



The New York Public Library
Billy Rose Theatre Division

Guide to the

Michael John LaChiusa papers

1970s-2015

*T-Mss 2015-017

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Processed by Kit Fluker in 2016.

Summary

Creator: LaChiusa, Michael John

Title: Michael John LaChiusa papers

Date: 1970s-2015

Size: 32.08 linear feet (79 boxes, 3 volumes, 1 tube). 237.1 megabytes (972 computer files). 224 audio files. 19 video files

Source: Purchased from Michael John LaChiusa, 2016.

Revision History: Enhanced description for audio and moving image material added by Carrie Magness Radna.

Abstract: Michael John LaChiusa is an American composer, lyricist, and librettist working in musical theater and opera. His papers (1970s-2015) document the development and performance of his original operas and musicals, his collaborations with other writers and composers, and his contributions to revues and other shows. The collection contains scores, scripts, librettos, notes, recordings, press clippings, and other materials.

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Creator History

Michael John LaChiusa is an American composer, lyricist, and librettist working primarily in musical theater and opera. Born in 1962 in Chautauqua, New York, LaChiusa moved to New York City in 1980. He worked as a songwriter and accompanist for cabarets and Off-Off-Broadway theater, including shows by comedian and playwright Jeffrey Essmann. He also participated in the BMI Lehman Engel Musical Theatre Workshop.

In the early 1990s, LaChiusa had four shows produced Off-Broadway: *Four Short Operas* (1991) and *First Lady Suite* (1993), both directed by Kirsten Sanderson; *Hello Again* (1993), the first of many collaborations with director and choreographer Graciela Daniele; and *The Petrified Prince* (1994), with a book by Edward Gallardo.

From 1998 to 1999, LaChiusa held a residency at the Lyric Opera of Chicago, the outcome of which was the opera *Lovers and Friends (Chautauqua Variations)* (2001). In the 1999 to 2000 season, two of LaChiusa's shows were produced on Broadway: *Marie Christine*, written for and starring Audra McDonald; and *The Wild Party*. Both productions were nominated for Tony Awards for Best Book of a Musical and Best Original Musical Score.

LaChiusa's subsequent Off-Broadway productions included *Little Fish* (2003), based on short stories by Deborah Eisenberg, and *See What I Wanna See* (2005), based on stories by Ryunosuke Akutagawa.

LaChiusa's musical *Giant*, based on the Edna Ferber novel, was commissioned by the Signature Theatre in Arlington, Virginia and produced Off-Broadway in 2012. In 2015, *First Daughter Suite*, LaChiusa's follow-up to his *First Lady Suite*, was produced at the Public Theater.

Scope and Content Note

The Michael John LaChiusa papers date from the 1970s to 2015 and document his work as a composer, lyricist, and librettist. The collection concerns the development and performance of LaChiusa's original theatrical works, collaborations with other writers and composers, and work he contributed to revues and other shows. The bulk of the material is scores, scripts, and librettos, including early drafts, final drafts, fragments, and unused material. The collection also contains recordings, notes, correspondence, press clippings, programs, and other materials. Some of the records are electronic.

Key Terms

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Clippings (information artifacts)

Librettos

Scores

Scripts

Sound recordings

Video recordings

Subjects

Composers -- United States

Librettists -- United States

Lyricists -- United States

Musical theater

Opera

Names

LaChiusa, Michael John

Container List

Series I: Productions 1980-2015 (68 boxes, 3 volumes, 1 tube 27.5 linear feet) (750 computer files 208.0 megabytes) (160 audio files) (17 video files)

Most production files contain complete and partial drafts of music and scripts; cut songs and discarded ideas; notes and research material; scripts and scores used in workshops, readings, performances, and cast recordings; and audio and video recordings. Files may also include programs, press clippings, promotional material, correspondence, rehearsal schedules, cast lists, and other production papers. Among the best-documented works are *First Lady Suite*, *Lovers and Friends (Chautauqua Variations)*, *Marie Christine*, *The Petrified Prince*, *See What I Wanna See*, and *The Wild Party*. LaChiusa's early produced work includes music for Jeffrey Essmann shows, librettos for Robert Moran operas, and work with the Terrapin theater company, the Soho Repertory Theatre, and the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center.

Productions are arranged by title, production company, or by the name of LaChiusa's main collaborator.

Bernarda Alba

- b. 1 f. 1-26 2005-2006
- b. 2 f. 1-7 2006
- b. 3 f. 1-6 2006, 2010
- b. 69 f. 1-3 Manuscript Scores 2006
- 241018 *The House of Bernarda Alba* 2000s (1 audio file 01:05:19)

Broken Sleep

Williamstown Theatre Festival.

- b. 3 f. 7-8 1994-1997
- b. 4 f. 1-6 1996-1997
- er. 1 1996-1997
(11 computer files 52 kilobytes)
- 240565 *Buzzsaw Berkeley* 1989 August 27 (2 audio files 01:25:20)
Final performance, WPA Theatre. Side 1: Act 1, Side 2: Act 2

Chronicle of a Death Foretold

- b. 4 f. 7-10 1994-1995
- er. 2 1995
(21 computer files 187 kilobytes)
- 240566 Workshop 1994 September 9 (2 audio files 01:48:02)
Audio file 1: Act 1. Audio file 2: Act 2. Each file also includes commercial rap music.
- 241020 1990s (1 audio file 01:00:28)

Jeffrey Essmann

- b. 5 f. 1-9 1980-1998
- b. 6 f. 1-10 1988-1992, 2007
- 240567 *Bella, Belle of Byelorussia* 1992 February 9 (2 audio files 00:43:36)
Final performance, WPA Theatre.
- 241021 Gotham Comedy Club 2007 February 1 (1 video file 00:08:35)
- 241022 *The Usual Freak Show* 2007 November 2 (1 video file 01:08:48)
- b. 7 f. 1-2 Eugene O'Neill Theater Center 1985-1986
Blood Wedding and Oscar Wilde project.
First Daughter Suite

Series I: Productions (cont.)
First Daughter Suite (cont.)

- b. 7 f. 3-7 Circa 2013
- b. 8 f. 1-7 2012-2015
- b. 9 f. 1-3 2012-2015

First Lady Suite

- b. 9 f. 4-9 1991-2004
 - er. 3 Correspondence 2000, 2002
(15 computer files 169 kilobytes)

- er. 4 Cast Album 2002
(26 computer files 1 kilobyte)
Script, score, and liner notes.

Scores and Scripts

- b. 10 f. 1-9 1992-2001
- b. 11 f. 1-11 1990-2002, 2011
 - er. 5 Libretto 1993
(9 computer files 114 kilobytes)
 - er. 6 Scores 2001-2002
(35 computer files 4 kilobytes)

Recordings

- 241026 1990s (1 audio file 01:19:36)
- 241025 1993 (1 audio file 01:19:37)
- 240568 1993 December 26 (2 audio files 01:27:32)
- 241113 2000 December 14 (1 video file 01:43:53)
Presented by Hoopskirt Theatre Company and Alyssa Davidson.
- 241027 Act 1 2001 February 25 (1 audio file 00:55:42)
- 241004 "Over Texas" 1991 June 5-6 (2 audio files 01:02:21)
- 241005 "Over Texas" 1991 June 7 (1 video file 00:24:24)
- 241111 "Over Texas" 1990s (1 video file 00:24:04)
- 241110 "Where's Mamie?" 1990s (1 video file 00:31:06)

Four Short Operas

- b. 11 f. 12-17 1987-1994
- b. 12 f. 1-9 1986-1991
 - 240569 *Break* 1985 October 26 (1 audio file 00:09:19)

Eulogy for Mister Hamm

- 240571 1990 (2 audio files 01:01:39)
- 241114 1990 June 2 (1 video file 00:28:54)

Lucky Nurse

- 240580 Circa 1991 (1 audio file 00:31:19)

Break, Agnes, and Eulogy for Mister Hamm

- 240576 Reading 1986 May 5 (2 audio files 01:22:18)
Note on original item: "Playwrights Horizons."
- 240570 1986 (2 audio files 01:21:46)
- 240575 Circa 1991 (1 audio file 00:41:02)
- 240577 1991 December 21 (1 audio file 00:41:30)

Series I: Productions (cont.)

Four Short Operas (cont.)

Break, Agnes, Eulogy for Mister Hamm, and Lucky Nurse

Note on original item: "Playwrights Horizons."

- 240573 **First Performance** 1991 December 11 (2 audio files 01:17:55)
Note on tape: "Big mess."
- 240574 **1991 December 15** (2 audio files 01:12:44)
Note on tape: "Fucked up show." Audio file 1: *Break -- Agnes -- Eulogy for Mister Hamm*
Audio file 2: *Lucky Nurse*
- 240581 **1991 December 22** (2 audio files 01:13:20)
Audio file 1: *Break -- Agnes -- Eulogy for Mister Hamm* Audio file 2: *Lucky Nurse*
- 240572 **Circa 1991** (2 audio files 01:10:06)

Giant

- b. 13 f. 1-6 **2008-2012**
- b. 14 f. 1-6 **2008-2012**
- b. 15 f. 1-6 **2011-2012**
Includes original manuscript score.
- b. 16 f. 1-6 **2012-2013**

Hello Again

- b. 16 f. 7 **1992**
Dramaturgical protocol.
- b. 17 f. 1-11 **1993-2013**
Press, programs, and miscellany.
- b. 18 f. 1-6 **1993-1994, 1998**
Lyrics, "rewrites of interest," press, programs, and miscellany.

Scores and Scripts

- b. 18 f. 7-8 **1993-1994**
- b. 19 f. 1-7 **1993-1994**
Includes cut songs from scene 8.
- b. 20 f. 1-6 **1993-1994**
Includes original manuscript score.
- b. 21 f. 1-3 **1993-1994**
- er. 7 **1993-1994**
(32 computer files 339 kilobytes)
- b. 70 f. 1-8 **Parts and Piano/Conductor Score 1993**
- b. 75 f. 1 **Piano/Conductor Score 1993**

Recordings

- 240582 **Reading** 1993 June 11 (2 audio files 01:27:07)
- 240583 **Workshop** 1993 August 29 (2 audio files 01:33:05)
- 240584 **Performance** 1994 February 9 (2 audio files 01:23:47)
With orchestra.
- 241115 **Music Videos** 1990s (1 video file 00:01:42)
3 different music videos used in production.
- 241116 **Baker College Theatre Production** 2000 November 16 (1 video file 01:22:40)
With piano.

The Highest Yellow

Series I: Productions (cont.)

The Highest Yellow (cont.)

- er. 8 **1997-2002**
(13 computer files 399 kilobytes)
- 240585 **2000s** (2 audio files 01:26:02)
With piano.
- 241029, 241030 **2004** (2 audio files 01:35:13)
With full orchestra.
- b. 21 f. 4-5 **Hugh Jackman 2005-2011**
Jackman's Vegas act (2005), and performances at Academy Awards (2009) and Tony Awards (2011).
- Little Airplane Productions**
- b. 21 f. 6-9 **2005**
Wonder Pets! and other Little Airplane productions.
- b. 22 f. 1 ***Wonder Pets!--"Save the Rock Lobster"* 2008**
- er. 9 ***Wonder Pets!--"Save the Rock Lobster"* 2008**
(2 computer files 358 kilobytes)
Includes audio recording.
- Little Fish***
- b. 22 f. 2-15 **1995-2008**
- b. 23 f. 1-2 **2003**
- er. 10 **1995-1997, 2002-2003**
(41 computer files 1 kilobyte)
- Scores**
- b. 23 f. 3-6 **1995-2002**
Includes original music.
- b. 24 f. 1-5 **2003**
- er. 11 **2002-2003**
(69 computer files 6 kilobytes)
- b. 69 f. 4 **Original Music--Miscellaneous 2002**
- 240586 ***Days Reading* 1990s** (2 audio files 01:00:09)
Note on original item: "Jessica Molaskey, Michelle Pawk, Luba Mason, Bob DuSold, John Jellison, and Tony Capone."
- 240589 ***Flotsam Reading* 1990s** (1 audio file 00:43:09)
- Flotsam and Days***
- 240587 **Workshop 1990s** (2 audio files 00:49:57)
Tape 1 of 2. Tape 1 may be all "Flotsam".
- 240588 **Workshop 1990s** (2 audio files 00:54:00)
Tape 2 of 2. Tape 2 may be all "Days."
- 240590 **1990s** (2 audio files 00:35:22)
Audio file 1: "Flotsam" original cast recording (songs only) (00:16:50); Audio file 2: "Days" original cast recording (?) (songs only: live) (00:18:32).
- 240591 **1990s** (1 audio file 00:11:43)
Songs from "Flotsam" (00:00:00 - 00:09:50) -- Song from "Days" (00:09:52 - 00:11:43).
- Little Fish***
- 240592 **Reading 1996 May 20** (2 audio files 01:17:42)
Note on original item: "Public Theater."

Series I: Productions (cont.)

Little Fish (cont.)

Little Fish (cont.)

- 241108, 241109 **Workshop** 2002 October (2 audio files 01:38:41)
Cast list: LaChanze (Kathy) ; Lea DeLaria (Cinder) ; Jesse Tyler Ferguson (Marco) ; Tom Flynn (Robert) ; Celia Keenan Bolger (Ann Frank) ; Ken Marks (Mr. Bunder) ; Jennifer Laura Thompson (Charlotte) ; Eric Jordan Young (John Paul). Graciela Daniele, director. Audio stops at Kathy's song "Perfect (Reprise)" [earlier version of "Remember me"]
- 240597 **Reading** 2003 January 15 (2 audio files 02:04:35)
Audio file 1: *Little Fish* reading, part 2: January 15, 2003 (with piano and percussion): "Mr. Bunder/By the way" -- "Remember me" -- "Anne" -- "Little fish" -- "Poor Charlotte" -- "The track (Part 2)" -- "Flotsam (Reprise)" -- "Simple creature" -- "Gallery/Perfect (Reprise)" -- "In two's and three's". -- [Little Fish full orchestra run-through rehearsal with cast, 2003]: "John Paul/Disco" -- "He" -- "Cigarette dream" -- "Flotsam" -- "I ran" -- "Mr. Bunder/By the way"
Audio file 2: "Gallery/Perfect (Reprise)" -- "In two's and three's" -- "Days". *Little Fish* reading, part 1: January 15, 2003 (with piano and percussion): "Days" -- "Robert" -- "It's a sign" -- "The Pool (Part 1)" -- "Lockerroom (Part 1)" -- "Winter is here/The Pool (Part 2)" -- "Short story" -- "Perfect" -- "John Paul/Disco" -- "He" -- "Cigarette dream" -- "Flotsam" -- "Lockerroom (Part 2)" -- "I ran" -- "The track (Part 1)"
- 240595 **Rehearsal** circa 2003 (2 audio files 01:32:52)
- 240596 **Opening** circa 2003 (1 audio file 00:05:24)
Opening song of Little Fish: "Days" (00:05:45) / with Jennifer Laura Thompson (Charlotte), full cast, and full orchestra.
- 240598 **Selections** 1990s (2 audio files 00:32:36)
Audio file 1: Reading at Public Theater: "Puff" [Days] -- "Robert" -- "John Paul" -- "He" -- "Ninety-Year-Old Man" [The track (Part 1)] -- "Simple Creature" -- ["Gallery/Perfect (reprise)"] -- ["In two's and three's"]. Audio file 2: In studio: "John Paul" -- "He" -- "Ninety-Year-Old Man." Some song titles have changed. Songs at reading were performed with piano (Side 1). Studio song recordings (Side 2).
- 241107 **Unidentified Little Fish song** circa 1990s (1 audio file 00:01:39)
Musical number with piano and drums. Full cast sings unidentified song about a sinking boat from "Little Fish."

Lovers and Friends (Chautauqua Variations)

- b. 24 f. 6 1998-2001
- b. 25 f. 1-10 1998-2001
- er. 12 1999-2002
(27 computer files 1 kilobyte)
- Scores**
- b. 25 f. 11-13 2001
- b. 26 f. 1-8 2001
- b. 27 f. 1-4 2001
- b. 71 f. 1-5 2001
- b. 72 f. 1-8 Original Manuscript Score 1999
- b. 75 f. 2-6 Full Score and Drafts 1999-2001
- v. 1 August 1999 Draft 1999
- v. 2 Full Score circa 2001
- v. 3 Full Score circa 2001
- Recordings**
- 240600 *Enigma Variations* 1999 August 7 (1 audio file 00:23:10)
Songs only with piano.
- 240601, 240602 2001 June 29 (5 audio files 01:52:24)
- 240603 Acts 3 and 4 2001 June 30 (2 audio files 00:48:02)
- 240604, 240720 2001 (3 audio files 02:02:42)
LOCAA recording.

Series I: Productions (cont.)
Lovers and Friends (Chautauqua Variations) (cont.)
Recordings (cont.)

- 240721, 240722 **Reading** 2001 (4 audio files 02:05:48)
- 240723 **Excerpts** circa 2001 (2 audio files 00:25:20)
Audio file 2 contains Washington D.C. performance excerpt.
- 241117 **Workshop** circa 2001 (1 video file 02:00:34)
A Lyric Opera Center archive recording.
- 241118 **World Premiere performance** 2001 June (1 video file 02:03:30)
LOCAA recording. Presented by Lyric Opera of Chicago.

Marie Christine

- b. 27 f. 5-17 1996-2000
- b. 28 f. 1-6 1999-2000
- er. 13 1997-2001
(11 computer files 858 kilobytes)
- er. 14 **Correspondence** 1999-2000
(24 computer files 659 kilobytes)
Includes notes on recording of cast album.

Scores and Scripts

- b. 28 f. 7 1999
- b. 29 f. 1-6 1997, 1999
- b. 30 f. 1-7 1996-1999
- b. 31 f. 1-6 1996, 1999
- er. 15 1995-1997
(21 computer files 255 kilobytes)
- b. 73 f. 1-5 **Original Manuscript Score** 1996-1997
- b. 74 f. 1-5 **First Reading Score and Cut Songs** 1996-1997
- b. 75 f. 7 "Way Back to Paradise" and "Mistress of the Senator" circa 1997

Recordings

- 240729, 240730 **Sung Through by LaChiusa** 1990s (3 audio files 02:10:55)
Tapes 1 and 2.
- 240725, 240726 **Reading** 1997 October 4 (4 audio files 01:57:27)
- 240728 **Reading** 1990s (2 audio files 01:08:09)
- 240727 **Workshop, Act 2** 1990s (1 audio file 00:51:45)
- 240731 **Selections** 1990s (2 audio files 00:33:47)
Note on item: Audra McDonald/Kristin Chenoweth. Audio file 1: "Beautiful" -- "Way back to paradise" -- "I don't hear the ocean" -- "Cincinnati" -- "I will give". Audio file 2: "The storm" -- "Nothing beats Chicago" -- "Ocean is different" -- "Danced with a girl" -- "Tell me" -- "No turning back."
- 240732 **Songs** 1990s (1 audio file 00:11:48)
Audra McDonald, Kristin Chenoweth, Chris Innvar, Mary Testa, and Kelli Rabke. "Beautiful" (Audra McDonald) -- "Way back to Paradise" (Audra McDonald, Kristin Chenoweth) -- "I don't hear the ocean" (Chris Innvar, Audra McDonald) -- "Cincinnati" (Mary Testa, Kristin Chenoweth, Kelli Rabke) -- "I will give" (Audra McDonald).
- 241031 **Circa 2000** (1 audio file 01:14:35)
- 241119 **Rehearsals for Backers Audition** 1997 September-October (1 video file 01:23:47)

Robert Moran

- b. 31 f. 7-11 **Correspondence** 1989-1997

Series I: Productions (cont.)

Robert Moran (cont.)

Desert of Roses

Houston Grand Opera. Music by Robert Moran with libretto by LaChiusa.

See also Zemire et Azor files, which contain some material related to Desert of Roses.

- b. 32 f. 1-7 1989-1991
- er. 16 1991-1992
(9 computer files 103 kilobytes)
- 240733, 240734 1992 February 16 (4 audio files 02:00:31)
Houston Grand Opera.

From the Towers of the Moon

Minnesota Opera. Music by Robert Moran with libretto by LaChiusa.

- b. 33 f. 1-9 1990-1992
- er. 17 1991, 1998
(7 computer files 65 kilobytes)
- b. 76 f. 1-5 Orchestral Score circa 1991
Titled *Kaguya*.
- 240735 Circa 1992 (2 audio files 01:25:53)
- 240736 Excerpts circa 1992 (2 audio files 00:44:47)

The Nutcracker

Book by Amon Miyamoto and Shintaro Tsuji. Akasaka ACT Theatre, Tokyo, Japan.

- er. 18 2001
(21 computer files 891 kilobytes)
Script, lyrics, and synopsis.
- 240737 "The Gift of You" circa 2001 (1 audio file 00:02:20)
- 241104 2001 (1 audio file 00:50:54)
Demo tracks.

The Petrified Prince

- b. 33 f. 10 Circa 1995
- b. 34 f. 1-15 1990-1995
Scores and Scripts
- b. 35 f. 1-6 1994
Original manuscripts scores.
- b. 36 f. 1-7 1994-1995
Includes original manuscripts scores.
- b. 37 f. 1-7 1994, 1996
- b. 38 f. 1-6 1992-1997
Includes post-production "last draft."
- er. 19 1991-1995
(64 computer files 257 kilobytes)
Script and lyrics.

Recordings

See also "Compilations" in Series III: Songs.

- 240738, 240739 Reading 1991 June 11 (4 audio files 02:07:28)
- 240740 Songs 1993 April 2 (1 audio file 00:16:47)
- 240741 Act 1 circa 1993 (2 audio files 00:59:00)
Notes on item: Thursday.

Series I: Productions (cont.)

The Petrified Prince (cont.)

Recordings (cont.)

- 241006 Circa 1990s (1 audio file 02:00:43)
Also includes "Betty the Clam Girl" and "Mamie." Performances by Michael John LaChiusa and other unidentified performers.

Queen of the Mist

- b. 38 f. 7-8 Recording Script 2011
Also contains copy of cast recording liner notes.
- b. 39 f. 1-6 Scripts and Scores 2010-2011
- b. 40 f. 1-3 Scores 2011
- b. 43 f. 3-5 Research, Notes, and Miscellany circa 2011
- b. 39 f. 7-8 Orchestral Parts 2011
b. 40 f. 4-6 With annotations. Box 39, folders 7 and 8 include notes from the musical director to the orchestra.
b. 41 f. 1-6
b. 42 f. 1-5
b. 43 f. 1-2

See What I Wanna See

- b. 43 f. 6-8 2003-2011
- b. 44 f. 1-10 1996-2005
- er. 20 1997-2003
(64 computer files 4 kilobytes)
- b. 44 f. 11-16 Orchestral Parts 2005
b. 45 f. 1-29
b. 46 f. 1-7
b. 47 f. 1-7
- b. 69 f. 5-8 *R Shomon Scores* 1997-2002
b. 76 f. 6-7
- t. 1 Poster 2009
Signature Theatre.

Recordings

R Shomon Readings

- 240742 1997 January 9 (2 audio files 00:47:35)
- 241105 2002 May 10 (1 audio file 00:59:28)

Gloryday

- 240746 Reading 2000s (2 audio files 01:34:45)
- 241044 Author's Work Tape 2003 March 27 (1 audio file 00:32:30)
Sung and played by author Michael John LaChiusa.

2003 April 11

Musical Theatre Works.

- 241038 *R Shomon Reading* (1 audio file 00:44:07)
- 241039 *Gloryday Reading* (1 audio file 00:47:46)
Musical Theatre Works. Chad Kimball. Linda Stevens. Chuck Cooper. Kelli O'Hare [O'Hara]. Aaron Lazar. Seth Rudetsky, piano [piano]. Ted Sperling, director.

2004 July 31

- 241042 *R Shomon* (1 audio file 00:49:45)
- 241043 *Gloryday* (1 audio file 00:51:34)

2004 May 7

- 241041 *R Shomon Reading* (1 audio file 00:50:29)
- 241045 *Gloryday Reading* (1 audio file 00:54:12)
- 240747 Reading Circa 2000 (2 audio files 01:52:35)

- Series I: Productions (cont.)
See What I Wanna See (cont.)
Recordings (cont.)
- 241036 **Studio recording** 2005 December 20 (1 audio file 01:12:09)
With Off-Broadway cast. Note on item: "Mastered ref."
- 241035 **2010 April 30** (1 video file 01:47:27)
- b. 48 f. 1-4 **Soho Repertory Theatre** 1983-1984, 2011
Under the Gaslight, *Catchpenny Twist*, and anniversary celebration.
- er. 21 ***Sukie and Sue*** 1992-1997
(18 computer files 295 kilobytes)
Tania
Music by Anthony Davis, libretto by LaChiusa.
- b. 48 f. 5-13 **1991-1992**
- er. 22 **Libretto** 1992, 1999
(6 computer files 120 kilobytes)
- 240748 **Workshop** circa 1992 (2 audio files 01:34:12)
- Terrapin Productions**
Original revues *Jacques Brel* and *On the Isle*; *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, and other productions. Produced at Siasconset Casino.
- b. 49 f. 1-8 **1986-1988, 2001**
- b. 50 f. 1-2 **1986-1988**
- er. 23 **1988-1989**
- Correspondence and financial records.
- 240749 ***Village Wooing*** 1986 (2 audio files 00:04:31)
Audio file 1: Opening (played twice). Audio file 2: Scene change I.
- 240750 ***How He Lied to Her Husband*** 1986 (2 audio files 00:02:09)
Audio file 1: Opening. Audio file 2: Closing.
- 240752 ***Jacques Brel*** 1987 (2 audio files 01:25:31)
The second half of audio file 2 is an unrelated live concert performance featuring The Rolling Stones and other artists.
- 240753 ***On the Isle*** 1988 August 5 (2 audio file 1:20:49)
Final performance.
The Merry Wives of Windsor
- 240963 **Overture** Summer 1986 (1 audio file 00:15:47)
Siasconset Chapel, Nantucket.
- 240964 **"Thine Own True Knight"** Summer 1986 (1 audio file 00:15:54)
Rehearsal, Siasconset Chapel, Nantucket.
- 240751 **"Fie on Foolish Fantasy" and Ending** Summer 1986 (1 audio file 00:08:11)
Music rehearsals: Fie on a foolish fantasy, 4 run-throughs, piano only -- Ending, piano and vocals. Siasconset Chapel, Nantucket.
- b. 50 f. 3-5 **Transport Group** 2002, 2005
Requiem for William and *The Audience*.
The Wild Party
- b. 50 f. 6-17 **1997-2000, 2015**
- b. 51 f. 1-5 **1996-2002**
- er. 24 **Correspondence and Press** 1997-2002
(18 computer files 198 kilobytes)
- er. 25 **Photographs** 2001-2003
(62 computer files 44 megabytes)

Series I: Productions (cont.)

The Wild Party (cont.)

Scripts and Scores

- b. 51 f. 6-8 1990s-2000
- b. 52 f. 1-7 1998-2000
- b. 53 f. 1-2 1998
- er. 26 1997-2000
(51 computer files 1 kilobyte)
Script and lyrics only.
- b. 53 f. 3-7 Orchestrations 2000
- b. 54 f. 1-6
- b. 55 f. 1

Original Manuscript Scores

- b. 77 f. 1-6 1998-1999
- b. 78 f. 1-7
- b. 79 f. 1-6
- b. 79 f. 7-8 First Reading Score Draft circa 1999

Recordings

- 240754 Reading 1997 October 15 (2 audio files 00:58:35)
Public Theater. Todd Ellison, musical director ; DeLee Lively (Queenie) ; Jon Dokuchitz (Black) ; Walter Hudson (Burrs) ; Judy Blazer (Madelaine) ; Nora Cole (Kate) ; Howard McGillian (Jackie) ; Marty Moran (Phil) ; Henry Stram (?) (Oscar) ; Paula Newsom (Mae) ; Adrian Bailey (Eddie) ; Kristin Chenoweth (Nadine) ; Bill Noble (?) (Loud Jew (?)).
- 240762, 240763 Sing Through 1998 February 8 (3 audio files 02:05:00)
- 240764, 240765 First Draft Sung by LaChiusa 1998 March 20 (3 audio files 01:41:04)
Sung for Wiley Hausam and George C. Wolfe.
- 240766, 240767 1998 July 18 (4 audio files 02:01:03)
- 241009 2000 March 23 (1 audio file 02:05:07)
- 241047, 241048 2000 April 11 (2 audio files 01:58:27)
- 241120 Footage Assembly circa 2000 (1 video file 00:11:12)
From the original Broadway production. Featured songs include: "Queenie was a blonde" -- "Marie is tricky" -- "Vaudville girls" excerpt -- "Moving Uptown" -- "Uptown."

Zemire et Azor

Houston Grand Opera. Produced with the title *Beauty and the Beast*.

- b. 55 f. 2-8 1990-1992
- b. 56 f. 1 1991
- er. 27 1991
(5 computer files 27 kilobytes)

Revues

The Girly Show

- b. 57 f. 2 2004
- 241053 2005 August 15 (1 audio file 00:35:40)
Cinespace, Los Angeles. With performances by Michael John LaChiusa, Valarie Pettiford, Jane Lanier, Evelyn Halus, Mary Pat Green, Eydie Alyson, Bronwen Booth, Marsha Stongton (?), Julia Dixon Jackson, Stella Miyong (?) and others. Songs: "Girly show" -- "Welcome to my party" -- "My best friend" -- "How much love" -- "When Eleanor smiles" -- "Where's Mamie?" -- "The smallest thing" -- "Lowdown-down" -- "Tom" -- "See what I wanna see" -- "If there is a Heaven."
- b. 57 f. 3 *Heartbreak Country* 2013-2014
- Hotel C'est l'Amour*
- b. 56 f. 4-7 2003, 2006

Series I: Productions (cont.)
 Revues (cont.)
 Hotel C'est l'Amour (cont.)

- er. 28 **Photographs 2006**
 (60 computer files 158 megabytes)
- 241046 **Compilation 2003 August 21** (1 audio file 01:10:46)
- 241049 **Blank Theatre Company 2006** (1 video file 01:12:10)
- 241123 **Staged Reading 2006** (1 video file 01:16:37)
 Performed by students at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.
- 241052 **Staged Reading, Excerpts 2006** (1 video file 00:29:39)
 Performed by students at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Video includes title cards.

La La LaChiusa

- er. 29 **2000-2001**
 (8 computer files 625 kilobytes)
- 241008 **2000 October 30** (1 audio file 00:58:16)
 Note on original item: "Joe's Pub." Featured songs: Drum solo -- "Flotsam" -- "She Looked at Me" -- "See What I Wanna See" -- "The 90-year-old man" -- "You Need a Song" -- "Avenue F (A Hole in the Ground)" -- "Play With Me Now" -- "You Need a Song (Reprise)" -- "John Paul" -- "I Fell in Love with the Pope" -- "When He Comes Home" -- "If There is a Heaven" -- "I Don't Hear the Ocean" -- "Eleanor Sleeps Here" -- "I'm a Fraud" -- "Betty the Clam Girl" -- "No More" -- "Safe" -- "People Like Us" -- "There Will Be a Miracle" -- Finale: "In Twos and Threes" (featuring LaChiusa) -- Finale 2: "See What I Wanna See" (Instrumental).
- b. 57 f. 1 **Songs and Notes**

Series II: Unproduced and Unfinished Work 1979-2007 (9 boxes 3.58 linear feet) (81 computer files 751.0 kilobytes) (34 audio files) (1 video file)

Unproduced and unfinished works are documented in varying levels of detail: some projects are represented only by notes, correspondence, or programs, while for others there are scores and recordings. The most extensive files are for works that were performed in readings or workshops: *Ballad of the Sad Cafe*, *The End of Day*, *Henry and Ellen*, *Therese Raquin*, and *Zorro*. Some material related to unproduced work can also be found in Series III: Songs.

- er. 31 **1991-2002**
 (11 computer files 280 kilobytes)
American Adventure (beauty advertisement), *Caught*, *Ghost Stories*, *Giselle*, *Indian Myths*, *Interpretation of Dreams* (Craig Lucas project; see also *God's Heart*), and *Victor/Victoria*.
- b. 63 f. 3-13 **A-C 1983-2000**
African Adventure, *The Alchemist*, *American Sweepstakes*, *Ann*, Big Baby project, *Camino Real*, *A Candle for Saint Jude* (William Wesbrooks), and Angela Carter project.
- 240953 ***American Sweepstakes--"You Are Very Pretty" and Improvisations* 1986** (2 audio files 01:16:53)
- er. 32 **Angela Carter Project 2000-2001**
 (11 computer files 1 kilobyte)
The Ballad of the Sad Cafe
- b. 59 f. 3-13 **1985**
- 240955 **Score performance with commentary 1980s** (2 audio files 01:33:36)
- 240974 **1980s** (1 audio file 00:20:51)
 Includes outtakes.
- 240954 **Reading 1980s** (2 audio files 01:23:28)
 Performed by LaChiusa and a female performer identified only as Kirsten.
- 240957 **Excerpts 1980s** (2 audio files 01:00:59)
- 240960 **Songs 1983** (1 audio file 00:15:20)
 Performed by LaChiusa. "Marvin Macy's Plan" -- "Laura Hale's Song" -- "Cousin Lymon's Song" -- "Miss. Amelia's Thoughts" [taped over accidentally with pre-recorded unidentified classical music].

Series II: Unproduced and Unfinished Work (cont.)

The Ballad of the Sad Cafe (cont.)

- 240959 **Songs** 1985 (1 audio file 00:14:43)
Performed by LaChiusa. "Marvin Macy's Plan" -- "Look Careful Love" -- "Together" -- "If He Sticks Around" -- [unrelated audio content].
- 240958 **Songs** 1986 (2 audio files 01:34:00)
Performed by LaChiusa at his home. Also includes songs from *El Salon Mexico* and *I'll Be There (American Sweepstakes)*.
- b. 64 f. 1-24 **C-L** 1985-1997
Children of Troy (Minnesota Opera), *The Chosen*, *Do As I Tell You*, *Don Juan de Marco*, *Enchanted April*, *Ghost Stories*, *God's Heart* (Craig Lucas; see also *Interpretation of Dreams* in er. 31), *Hard War*, *In a Shallow Grave*, *Indian Myths*, *Ironweed*, *Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy Onassis*, *Kitty, Kitty, Kitty*, *Lady in a Box*, and *Lilienthal* project (with Michael Kunze).
- er. 33 **Children of Troy** 1992-1995
(5 computer files 48 kilobytes)
The End of Day
- b. 60 f. 1-2 **1988**
- 240961 **Songs** circa 1988 (1 audio file 00:21:59)
Performed by LaChiusa. "Sidney's Had a Sale" (Clovis) -- "You Gotta be Good" (Carl) -- "If You Wanna Go to the Prom" (Cyndi Lou) -- "Neta" (Clovis) -- "The Sun Gets in My Eyes" (Dottie) -- "Sexy Things" (Cyndi Lou) -- "Sofabeds" (Carl) -- "Some Things Don't Fit Inside a Suitcase" (Gram) -- "I Can't Choose My Fears" (Dottie).
- 240962 **Songs** circa 1988 (2 audio files 01:35:01)
Performed by LaChiusa. "Sexy Things" -- "The Sun Gets in my Eyes" excerpt -- "Sidey's Had a Sale" -- "You Gotta Be Good" -- "If You Wanna Go to Prom" -- "Clovis Goes to Meetings" -- "The Sun Gets in My Eyes" -- "Sexy Things" -- "Sofabeds" -- "Some Things Don't Fit in a Suitcase" -- "I Can't Choose My Fears"
- b. 76 f. 8 **God's Heart Score** circa 1992
With Craig Lucas.
- 241124 **Craig Lucas Score** 1991 March 10 (1 video file 00:11:41)
Actor Craig Lucas (with unidentified actress) performs an one-act play, featuring the song "This The Most There Is." Related to *God's Heart*?
- 240945 **Giselle** circa 1990s (1 audio file 00:13:45)
One song and piano music performed by LaChiusa.
Henry and Ellen
See also "Compilations" in Series III: Songs.
- b. 60 f. 3-8 **1986-1988**
- b. 61 f. 1-7 **1987-1988**
- 240966 **1987 May** (2 audio files 01:32:01)
Performed by LaChiusa in his home.
- 240967 **Songs** 1987 (2 audio file 01:33:34)
A mix of recordings from rehearsals and homemade song demos, mostly performed by LaChiusa and an unidentified female vocalist.
- 240965 **Reading** 1988 January 18 (2 audio files 01:38:20)
Playwrights Horizons.
- 240968 **Ironweed** 1985 (1 audio file 00:10:56)
Performance and narration by LaChiusa. "A Star's Got to Shine" (Andy) -- "A Little Room" (Helen) -- "Hymn 121" (people at church) -- "I'll go" (Francis).
- b. 65 f. 1-18 **L-P** 1979-1994
Lilienthal project (continued), *Mad Party*, Mamet project, *Mary Jo and Joan*, *Men*, *Miss Lonelyhearts*, *Nancy and Louie in Guyana*, New London Barn Playhouse, *The Odyssey* (Disney), *On the Verge*, *Picnic*, and *Pied Piper*.

Series II: Unproduced and Unfinished Work (cont.)

- 240969 *Odyssey Songs* 1994 (1 audio file 00:12:12)
Music: Stephen Lawrence. Lyrics: Michael John LaChiusa. Performance and narration by LaChiusa. "Another Island" (Odysseus) -- "Here Up in My Island (Paradise)" (Calypso) -- "Look Into My Eyes" (Circe/Fake Penelope) -- "Another Island (Reprise)" (Odysseus).
- b. 66 f. 1-14 R-W 1980s-2007
Ragtime (audition songs for Garth Drabinsky), *Reckless* (Craig Lucas), *The Rose Tattoo*, *Serenade*, Ted Shawn project (with Jerry Mitchell; research material only), *The Singing Detective*, *The Stepford Wives*, *Stop-Time*, *Sunset Boulevard* (lyrics), *Sweet Savage Love*, *The 13 Virtues of Benjamin Franklin*, *Titanic*, and *Tuck Everlasting*.
- er. 34 *Ragtime* 1994
(4 computer files 12 kilobytes)
- 240970 *Ragtime* circa 1994 (1 audio file 00:18:05)
Rag improvisation -- Three segues: "Here Comes McCloskey," "Wouldn't It Be Nice," ["Zoya" (?)] -- Dirge: "Sarah" -- Evelyn's lullaby: "I Could Love You" -- Two short rags.
Romance Language
See also "Compilations" in Series III: Songs.
- er. 35 1991-1992, 1996-1997
(20 computer files 156 kilobytes)
- 240942 1980s (2 audio files 01:35:32)
Performed by LaChiusa.
- 240943 *Songs* 1980s (2 audio files 01:23:57)
Performed by LaChiusa.
- 241010 *Reading* circa 1990s (1 audio file 00:59:00)
With full cast.
- er. 36 *The Rose Tattoo* 1999-2000
(6 computer files 120 kilobytes)
- 240971 *The Stepford Wives* 1991 (1 audio file 00:16:37)
Music: Mark Hiskey; Lyrics: Peter Jones; Book: Jones and Hiskey; Vocals: Shelly Williams and Peter Jones. "Perfect" -- "The Lawn Party" -- "Nothing More."
- er. 37 *Sunset Boulevard* 1991
(5 computer files 19 kilobytes)
Therese Raquin
- b. 61 f. 8-9 1986-1987
- b. 62 f. 1-6 1986-1987
- 240972 *Scenes and Songs* 1987 February (2 audio files 01:34:10)
Performance and commentary by LaChiusa.
Zorro
Music by Ray Leslie.
- b. 62 f. 7-10 1996-1997
- b. 63 f. 1-2 circa 1998
- er. 30 1996-1999
(19 computer files 115 kilobytes)

Series III: Songs 1970s-2010 (3 boxes 1.25 linear feet) (12 computer files 267.0 kilobytes)
(17 audio files)

Song files contain scores, lyrics, notes, correspondence, recordings, and other documentation of individual songs by LaChiusa, many of which were commissioned as contributions to shows. This series also contains music for LaChiusa's early songs from the 1970s and 1980s.

Series III: Songs (cont.)

- er. 38 1992-2002
(12 computer files 267 kilobytes)
Includes "Once and Only Thing," "Welcome to Tomorrow," "Betty the Clam Girl," "How Much Love," "Mrs. K," "Days" (Michael Winter song), and song list for *No More, Arigato*.
- b. 57 f. 2-3 *A...My Name Is Alice--"Once and Only Thing"* 1992-1996
- b. 57 f. 4 *As You Like It Music* circa 1990s
- 240944 Christmas Songs ("I Saw Three Ships") circa 1990s (1 audio file 00:16:47)
Also on audio file 1: Taped [commercial] music for Dennis Kaiser's "Act." Audio file 2: Cabaret performance of various songs.
- b. 57 f. 5 52nd St. Project Benefit--Duets 1991, 1994
Lyrics only.
- 240947 "Leave Me Be, Lover," "Lianna," Waltz circa 1990s (1 audio file 00:07:10)
Performed by LaChiusa.
- b. 57 f. 6 Playwrights Horizons Benefit--"Billy Crudup" circa 1990s
- b. 57 f. 7 Public Theater Sonnet Benefit--"Sonnet 22" 1995-1996
- b. 57 f. 8-9 *Sitting on the Edge of the Future--"Welcome to Tomorrow"* 1989
- 240781 *Four songs from Sitting on the Edge of the Future* 1989 (1 audio file 00:19:07)
Recorded from the Benefit gala at American Musical Theatre Festival, Philadelphia, P.A.
Musical directors: Michael Barrett, Ted Sperling; directed by R. J. Cutler; book by Thomas Thomson; choreography by Susan (?). Featured songs: "Welcome to Tomorrow" -- "Electro the Robot" -- "Futurama" (1960) -- "Miss Chemistry" [ends abruptly].
- b. 57 f. 10 Sondheim 80--Stephen Sondheim 80th Birthday Celebration Song 2010
- b. 57 f. 11 Suzi Lori Parks Project--"Pig Meat Farming Man" 2007
- b. 57 f. 12 Ted and Mary Jo Shen Wedding Song 2006
- 241066 Live! from Ted and Mary Jo's Wedding 2006 September 16 (1 audio file 00:44:19)
Act 1: "Sight" (poem by W.S. Merwin) / music by Ted Shen (Rosena M. Hill) -- Theme from *Carla* / music by Ted Shen (Orchestra) -- "A Second Chance" / music by Ted Shen (Brian Sutherland) -- "So Many People" / music by Stephen Sondheim (Judy Blazer ; Mary Jo Shen) -- "It Takes Two" / music by Stephen Sondheim (Cheryl Stern and Jim Mahady) -- "I Can't Wait" / music by Ted Shen (Diane Sutherland and Brian Sutherland) -- "Island Dance" / music by Ted Shen (Orchestra). Act 2: "Getting Married Today" / music by Stephen Sondheim (Judy Blazer, Brooke Sunny Moriber and Michael Winther) -- "A Life Begins" / music by Ricky Ian Gordon (Kelli O'Hara) -- "The Thing Itself" / music by Joseph Thalken; lyrics by Mark Campbell (Rebecca Luker) -- "We'll Go" / music by Michael John LaChiusa (Michael John LaChiusa) -- "Take Me to the World" / music by Stephen Sondheim (Brooke Sunny Moriber and Michael Winther).
- Early Songs
- b. 58 f. 1-11 Early Songs 1970s-1980s
- b. 57 f. 13 Periwinkle Children's Theatre 1980-1986
- 240852 Step Out 1982 June (2 audio files 00:41:03)
Various songs (pop songs, gospel or from different shows) performed by full cast, piano, electric bass, and percussion. "Step Out" is fourth song on audio file 1, about 5 minutes in.
- b. 57 f. 14 78th St. Theatre Lab 1982-1983
- 240782 78th St. Theatre Lab 1982 or 1983 (2 audio files 01:20:32)
Performed by LaChiusa. Songs from *The Green Bird*, *Amelia*, *Big Apple*, and *A Candle for St. Jude*. Audio file 1: *The Green Bird* overture -- "Barcarolle" -- The Green Bird -- *Fantasy Factory Show* (not LaChiusa music or lyrics): ["One Step at a Time" -- "Wouldn't it Be Nice" -- "A Daughter Like You" -- "Circle of Dirt"] -- *Amelia* overture -- "I Want to Fly" (2 times) -- Improvisation. Audio file 2: "Barcarolle" (*The Green Bird*) -- "Big Apple" -- Improvisations -- "Wait until the [M?] Gets Here" (from *A Candle for St. Jude*) -- Improvisations.
- b. 59 f. 1-2 BMI Lehman Engel Musical Theatre Workshop Songs 1982-1983
Lyrics by Ellen Greenfield. Includes *Excursion*.

Series III: Songs (cont.)

Early Songs (cont.)

- 240780 *Excursion* 1982-1983 (2 audio files 00:48:00)
Lyrics by Ellen Greenfield. 78th Street Theatre Lab? Audio file 1: Bronwyn Rucker show.
Audio file 2: "The hymn" -- "Lollie's Intro" -- "Silk and perfume" -- "Excursion" -- "Hey lady" --
"Monday" -- "Sorry" -- Unrelated music.

Compilations

- 241057 *No More Arigato, A-P* 2002 November 13 (1 audio file 01:19:06)
Songs from LaChiusa's musicals and operas; alphabetical by title.
- 241058 *No More Arigato, P-Z* 2002 November 13 (1 audio file 00:54:37)
Songs from LaChiusa's musicals and operas; alphabetical by title (Volume 2).
- 240855 *Selections* 1990s (1 audio file 00:30:20)
Songs from *The Petrified Prince*, *Bella*, *Belle of Byelorussia*, *Romance Language*, and *Sitting on the Edge of the Future*.
- 240854 *Selections* 1980s (3 audio files 01:28:38)
Romance Language, *The Petrified Prince*, *Bella*, *Belle of Byelorussia*, and "Welcome to Tomorrow."
- 241011 "Whistle" circa 1990s (1 audio file 00:26:47)
Performed by LaChiusa. "Whistle" -- *Mamie* composite edit -- "Betty the Clam Girl" -- "There are Happy Endings" -- "Prince's song."

Series IV: Press, Publicity, and Essays 1981-2014 (2 boxes 0.83 linear feet) (48 computer files 3.0 kilobytes) (2 audio files)

This series contains clippings, interviews, and other publicity material for LaChiusa and his work. Drafts and clippings of essays written by LaChiusa are also in this series.

Press and publicity materials can also be found in Series I: Productions.

- b. 67 f. 1-20 1981, 1987-1999
- b. 68 f. 1-14 2000-2007, 2014
- er. 39 1997-2003
(48 computer files 3 kilobytes)
- 240973 "Diversion/Subversion: Musical Theatre Sings a Difference Song" 1995
January (2 audio files 01:33:38)
Advanstar Showbiz Expo panel discussion featuring members of the Dramatist Guild Council: Susan Birkenhead, William Finn, John Kander and Michael John LaChiusa ; moderated by Susan [H. Schulmann], director of "The Secret Garden".
- er. 40 Series V: Correspondence and Personal Material 1992-2003
(77 computer files 1 kilobyte)

This series contains letters to and from LaChiusa regarding his work, and miscellaneous personal records including financial records and personal photographs.

Series VI: Miscellaneous Recordings circa 1990s (10 audio files) (1 video file)

Miscellaneous recordings include music written by other composers, audio recordings of non-LaChiusa productions *Babes in Toyland* and *States of Independence*, an ABC television off-air recording of news programs where one story features LaChiusa, and those recordings still unidentified.

- 241065 "Thank You, Larry" and "I Will" circa 1990s (1 audio file 00:05:40)
- 240948 *Babes in Toyland Reading, Act 1* circa 1990s (2 audio files 01:33:56)
Performed by full cast and piano.
- 240949 *Babes in Toyland Reading, Act 2, Scene 7, and Act 3* circa 1990s (1 audio file 00:31:28)
Performed by full cast and piano.
- 240952 *States of Independence* 1991 (1 audio file 00:40:20)
Songs with piano and full cast. (synthesizer with winds and brass starting at 00:29:00). Notes on item: "By Tina Landau, Ricky Ian Gordon".

Series VI: Miscellaneous Recordings (cont.)

- 240950 **Adam Guettel--Music** circa 1990s (2 audio files 01:33:39)
Content starts at 15:44 on audio file 2.
- 240951 **Adam Guettel--Music** circa 1990s (2 audio files 01:35:10)
Music for Adam Guettel's musical "Myths and Hymns"?
- 240853 **Unidentified Piano Music** circa 1990s (1 audio file 00:14:50)
Unlabeled.
- 241125 **City Arts** 1997 October 16 (1 video file 01:19:10)
The first part of the file is *The News Hour with Jim Lehrer*. *City Arts* starts up at (00:43:33).
Michael John LaChiusa is in the segment "Where do musicals come from?" The last part of the
file features an *ABC News Nightline* report (1997): A conversation with Jane Alexander, starting
at (00:59:58).