



The New York Public Library Music Division

Guide to the

George Perle papers

ca. 1948-1991

JPB 89-2

Summary

Creator: Perle, George, 1915-2009

Title: George Perle papers

Date: ca. 1948-1991

Source: 19 boxes: Gift, Perle, George, 06/25/87 5 boxes: Gift, Perle, George, 10/04/90 14 boxes: Gift, Perle, George, 07/15/92

Abstract: An American composer and theorist, George Perle received his Ph.D. degree in 1956 from N.Y. Univ. with the dissertation *Serial Composition and Atonality* (publ. 1962; 4th ed. 1977). He also wrote *Twelve-tone Tonality* (1977); *The Operas of Alban Berg* (v. 1, *Wozzeck*, v. 2, Lulu; 1980-1985); *The Listening Composer* (1990); and numerous articles on Berg, Schoenberg, and Webern. He is co-founder and director of the International Alban Berg Society. Manuscripts of books, articles, reviews, and student term papers (the last under the name Perlman); correspondence (about publications; about theory, chiefly with Paul Lansky; and about the Society); bibliography of books and articles by and about Perle; income tax records; programs; flyers; clippings; and musical scores of compositions (page proofs and photocopies of holographs, with emendations in the hand of the composer). Musical scores have classmark JPB 89-3 and will be cataloged separately in the Scores file.

Preferred citation: George Perle papers, Music Division, The New York Public Library

Language of the Material: Chiefly in English; several items in German

Related Materials:

Perle, George, 1915- . Papers, musical scores, and sound recordings

Creator History

An American composer and theorist, George Perle received his Ph.D. degree in 1956 from N.Y. Univ. with the dissertation *Serial Composition and Atonality* (publ. 1962; 4th ed. 1977). He also wrote *Twelve-tone Tonality* (1977); *The Operas of Alban Berg* (v. 1, *Wozzeck*, v. 2, Lulu; 1980-1985); *The Listening Composer* (1990); and numerous articles on Berg, Schoenberg, and Webern. He is co-founder and

director of the International Alban Berg Society.

Custodial History

Gift of George Perle, 1987; 1990.

Scope and Content Note

Manuscripts of books, articles, reviews, and student term papers (the last under the name Perlman); correspondence (about publications; about theory, chiefly with Paul Lansky; and about the Society); bibliography of books and articles by and about Perle; income tax records; programs; flyers; clippings; and musical scores of compositions (page proofs and photocopies of holographs, with emendations in the hand of the composer). Musical scores have classmark JPB 89-3 and will be cataloged separately in the Scores file.

Key Terms

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Account books
Articles
Bibliographies
Clippings
Correspondence
Manuscripts (for publication)
Musical scores
notes
Programs

Subjects

Atonality
Composition (Music)
Twelve-tone system

Occupations

Composers

Names

Perle, George, 1915-2009
Berg, Alban, 1885-1935
Lansky, Paul, 1944-
Schoenberg, Arnold, 1874-1951
Webern, Anton, 1883-1945
American Music Collection
International Alban Berg Society