

Guide to the Cynthia Auerbach Papers, 1968 - 1986

JPB 06-72

Music Division

**The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts
New York, New York**

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Descriptive Summary

Title:	Cynthia Auerbach Papers
Collection ID:	JPB 06-72
Creator:	Auerbach, Cynthia
Extent:	7 linear feet (11 boxes)
Repository:	Music Division. The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts

Abstract:

The Cynthia Auerbach Papers contain director's notes, programs, and props lists for many of the productions mounted by this prolific opera stage director from 1968 to 1986.

Administrative Information

Access

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

Publication Rights

For permission to publish, contact the Curator, Music Division.

Preferred Citation

Cynthia Auerbach Papers, JPB 06-72, Music Division, The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts.

Source

The Cynthia Auerbach Papers were donated to the Music Division in 1987 by the estate of Cynthia Auerbach.

Processing Information

The collection was processed and cataloged in 2006.

Biographical Note

Cynthia Auerbach was born in Spring Valley, Long Island, in 1943. She attended school at the State University of New York at Potsdam, where she would later receive the outstanding alumni award in 1973. She also attended Manhattan School of Music, eventually serving on the theory faculty and becoming the assistant director of the preparatory division.

Her interest in directing opera began when she founded the Manhattan School Children's Opera in 1969. She directed many works for children, including Ravel's *L'Enfant et les Sortilèges* and Noye's *Fludde*. Cynthia then began directing for the Bel Canto Opera and the New School.

She became a resident director at New York City Opera in 1972 and received much acclaim for her productions of *La Bohème* and *Carmen*. Through her work at the New York City Opera, she branched out to direct at other opera venues, including the Lake George Opera Festival, Kansas City Opera, Long Island Opera, Rochester Opera, and Lansing Opera.

Auerbach was also known for her accomplished work on the piano and as a superior coach, conductor and director. She also enjoyed writing parodies of famous operatic arias for fundraisers and galas.

Auerbach's career was cut short when she died on May 16, 1987 after a battle with lung cancer. She was 44 years old.

Scope and Content Note

The Cynthia Auerbach papers contain documents from 1968 through 1986. The collection consists primarily of production notes for many of the operas she directed during her career as a stage director. These notes include notations on blocking, props, and actual notes photocopied and given to the actors. Occasionally programs and marked librettos are included with the materials. Often, lists of actors that appeared in her productions are available as well. There are, unfortunately, no materials of a personal nature within this collection.

Organization

The collection is organized alphabetically by title of production, followed by the name of the opera company in the case of multiple productions.

Box List

<u>Box</u>	<u>Fol</u>	
1	1	<i>Aida</i> - Opera Theater of Rochester, 1983
	2	<i>The Barber of Seville</i> - Kansas City Lyric Theater, 1976
	3	<i>The Bartered Bride</i> - Pittsburgh Opera, 1982
		<i>La Bohème</i>
	4	Chautauqua Opera, 1981
	5	Mobile Opera, 1986
		New York City Opera
	6	1974
	7	1981
	8	<i>Bommarzo</i> - New York City Opera, 1968
		<i>Carmen</i>

2	1	Charlotte Opera Association, 1980
		New Orleans Opera
	2	1984
	3	1985
		New York City Opera
	4	1977
	5	1978
	6	1981
	7	San Jose Opera, 1977
3	1	<i>Chicken Little</i> - undated
		<i>Don Giovanni</i> , 1979
	2	Directors Notes
		Vocal Score, marked
	3	Act I
	4	Act II
		<i>L'Enfant et les Sortilèges</i>
4	1	Libretto
	2	Libretto, translation
	3	Notes
	4	Sketches
	5	<i>Falstaff</i> - Opera Omaha, 1985
5	1	<i>Fidelio</i> - undated
		<i>La Fille du Regiment</i>
		New York City Opera
	2	1979
	3	1980
		<i>Die Fledermaus</i>
	4	Asolo Opera Company, 1978
	5	Augusta Opera, 1985
	6	<i>The Trials of Cherubino</i> , 1973
	7	<i>Un Giornodi Regno</i> - Bel Canto Opera, undated
6	1	<i>Krutnava</i> - Opera Company of Greater Lansing, 1978
		<i>I Lombardi</i>
	2	New Orleans Opera, 1982
	3	New York City Opera, 1982
	4	San Diego Opera, 1979
	5	<i>Madame Butterfly</i> - Texas Opera Theater,
	6	<i>Manon Lescaut</i> - Chautauqua Opera, 1983
		<i>The Marriage of Figaro</i>
7	1	Chautauqua Opera, 1983
	2	Texas Opera Theater, 1983
	3-5	<i>Noye's Fludde</i>
		<i>Noye's Fludde</i>
	6	<i>Of Mice and Men</i> - Chautauqua Opera, 1983
8	1	<i>Paul Bunyan</i> - Manhattan School of Music, 1977
	2	<i>Pearl Fishers</i> - Florentine Opera Company, 1985
	3	<i>Pêcheurs de Perles</i> - New York City Opera, 1980
	4	<i>Piper of Hamelin</i> - Manhattan School of Music, 1970

- 9 1 *The Rake's Progress* - Chautauqua Opera, 1986
- 2 *Regina* - Chautauqua Opera
- Electrics Chart
- Notes on Score
- 3 Act I
- 4 Act II
- 5 Act III
- 6 Production Records
- 7 Set
- Rigoletto*
- 8 Opera Theater of Rochester, 1977
- 9 Texas Opera Theater, 1982
- The Student Prince* - Shreveport Opera, 1984
- 10 1 Actors Notes
- 2 Production Notes
- 3 Marked Libretto
- 4 Marked Orchestral Score
- Tales of Hoffman*
- 11 1 Opera Company of Philadelphia, 1980
- Opera Theater of Rochester
- 2 1980
- 3 1981
- 4 *Tosca*- Opera Omaha, 1984
- 5 *Il Trovatore* - Edmonton Opera, 1984