



The New York Public Library
Rodgers and Hammerstein Archives of Recorded Sound

Guide to the

Society for Asian Music collection of noncommercial recordings

1959-1966

*L (Special) 90-19

Summary

Creator: Society for Asian Music

Title: Society for Asian Music collection of noncommercial recordings

Date: 1959-1966

Size: 108 reels (5", 7", and 10" audio tape reels)

Source: Gift of Willard Rhodes, 1969.

Abstract: These music and spoken word recordings were collected under the auspices of the Society for Asian Music, and the contents of the recordings primarily concern Asian music, in both specific and general contexts. The Society was also the sponsor of many of the music recitals and lectures within the collection.

Preferred citation: Society for Asian Music collection of noncommercial recordings, Rodgers and Hammerstein Archives of Recorded Sound, The New York Public Library

Language of the Material: English

Creator History

The Society for Asian Music began in 1959 as an informal offshoot of the New York City-based Asia Society. It was officially incorporated on March 7, 1960 and held its first general meeting on March 27 of that year at the Asia House. While the early years of the society focused on musical recitals by known performers (such as Ravi Shankar), eventually it came to combine performances with lectures, and to feature musicians less familiar to United States audiences. In 1962, the society began arranging visits through the U.S. State Department of Asian Artists. The society is still in existence today and produces two issues a year of the academic journal *Asian Music*.

Scope and Content Note

These music and spoken word recordings were collected under the auspices of the Society for Asian

Music, and the contents of the recordings primarily concern Asian music, in both specific and general contexts. The Society was also the sponsor of many of the music recitals and lectures within the collection. Although the collection contains a diverse sampling of the music of many Asian countries, the music of India is given a more substantial treatment. Both Hindustani and Karnatic music are represented by performances as well as lectures. Noteworthy performers include Shirish Gor, Ravi Shankar, and M. L. Vasanthakumari. The songs and poetry of Rabindranath Tagore are the topic of several recordings. Programs broadcast by All India Radio include performances and discussion of the songs of Tagore, and poetry readings by Tagore himself. In addition, the collection contains a symposium on the poetry of Tagore, held in New York in 1961, that features tributes given by Amiya Chandra Chakravarty and Robert Frost. Music from other countries includes folk music from China, Indonesia, Korea, the Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam, and dance music from the Philippines. The collection also includes examples of the classical music of China, Japan, Korea, Laos, and Pakistan. Additional spoken word recordings include a series of introductory lectures on Asian music by Henry Cowell, and a lecture by Alan Hovhaness on Gagaku.

Key Terms

Subjects

Carnatic music
Dance music -- Philippines
Folk music
Gagaku -- History and criticism
Hindustani music
Music -- China
Music -- Japan
Music -- Korea
Music -- Laos
Music -- Pakistan
Songs, Bengali -- India

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Sound recordings

Names

Chakravarty, Amiya Chandra
Cowell, Henry, 1897-1965
Frost, Robert, 1874-1963
Gor, Shirish
Hovhaness, Alan, 1911-2000
Shankar, Ravi, 1920-2012
Tagore, Rabindranath, 1861-1941
Vasanthakumari, M. L., 1928-
All India Radio
Society for Asian Music

Container List

- 350755 Afghanistan: [Lecture] 9 January 1962 (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 350802 Asia: Introduction to Asian music [lecture], Prof. Henry Cowell 29 January 1962 (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 350804, 350805 Asia, Southeast: Economic change based on an examination of the landscape [lecture], Prof. Peter Gosling (2 reels 7" audio tape reels)
- Bali
- 350725 Bali: Gamelan music 27 November 1961 (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 350797 [Bali]: Gamelan concert (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 350813 [Bali]: Gamelan music (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 350812 Ceremonial music of the Far East [radio broadcast] (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- China
- 350809 Classical music (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 350807, 350808 Folk music recital 1 March 1964 (2 reels 7" audio tape reels)
- 350736, 350738 Mandarin music 19 April 1962 (2 reels 7" audio tape reels)
- 350738 Music (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 350735 [Music and lecture], Charles Hucker (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 350801 Folk music (various locales) (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- India
- India, North
- 350796 Classical singing, Dr. B.R. Deodhar (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 350772, 350773 Dr. B.R. Deodhar lecture and concert 30 April 1960 (2 reels 7" audio tape reels)
- 350794 Hindustani music (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- India, South
- 350761 Vocal music (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 348688 Tamil folk songs (1 reel 5" audio tape reel)
- 350762 Nadhaswaram recital (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 350760 Flute recital (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- India [general or unspecified region]
- 350763 India [music and commentary] (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 350792, 350793 Chitrangada: a dance drama, Rabindranath Tagore (2 reels 7" audio tape reels)
- 350744, 350745 Classical dance, Indrani 2 October 1961 (2 reels 7" audio tape reels)
- 350757, 350759 Classical music (2 reels 7" audio tape reels)
- 350756 Conference on India and United States relations, Barbara Ward (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 350755 Introduction [lecture], R.I. Crane (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 348679, 350758 Music recital 19 May 1959 (2 reels 5" audio tape reel, 7" audio tape reel)
- 348682 AIR Program, Calcutta: Sitar: Raag; Raqeshri: Raag; Bageshri Raag. Bimala Kanta, Roy Chaudhuri, performers 1 December 1962 (1 reel 5" audio tape reel)
- 350774 New trends in Indian music [lecture], Vanraj Bhatia 8 November 1963 (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)

- India (cont.)
India [general or unspecified region] (cont.)
- 350754 Problems of democracy [lecture], P. Talbot November 1, 1959 (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 350747 Sangeeta Madras 5 November 1962 (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 348684 Setting down folksongs in Madras [lecture and interview], Wendy Asuath 1 April 1961 (1 reel 5" audio tape reel)
- 350775, 350776, 350777, 350778 Sitar music (4 reels 7" audio tape reels)
- 350770, 350771 Sitar recital: Tagore songs, All India Radio 27 May 1961 (2 reels 7" audio tape reel)
- 350767, 350768, 350769 Songs of Rabindranath Tagore 5 May 1961 (3 reels 7" audio tape reels)
- 348685, 348686 Tagore drama and songs [lecture], Amiya Chakravarty (2 reels 5" audio tape reels)
Second reel contains a further note on Tagore's poetry.
- 350764 Tagore poetry symposium 18 April 1961 (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 350746 Tagore poetry tape: three selections from "Tagore Reader." Paul Roche, narrator (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
Tagore tribute 19 April 1961 (3 reels)
- 350748, 350749, 350750 Parts I-III 19 April 1961 (7" audio tape reels 3 reels)
- 350751 Robert Frost remarks 19 April 1961 (1 reel 7" audio tape)
- 350752 Two thoughts: conversations 19 April 1961 (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 350753 The original voice of Rabindranath Tagore [radio program] 31 May 1961 (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 350766 [Music], Ravi Shankar [1961] (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 350791 Indonesia and Korea: Road to friendship [lecture] (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
Indonesia 1960-1961 (6 reels)
- 348689 Folk songs (1 reel 5" audio tape reel)
Music 1961, undated (3 reels)
- 348680 [Unidentified music] (1 reel 5" audio tape)
- 348681 [Unidentified music] (1 reel 5" audio tape reel)
- 350790 [Unidentified music] 31 October 1961 (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 350789 Poetry test, [Burton] Raffel (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 350790 Wayang theater 4 March 1960 (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 350780 Iran: Music (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
Japan 1959-1961, undated (9 reels)
- 350811 Contemporary Japanese prints [lecture] 14 March 1960 (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 350811, 350743 Gagaku: Japanese imperial court music [lecture], Alan Hovhaness [21 September 1963] (2 reels 7" audio tape reels)
- 471623, 471975 Hogaku (2 reels 10" audio tape reels)
- 350739 President's proposed visit to Japan [discussion] 12 June 1960 (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 350740 Problems of contemporary Japan [lecture], Barbara Ward 23 April 1959 (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 350741 Relations of Japan and the United States [lecture], Kosaka 19 September 1961 (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 350810 Tea ceremony [lecture] (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)

- Korea March 1961 (4 reels)
- 348683 Byungki Hwang: Kayagum solo and lyric song undated (1 reel 5" audio tape reel)
- 350732 Court music undated (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 350731 Folk and classical court music 17 March 1961 (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 350733 Instruments of traditional music 16 March 1961 (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- Laos 1959, 1963 (2 reels)
- 350724 Music and drama 1 April 1963 (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 350723 Music of Laos [UNESCO lecture], Alain Danielou 11 February 1959 (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 350729 Malaya: Problems and prospects [lecture], H.E. Dato' Nik Ahmed Kamil 4 June 1959 (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 350734 Music of the Far East [recital and lecture] 12 May 1962 (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 350779 Near Eastern music [recital and lecture], presented by Henry Cowell 29 May 1962 (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
Performers include Madeline Araradian (vocals), Petros Kalogerakos (vocals, bouzoukee), Emin Gunduz (vocals, kanoon), Tarik Bulut (darbuka), and Oudi Hrant (oud).
- Pakistan 1959, undated (3 reels)
- 350798 Classical music (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 350787 Music (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 350788 The promise of New Pakistan [lecture], Aktur Hamid Khan 5 November 1959 (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- Philippines 1960, 1962 (5 reels)
- 350784, 350785, 350786 Bayanihan dance music 9 May 1960 (2 reels 7" audio tape reels)
- 350800 Culture [lecture] (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 350782 Folk music [lecture], Jose Maseda 19 April 1962 (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 350783 Pandanggo sa Ilaw 12 April 1960 (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- Thailand 1965, undated (4 reels)
- 350722 Folk and children's songs (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 350720 Music and theatrical art [lecture], O. Yupho (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- Music [unidentified] 1965, undated (2 reels)
- 350730 [Unidentified] (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 350721 [Unidentified] 9 December 1965 (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- UNESCO 1959, undated (3 reels)
- 471974 An Evening in Lahore [radio broadcast] (1 reel 10" audio tape reel)
- 348687 Music: a common denominator [lecture], Yehudi Menuhin 11 February 1959 (1 reel 5" audio tape reel)
- 350803 Voice of peace [music]: 1. The River; 2. But Why? 10 February 1959 (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- Vietnam 1959, undated (2 reels)
- 350799 Vietnam [lecture], Weslyn Fischel 3 November 1959 (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- Music (4 reels)
- 350726 [Unidentified] (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 350727 [Unidentified] (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)
- 350728 [Unidentified] (1 reel 7" audio tape reel)