



The New York Public Library  
Music Division

Guide to the

**Correspondence concerning memorial for Olga Samaroff**

1973 Jan. 4-July 7

JPB 91-108

### Summary

**Title:** Correspondence concerning memorial for Olga Samaroff

**Date:** 1973 Jan. 4-July 7

**Size:** 26 items

**Source:** Gift, Chapin, Betty, 01/15/91

**Abstract:** Olga Samaroff, 1882-1948, was an American pianist and educator. From 1911 to 1923 she was married to Leopold Stokowski. To commemorate the 25th anniversary of her death in 1973, an Olga Samaroff room was created in the old Juilliard School building where she taught (by then the home of the Manhattan School of Music) and a memorial concert was performed there May 17, 1973. The 20 letters (5 ALS, 1 TLS, and 14 copies) concern fundraising and plans for the memorial; the recital and presentation; and the aftermath, in which some ill will is expressed over wording on a plaque on the door of the commemorative studio. Chief correspondents are Harriett Johnson and Isabelle Valkovsky Byman; others include Gideon Waldrop, Marie Drake, Natalie Maynard, Jerome Lowenthal, Betty Feldman, George Schick, and Helen Cooke. Chief recipient is Ruth (Mrs. Theodore) Steinway; others include Isabelle Byman, Harriett Johnson, Stanley Bednar, George Schick, and other members of the committee for the memorial fund. The collection also includes invitation and program for the recital, 2 clippings about the event, and a clipping of an article by Olga Samaroff in *Musical America*, 1914 Sept. 8.

**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:** Correspondence concerning memorial for Olga Samaroff, Music Division, The New York Public Library

### Creator History

Olga Samaroff, 1882-1948, was an American pianist and educator. From 1911 to 1923 she was married to Leopold Stokowski. To commemorate the 25th anniversary of her death in 1973, an Olga Samaroff

room was created in the old Juilliard School building where she taught (by then the home of the Manhattan School of Music) and a memorial concert was performed there May 17, 1973.

### **Custodial History**

Gift of Betty Chapin.

### **Scope and Content Note**

The 20 letters (5 ALS, 1 TLS, and 14 copies) concern fundraising and plans for the memorial; the recital and presentation; and the aftermath, in which some ill will is expressed over wording on a plaque on the door of the commemorative studio. Chief correspondents are Harriett Johnson and Isabelle Valkovsky Byman; others include Gideon Waldrop, Marie Drake, Natalie Maynard, Jerome Lowenthal, Betty Feldman, George Schick, and Helen Cooke. Chief recipient is Ruth (Mrs. Theodore) Steinway; others include Isabelle Byman, Harriett Johnson, Stanley Bednar, George Schick, and other members of the committee for the memorial fund. The collection also includes invitation and program for the recital, 2 clippings about the event, and a clipping of an article by Olga Samaroff in *Musical America*, 1914 Sept. 8.

**Arrangement:** Chronological