings, 1925-1964
- b.1 f.2 Correspondence, 1959-1968, undated
 - Photographs
 - Prints
 - Auber, Stefan (Solo Portraits)
- b.1 f.3-4 1920s-1980s
- b.2 f.1 1940
 - Auber with Others
- b.1 f.5-8 General, 1921-1959, undated
 - Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra
- b.2 f.2 1942
- b.3 f.1-3 1943-1955
- b.3 f.4-6 Others or Unidentified, 1921-1945, undated
- b.2 f.3 Others or Unidentified, 1921-1945, undated
- b.8 Slides, 1959, undated (Contains six sets of slides.)
- b.7 f.1 Posters, 1943, undated
- Programs
- b.4 f.1-4 General, 1921-1970, undated
- b.4 f.5 Kolisch Quartet, 1940-1948
- b.4 f.6 Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, 1942-1948
- b.5 f.1-2 Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, 1942-1948
- Promotional Material
- b.5 f.3 General, 1943, 1978-1982
- b.5 f.4 Kolisch Quartet, 1941-1942, 1967
- Scores
- b.2 f.4 Arbter, Alfred. *Andante for Cello and Piano*, undated
- b.2 f.5 Bartók, Béla. *String Quartet No. VI*, 1941
- b.2 f.6 Casadeus, Robert. *Sonata for Cello and Piano*, Op. 23, 1968 (Published, with inscription by composer.)
- b.2 f.7 Fitelberg, Jerzy. *Sonata in Four Movements for Cello*, 1946
Signed by composer, with markings by Auber.
- b.2 f.8 Reti, Rudolph. *Schneller Taut*, undated (For cello and piano.)
- b.2 f.9 Rubin, Marcel. *Sonata for Violoncello*, Op. 15, undated
- b.2 f.10 Sandoval, Miguel. *Serenata*, 1962 (For violin and piano.)
- b.2 f.11 Unidentified. *Sonata for Violoncello and Piano*, Op. 50, undated
Dedicated to Emanuel Feuermann. Also contains untitled work by unidentified composer.
- b.6 f.1-3 Sketches and Exercises, undated
- b.5 f.5-7 Scrapbooks, 1920-1938
- Touring
- b.5 f.8 General, 1939-1950, 1975

Touring (cont.)

b.5 f.9 Symphony of the Air, 1955