



The New York Public Library
Music Division

Guide to the

Joel Feigin papers

1958-2010

JPB 13-40

Compiled by Matthew Snyder, 2014.

Summary

Creator: Feigin, Joel

Title: Joel Feigin papers

Date: 1958-2010

Size: 18.3 linear feet (55 boxes); 260.5 kb (3 computer files)

Source: Donated by Joel Feigin in 2009.

Abstract: Joel Feigin (1951-) is an American composer who studied with Roger Sessions and Nadia Boulanger. The Joel Feigin papers, dating from 1958 to 2010, document his career and education. They hold scores, professional and professional files, and education files.

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 Matthew Snyder, 2014. Original order was maintained. All content was rehoused. The floppy disk containing the electronic records was forensically imaged for preservation.

Creator History

Joel Feigin (1951-), an American composer, was born in New York City. After receiving his bachelor's degree from the Mannes College of Music, he studied with Nadia Boulanger at the Conservatoire Américain de Fontainebleau. At the Juilliard School, where Feigin received his master's and doctoral degrees, he studied with Roger Sessions; Otto Luening was his last teacher.

Feigin has written operas, orchestral works, solo piano pieces, piano concertos, and chamber and vocal music. His honors include a Guggenheim fellowship (1985) to finish his first opera, *The Mysteries of Eleusis*, and a Senior Fulbright fellowship (1998-1999) for a residency at the Moscow Conservatory in the Russian Federation, where many of his compositions have been performed. Among his major works are the opera *Twelfth Night* (2003); *Elegy, In Memoriam Otto Luening* (1997) for strings and percussion; *Festive Overture* (1996), for orchestra; *Tapestry* (1998) for French horn, violin, and piano; *Veränderungen* (1995) for violin and piano; *Echoes from the Holocaust* (1993) for oboe, violin, and piano; and *Five Ecstatic Poems of Kabir* (1988) for soprano and chamber ensemble. Feigin is a professor of composition at the University of California, Santa Barbara. His website, www.joelfeigin.com, catalogs some, but not all, of his compositions.

Custodial History

The collection was assembled and maintained by Joel Feigin until its donation to the Music Division.

Scope and Content Note

The Joel Feigin papers, dating from 1958 to 2010, hold scores, professional and personal files, and education files.

The scores comprise the bulk of the collection and document all of Feigin's output from his youth to 2010. They include early works and composition studies; works-in-progress; finished scores in various orchestrations and revisions; parts for some of his works; transcriptions, arrangements, and composition studies; and unfinished/untitled compositions and sketches. The scores are arranged by title. The best-represented compositions in the collection include the operas *Twelfth Night*, *The Mysteries of Eleusis*, and *The Ferryman*; the *Funeral Cantata*; and *Triptych for Orchestra*.

Professional and Personal Files contain correspondence with Rosalie Calabrese Management; correspondence regarding Feigin's Fulbright fellowship, his work with Russian musicians, and Russian performances of his music; commission and programming files; promotional and publicity files; royalty and publishing correspondence and records; teaching materials composed of course files, syllabi, and assignments; and reference letters. They also hold part of Feigin's tenure review package assembled for the University of California, Santa Barbara. These documents are in digital form (Microsoft Word 4 for Macintosh) and consist of Feigin's CV and a bio-bibliography.

The education files hold music study books; high school study books; awards and clippings from the Mannes College of Music, the Conservatoire Américain de Fontainebleau, Columbia University, and the Juilliard School; and general programs, clippings, and awards. The files also hold personal correspondence from Nadia Boulanger and Roger Sessions.

The collection also holds audio and video recordings. Recorded from the early 1970s to around 2005, the audio recordings hold performances of many of Feigin's compositions, including *Twelfth Night*, *Ten Fragments of Pindar*, *Tapestry*, *Elegy In Memoriam Otto Luening*, *Festive Overture*, and solo piano works. Most are professionally recorded and unpublished. The video component, on 6 VHS tapes and 32 DVRs, documents rehearsals and performances of the operas *Twelfth Night* (2004-2005) and *The Mysteries of Eleusis* (undated).

Arrangement: The collection is in three divisions: Education Files, Professional and Personal Files, and Scores. All are arranged alphabetically.

Key Terms

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Awards
Clippings (information artifacts)
Commercial correspondence
Personal correspondence
Programs (documents)
Scores

Occupations

Composers
Musicians
Teachers

Subjects

Composition (Music)
Music -- Russia
Music -- United States

Geographic Names

New York (N.Y.)

Names

Boulanger, Nadia
Sessions, Roger, 1896-1985
Conservatoire ame_ricain de Fontainebleau

Container List

- b. 1 f. 1-6 Education Files 1961-1979
 - Professional and Personal Files 1980s-2010
- b. 2 f. 1 Commissions and Programming 1995-2001
- b. 2 f. 2-3 Competition Entry Forms 2006-2010
- b. 2 f. 4-5 Contracts and Permissions 1994-2010
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 - b. 4 f. 1 Armenian Performances 1996-1997
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 - b. 4 f. 7-8 *Twelfth Night* 2003-2006
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 - b. 6 f. 7-9 Royalties and Copyrights 1994-2010
 - b. 6 f. 10 Russian Musicians 1996
- b. 7 f. 1-14 Teaching Materials 1980s-1990s
- b. 8 f. 1-7 Teaching Materials 1980s-1990s
- b. 9 f. 1-4 Teaching Materials 1980s-1990s
 - Tenure Review 1994
 - er.1 (260.5 Kilobytes (3 computer files))
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 - b. 24 f. 1-5 D - E 1981-1993
 - b. 10 f. 1-5 E - Fa 1981, 1996-2008
 - b. 54 f. 1-3 E - Fo 1984-1994
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 - b. 40 f. 3 E, T - V and Untitled 1978, 1990-1997
 - b. 25 f. 1-5 Fa - Fo 1972-1982

Scores (cont.)

General (cont.)

- b. 10 f. 6-8 *The Ferryman* 1997
- b. 11 f. 1-7 *The Ferryman* 1997
- b. 12 f. 1-2 *The Ferryman* 1997
- b. 47 f. 1-4 *Festive Overture* 1995-2004
- b. 51 f. 1-2 *First Tragedy* 1982
- b. 12 f. 3-11 FI - Fo 1987-2009
- b. 38 f. 1-4 *Five Ecstatic Poems of Kabir* 1988-2000
- b. 13 f. 1-6 Fo - Fu 1984-1986, 1996
- b. 26 f. 1-5 Fu - Mu 1978-1981
- b. 14 f. 1-9 H - K 1983-2007
- b. 15 f. 1-8 *Lament With Ghosts* 2006-2008
- b. 53 f. 1-2 L - R 1975, 1994-1996
- b. 16 f. 1-11 L - Re 1993-2007
- Mosaic in Two Panels*
- b. 48 f. 1-3 For String Quartet, Version One 1990
- b. 49 f. 1-4 For String Quartet, Version Two 1993
- b. 50 f. 1 For String Quartet, Version Two 1993
- b. 50 f. 2 For String Quartet, Revisions 1994
- b. 54 f. 4 For String Quartet, Version Three 1997
- b. 50 f. 3 For String Orchestra undated
- b. 41 f. 1-6 Mu - St 1974-1988
- b. 19 f. 1-6 *The Mysteries of Eleusis* 1976-1986
- b. 20 f. 1-7 *The Mysteries of Eleusis* 1976-1986
- b. 21 f. 1-6 *The Mysteries of Eleusis* 1976-1986
- b. 22 f. 1-5 *The Mysteries of Eleusis* 1976-1986
- b. 46 f. 1-2 *The Mysteries of Eleusis* 1976-1986
- b. 55 f. 1-5 N - Tr 1976-1990
- b. 17 f. 1-9 Ri - Si 1983-2005
- b. 27 f. 1-7 Se - W 1976-1983
- b. 18 f. 1-7 Si - Ta 1981-1983, 1994-1998
- b. 42 f. 1-5 St - Unfinished/Untitled Works 1974-1976, 1982, undated
- b. 23 f. 1-4 Th - Tr 1993-1994
- b. 52 f. 1-4 *Triptych* 1979-1981
- Twelfth Night*
- b. 23 f. 5 Early Notes and Sketches 1994
- b. 28 f. 1-3 Continuity Drafts 1999
- b. 23 f. 6-7 Continuity Drafts 1999
- b. 29 f. 1-5 Sketches undated
- b. 44 f. 1-2 Sketches (Act I) undated
- b. 30 f. 1-6 Sketches, Piano-Vocal Score, and Score Excerpts 2003-2006, undated
 Chamber Orchestra Version Full Score 1999-2005

Scores (cont.)

General (cont.)

Twelfth Night (cont.)

Chamber Orchestra Version Full Score (cont.)

- b. 44 f. 4-5 Act I
- b. 45 f. 1 Act I
- b. 45 f. 2-3 Act II
- b. 37 f. 1 Full Orchestra Draft undated
- b. 31 f. 1-2 Full Orchestral Score Manuscript (Version One) 2004
- b. 32 f. 1-2 Full Orchestral Score Manuscript (Version One) 2004
- b. 37 f. 2 Full Orchestral Score Print (Version One) 2004
- b. 37 f. 3 Piano-Vocal Score (Version One) 2004
- b. 33 f. 1-2 Full Orchestral Score (Version Two) 2005
- b. 44 f. 3 Excerpts from Orchestral Score 2003
- b. 34 f. 1-4 Va - W 1978, 1994-1996
- b. 43 f. 1-2 Sketches 1970s-2003, undated
- b. 35 f. 1-3 Early Works 1958-1970
- b. 36 f. 1-3 Early Works 1958-1970
- b. 43 f. 3-6 Transcriptions, Arrangements, and Studies 1995, undated