



The New York Public Library  
Music Division

Guide to the

**Robert Chesley scores**

1964-1976

JPB 10-3

### Summary

**Creator:** Chesley, Robert, 1943-1990

**Title:** Robert Chesley scores

**Date:** 1964-1976

**Size:** 1 linear foot (3 boxes)

**Abstract:** The Robert Chesley Scores contains music composed by Chesley, in the form of manuscript scores and sketches. Personal papers which pertain to his work as a composer include correspondence, reviews and programs, and publications of the Society of Gay and Lesbian Composers based in San Francisco, California

**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:** Robert Chesley scores, JPB 10-3. Music Division, The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts

### Creator History

Robert Chesley was born on March 22, 1943, in Jersey City, New Jersey. He was a composer, playwright, and theater critic. Between 1965-1975, Chesley composed over five dozen songs and choral works. In 1976 he moved to San Francisco and became theater critic at the San Francisco Bay Guardian. He was also co-founder of the Three-Dollar Bill Theater in New York City. Chesley died of AIDS in San Francisco at the age of 47 on December 5, 1990. The Robert Chesley Award for Lesbian and Gay Playwriting, given annually by Publishing Triangle, is named in his honor.

**Arrangement:** Organized in 3 series: I. Primary compositions, 1965-1976; II. Secondary and incomplete compositions, 1964-1971, and undated; III. Professional Papers, 1974-1988, and undated

## **Key Terms**

### **Occupations**

Composers  
Dramatists

### **Genre/Physical Characteristic**

Correspondence  
Scores

### **Subjects**

Motion picture music -- Scores  
Musical sketches  
Songs with orchestra  
Songs with piano

### **Names**

De la Mare, Walter, 1873-1956  
Estate Project for Artists with AIDS  
Society of Gay and Lesbian Composers