



The New York Public Library
Jerome Robbins Dance Division

Guide to the

Curt Sachs card files

circa 1950s

(S) *MGZMD 460

Compiled by Valerie Wingfield, 2016.

Summary

Creator: Sachs, Curt, 1881-1959

Title: Curt Sachs card files

Date: circa 1950s

Size: 2.52 linear feet (6 boxes)

Source: Unknown

Abstract: Curt Sachs (1881-1959) was a German-American musicologist and developer of organology, the classification of musical instruments. Sachs developed the Sachs-Hornbostel scheme of musical classification with scholar Erich von Hornbostel. Sachs was also an employee of the New York Public Library. The Curt Sachs card files, dated circa 1950s, are typed and hand-written cards created by Sachs to document information mostly about European musicians and musical scores, musical expressions and poetry; and Native Americans' customs of incorporating music into their traditional ceremonies. The comments about Native Americans were culled from first-hand observations of other writers' publications. The cards are in German, English, and French.

Access: Some collections held by the Dance, Music, Recorded Sound, and Theatre Divisions at the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts are held off-site and must be requested in advance. Please check the collection records in **the NYPL's online catalog** for detailed location information. For general guidance about requesting offsite materials, please consult: <https://www.nypl.org/about/locations/lpa/requesting-archival-materials>

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Processing note: Compiled by Valerie Wingfield, 2016.

Arrangement: The cards are arranged alphabetically by topic.

Key Terms

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Cards

Subjects

Indians -- Rites and ceremonies

Musicians

Musicians -- Europe

Occupations

Musicologists

Container List

Musical Expressions and Poetry

- b. 1 f. 1-14 Appenzell - Nord Europe
- b. 2 f. 1-7 Oesterreich - Sudeurope

Musicians

- b. 3 f. 1-13 Abbot - Frontini
- b. 4 f. 1-11 Gal - Purcell
- b. 5 f. 1-10 Rabard - Wormser

Native Americans Ceremonial Music

- b. 5 f. 11-13 Blackfoot, Cheyenne
- b. 6 f. 1-9 Havasupai - Yurok