



The New York Public Library Music Division

Guide to the

Ernst Bacon papers

1962-1976 (inclusive [bulk 1972-1976])

JPB 88-24

Summary

Creator: Bacon, Ernst, 1898-1990

Title: Ernst Bacon papers

Date: 1962-1976 (inclusive [bulk 1972-1976])

Abstract: Ernst Bacon, 1898-1990, was an American composer, pianist, conductor, and teacher. 1 ALS, 1962, and 30 ALS, 1972-1976, to John Edmunds discussing the Bacon-Edmunds collaboration on a radio skit, *Watergate* (performed 11-2-72 on Station KPFA, Berkeley) and other works including the ballets *Jehovah and the Ark* and *A Parliament of Fowls* (also entitled *Court of Rooks*), and Bacon's collaborations with Cornel Lengyel; and a collection of manuscript material relating to *Watergate* and its other versions as musical comedy variously entitled *Nixie's Party*, *Nixie's Circus*, *Nixie*, *Watergates*, and *Waterbuggers*, sometimes with subtitle *A Political Burlesque*, and sometimes pseudonymously attributed to N.O. Cable and J. Heron. This material includes a notebook with script and lyrics (in ink and pencil), 2 versions of script, lyrics, words and music (photocopies with emendations in ink and pencil); first-draft notes, early versions and musical sketches, (typescript, ink, some photocopies); and 1 TL (photocopy) from Bacon and Edmunds to Sargent Shriver suggesting the broadcast. 1 ALS is written on the program of the premiere of *A Parliament of Fowls*, May 6, 1975.

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>

Preferred citation: Ernst Bacon papers, Music Division, The New York Public Library

Creator History

Ernst Bacon, 1898-1990, was an American composer, pianist, conductor, and teacher.

Scope and Content Note

1 ALS, 1962, and 30 ALS, 1972-1976, to John Edmunds discussing the Bacon-Edmunds collaboration

on a radio skit, Watergate (performed 11-2-72 on Station KPFA, Berkeley) and other works including the ballets Jehovah and the Ark and A Parliament of Fowls (also entitled Court of Rooks), and Bacon's collaborations with Cornel Lengyel; and a collection of manuscript material relating to Watergate and its other versions as musical comedy variously entitled Nixie's Party, Nixie's Circus, Nixie, Watergates, and Waterbuggers, sometimes with subtitle A Political Burlesque, and sometimes pseudonymously attributed to N.O. Cable and J. Heron. This material includes a notebook with script and lyrics (in ink and pencil), 2 versions of script, lyrics, words and music (photocopies with emendations in ink and pencil); first-draft notes, early versions and musical sketches, (typescript, ink, some photocopies); and 1 TL (photocopy) from Bacon and Edmunds to Sargent Shriver suggesting the broadcast. 1 ALS is written on the program of the premiere of A Parliament of Fowls, May 6, 1975.

Key Terms

Occupations

Composers

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Drafts (preliminary versions)

Letters (correspondence)

Musical scores

Programs

Subjects

Musical sketches

Radio plays with music

Revues -- Vocal scores with piano

Titles

Nixie

Nixie's Circus

Nixie's Party

Waterbuggers

Watergate

Watergates

Names

Bacon, Ernst, 1898-1990

Edmunds, John, 1913-1986

Lengyel, Cornel Adam

Nixon, Richard M. (Richard Milhous), 1913-1994

Shriver, Sargent, 1915-2011

American Music Collection