



The New York Public Library  
Billy Rose Theatre Division

Guide to the

**Baird Hersey papers**

1982-1983, 1991

\*T-Mss 2001-007

Compiled by Robyn Hjermsstad, 2014

## Summary

**Creator:** Hersey, Baird

**Title:** Baird Hersey papers

**Date:** 1982-1983, 1991

**Size:** .42 linear feet (1 box)

**Source:** Donated by Baird Hersey, 1988.

**Abstract:** Baird Hersey (b. 1949) is an American composer and multi-genre musician. Among his several achievements, Hersey was commissioned to compose music for "The Eighth Wonder," a sound and light show that was part of the Brooklyn Bridge Centennial Celebration in 1983. The collection (1982-1983, 1991) holds scripts, music cues, light plots, instrument schedules, pamphlets, press releases, commemorative coins, photographs, and a set design for "The Eighth Wonder."

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**Preferred citation:** Baird Hersey papers, \*T-Mss 2001-007. Billy Rose Theatre Division, The New York Public Library.

**Processing note:** Compiled by Robyn Hjermsstad, 2014 Original order was maintained.

## Creator History

Baird Hersey (b. 1949) is an American composer and multi-genre musician. He has composed 14 albums throughout the course of his career. Hersey has been commissioned several times to write music for a wide variety of institutions and events, including Harvard University, The New Mexico Arts Division, The New York Council for the Arts, and The Brooklyn Bridge Centennial Celebration. He has also composed extensively for television.

## Scope and Content Note

The collection (1982-1983, 1991) holds scripts, music cues, light plots, instrument schedules, pamphlets, press releases, commemorative coins, photographs, and a set design for "The Eighth Wonder," A sound and light show that was part of the Brooklyn Bridge Centennial Celebration in 1983. Some of the script drafts are annotated or contain lighting and sound effects. Pamphlets and press releases announce the light and sound show and highlight other events associated with the Centennial Celebration, such as a historical reenactment of the first walk across the Brooklyn Bridge.

The photographs, taken at the "mini-preview" of the show, depict Brooklyn Borough President Howard Golden and members of the "The Eighth Wonder" team, including Paul Roebling, Anne Jackson, Farley Granger, Frances Ann Dougherty, and Tom O'Horgan.

Also included in this collection is a personal photograph from a Voyager Club cruise in 1991.

## **Key Terms**

### **Geographic Names**

Brooklyn Bridge (New York, N.Y.)  
New York, N.Y. -- Centennials

### **Occupations**

Composers

## **Container List**

Baird Hersey papers  
b. 1 f. 1-5      1982-1983, 1991