Summary

Creator: Diether, Jack

Title: Jack Diether collection of sound recordings [sound recording]

Date: 1967-1984

Size: 67 tape reels

Source: Gift, Doris Diether, 10/16/2001

Abstract: The collection contains recordings of the radio programs which Diether wrote, including the series "The Life of Beethoven." In addition to the programs themselves, sound cues for the programs are included. The collection also contains appearances of Diether as a commentator on radio programs and intermission features from concert broadcasts. In addition to documentaries and commentary, there are recordings of concerts by the New York Mahlerites (today known as The Gustav Mahler Society of New York).

Access: Access to original items by permission only. Some items may be available as service copies. Other items which need preservation work may require advance notification for use. Refer to item descriptions in individual catalog records for more information.

Conditions Governing Access:

Users never directly handle sound recordings. Listening selections are transmitted through a playback system. Some items are available as service copies. Other items which need preservation work may require advance notification for use. Refer to item descriptions in finding aid for more information.

Conditions Governing Use: No copying of private, non-commercial material is allowed without the written permission of the proprietary rights holder. For further information contact the Curator, The Rodgers and Hammerstein Archives of Recorded Sound.

Alternative Form Available: Some items have been transferred to preservation and service copies. Original items which have not been transferred may require advance notification for use. Refer to item descriptions for more information.
Preferred citation: *L (Special) 02-06, Jack Diether Collection of Sound Recordings, Rodgers and Hammerstein Archives of Recorded Sound, The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts.

Processing note: Processed by Donald Mennerich.

Creator History

Jack Diether (1919-1987) was a noted musicologist and scholar. He was especially known for his expertise of Gustav Mahler and Anton Bruckner. Over the years, although his major interests remained Mahler and Bruckner, he branched out into many other aspects of music. He was a regular contributor to *Chord and Discord*, *Musical America*, *American Record Guide*, *The Villager*, *The Westsider / Chelsea Clinton News / East Side Express*, and wrote articles and reviews for almost all the major music magazines and journals between 1955 and 1986. He also wrote articles for non-musical publications such as *Film Quarterly*, *The Journal of Orgonomy*, *Psychoanalysis & The Psychological Review*, and program notes for many orchestras.

He gave a number of lectures and wrote the scripts for six radio programs for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, including the eight-part *The Life of Beethoven* and programs on Bruckner, Mahler, Ralph Vaughan Williams, Edward Elgar, and the film music of Bernard Herrmann. His record liner notes covered the musical field for almost every major record label. He was a member of the *Gustav Mahler Society of America*; *Gustav Mahler Society, USA*; *Music Critics Association*; *National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences*; and the Dance Critics Association, for which he presented some panels on music, including one with conductors of dance music.

The New York Mahlerites, which he co-founded with Nancy Karlins Thoman in 1976, presented annual concerts from 1977 on, offering such rare works as Mahler's Piano Quartet movement, the Songs to Josephine, concert highlights from the Weber-Mahler "Die drei Pintos," and a dance version of "Blumine," choreographed and performed by ballerina Sallie Wilson. The Society, under his leadership, partly sponsored William Carragan's completion of the Bruckner Ninth Symphony, performed in 1985 by the Utrecht Symphony Orchestra and later released in a recording with the Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Yoav Talmi on the Chandos label.

Custodial History

The Jack Diether collection was donated to the archives by Mrs. Jack Diether in 2001

Scope and Content Note

The collection contains recordings of the radio programs which Diether wrote, including the series "The Life of Beethoven." In addition to the programs themselves, sound cues for the programs are included. Also included are appearances of Diether as a commentator on radio programs and intermission features from concert broadcasts. The collection also contains recordings of concerts by the New York Mahlerites, (today known as The Gustav Mahler Society of New York).

Arrangement: The collection is organized in the following series: I. Life of Beethoven II. New York Mahlerites Performances III. Composer documentaries IV. Sound cues
Key Terms

Names
Diether, Jack
Beethoven, Ludwig van, 1770-1827
Bruckner, Anton, 1824-1896
Elgar, Edward, 1857-1934
Herrmann, Bernard, 1911-1975
Mahler, Gustav, 1860-1911
Vaughan Williams, Ralph, 1872-1958
New York Mahlerites
Container List

Life of Beethoven

The Life of Beethoven was first produced as a 7 part series in 1970. A revised 8 part version was produced in 1971/72, with the addition of a new episode The Conflict.

The order and titles of the episodes are:

- Part 1: Beethoven in Bonn
- Part 2: The Young Virtuoso
- Part 3: The Exile
- Part 4: The Eternal Feminine
- Part 5: The Aftermath
- Part 6: The Obsession
- Part 7: The Conflict
- Part 8: De Profundis

Part 5 The Aftermath and Part 6 The Obsession were not re-recorded for the revised version.

Aftermath May 4, 1970

- "LDC 31257 (2 sound tape reels : analog, 7 1/2 ips, acetate-based, mono. ; 7 in.)
- Bagatelles, piano, Wo0 59, A minor
- Fur elise
- The aftermath
- Credits and closing announcements
- Beethoven, Ludwig van, 1770-1827
- Beethoven, Ludwig van, 1770-1827
- Preservation copy in: "LT-10 12389. Access to original items restricted.

Contents: The aftermath (59:01) -- Credits and closing announcements (2:04) -- Fur elise / Ludwig van Beethoven.

Beethoven in Bonn January 1972

- "LDC 31259 (2 sound tape reels : analog, 7 1/2 ips, mono. ; 7 in.)
- Ariette tir'ee de l'operette Das rothe Kaepchen, Es war einmal ein alter Mann, vari'ee
- Opening announcements
- Introduction by Jack Diether
- Credits and closing announcements
- Beethoven, Ludwig van, 1770-1827
- Beethoven, Ludwig van, 1770-1827
- Canadian Broadcasting Corporation
- Preservation copy in: "LT-10 12401 Access to original items restricted.

Contents: Opening announcements (00:21) -- Introduction by Jack Diether (5:20) -- Beethoven in Bonn (50:38) -- Credits and closing announcements (1:47) -- Variations on a theme by Dittersdorf / Ludwig van Beethoven (7:29).

De profundis September 7, 1970

- "LDC 31275 (2 sound tape reels : analog, 7 1/2 ips, acetate-based ; 7 in.)
- Credits and closing announcements
- De profundis
- Preservation copy in: "LT-10 12410. Access to original items restricted.

Contents: De profundis (56:31) -- Credits and closing announcements (1:20).
Life of Beethoven (cont.)

De profundis June 30, 1971
*LDC 31270 (2 sound tape reels : analog, 7 1/2 ips, acetate-based ; 7 in.)
Credits and closing announcements

De profundis August 31, 1971
*LDC 31276 (2 sound tape reels : analog, 7 1/2 ips, paper-based ; 7 in.)

Eternal feminine May 1970
*LDC 31274 (2 sound tape reels : analog, 7 1/2 ips, acetate-based, mono ; 7 in.)
Credits and closing announcements

Eternal feminine March 1, 1972
*LDC 31256 (2 sound tape reels : analog, 7 1/2 ips, acetate-based, mono. ; 7 in.)
Fidelio (1814). SelectionsThe Eternal FeminineCredits and closing announcementsBeethoven, Ludwig van, 1770-1827

Exile January 1972
*LDC 31254 (2 sound tape reels : analog, 7 1/2 ips, acetate-based, mono. ; 7 in.)
The ExileCredits and closing announcementsUnidentified work for solo piano

Exile April 23, 1970
*LDC 31273 (2 sound tape reels : analog, 7 1/2 ips, acetate-based, mono ; 7 in.)
Sonatas, piano, no. 14, op. 27, no. 2, C# minorSonata, c# min, op. 27, #2 - movements 1 and 2Credits and closing announcementsMaster of musical pathos, excerpt, NWDR [n.d.]Beethoven, Ludwig van, 1770-1827

Obsession May 1970
*LDC 31278 (2 sound tape reels : analog, 7 1/2 ips, paper-based ; 7 in.)
Credits and closing announcementsUnidentified work
Used in both original and revised series. Preservation copy in: *LT-10 12413. Access to original items restricted.Contents: Obsession (58:07) -- Credits and closing announcements (1:03) -- Unidentified work (4:33).

Young virtuoso 1970
*LDC 31255 (2 sound tape reels : analog, 7 1/2 ips, acetate-based, mono. ; 7 in.)
Septet, op. 20, E flat major. Adagio allegro con brioSeptet, op.20 (movements 5, 6 and 7)The young virtuosoCredits and Closing ArgumentsBeethoven, Ludwig vanBeethoven

Young virtuoso January 1972
*LDC 31272 (2 sound tape reels : analog, 7 1/2 ips, paper-based ; 7 in.)
Credits and closing announcementsUnidentified work

New York Mahlerites performances
New York Mahlerites concert
June 2, 1977
*LT-7 6783 (1 sound tape reel : analog ; 7 in.)
Lieder und Gesange aus der Jugendzeit:
Lieder (1910) / Mahler and Donizetti: a musicological presentation
Blayman, Herbert
Broiles, Mel
Bruck, Jole
Foster, Donald
Metz, Jeryl
Monk, Paula
Woitach, Allan
Mahlerites
Mahler, Gustav, 1860-1911
Alma, 1879-1964
The New York Mahlerites: Herbert Blayman, clarinet ; Melvyn Broiles, trumpet ; Jole Bruck, harp ; Donald Foster, Richard Woitach, piano ; Jeryl Metz, soprano ; Paula Stark, mezzo-soprano ; Allan Monk, baritone. List of performers and works on file.

New York Mahlerites concert
June 12, 1978
*LT-7 6784 (1 sound tape reel : analog ; 7 in.)
Lieder nach Ruckert. 
Liebest du um Schonheit / Gustav Mahler
-- Lieder nach Ruckert. 
Ich atmet’ einen linden Duft / Gustav Mahler
-- Lieder nach Ruckert. 
Ich bin der Welt abhanden gekommen / Gustav Mahler
-- Quartet, piano, strings, A minor. Excerpt

New York Mahlerites concert
June 15, 1979
*LT-7 6785 (1 sound tape reel : analog ; 7 in.)
Symphonies, no. 9, D minor; arr. Finale
Licht in der Nacht / Gustav Mahler
Waldseligkeit / Gustav Mahler
Hymne / Gustav Mahler
Erkennende / Gustav Mahler
Ekstase / Gustav Mahler
Symphonies, no. 10; arr. Finale
Foster, Donald
Carragan, William
Woitach, Richard
Nudelman, Paul
Metz, Jeryl
Orel, Alfred, 1889-1967 Block, Frederick
New York Mahlerites
Bruckner, Anton, 1824-1896
Mahler, Gustav, 1860-1911
The New York Mahlerites: Donald Foster, Richard Woitach, William Carragan, Paul Nudelman, piano ; Jeryl Metz, soprano. Performed at the studio of the Oliver-Greer Keyboard Craftsmen, W. 31st St., NYC. List of performers and works on file. The Bruckner Symphony was arranged and completed for 2 pianos from the Alfred Orel score by William Carragan, assisted by Paul Nudelman. The Mahler Symphony was transcribed for 2 pianos from the manuscript sketch by Frederick Block. The concert also included 5 songs by G. Mahler missing from the recording.
Contents: Symphonies, no. 9, D minor; arr. Finale / Anton Bruckner -- Licht in der Nacht / Alma Mahler -- Waldseligkeit / Alma Mahler -- Hymne / Alma Mahler -- Erkennende / Alma Mahler -- Ekstase / Alma Mahler -- Symphonies, no. 10; arr. Finale / Gustav Mahler.

New York Mahlerites concert
July 7, 1980
*LT-7 6786 (1 sound tape reel : analog, 7 1/2 ips ; 7 in.)
New York Mahlerites
Mahler, Gustav, 1860-1911
Performed at the Austrian Institute, E. 52nd St., NYC.

New York Mahlerites concert
June 10, 1981
*LT-7 6787 (1 sound tape reel : analog, 7 1/2 ips, stereo. ; 7 in.)
New York Mahlerites
Mahler, Gustav, 1860-1911
Performed at the Abraham Goodman House, W. 67th St., NYC.

New York Mahlerites concert
June 15, 1982
*LT-7 6788 (1 sound tape reel : analog, 7 1/2 ips, stereo. ; 7 in.)
New York Mahlerites
Mahler, Gustav, 1860-1911
Performed at St. Peter’s Lutheran Church, NYC.
New York Mahlerites performances (cont.)

New York Mahlerites concert  June 13, 1984
*LT-7 6789 (1 sound tape reel : analog ; 7 in.)
Preludes, organ
Equale, trombones (4), WoO 30
Aequale, trombones (3)
Knaben Wunderhorn. Irdische Leben
Knaben Wunderhorn. Rheinlegendchen
Lieder und Gesange aus der Jugendziet. Nicht wiedersehen
Lieder und Gesange aus der Jugendziet. Scheiden und Meiden
Preludes, organ, C major
Ekstase
Erkennende
Lieder (1910). Ich atm* einen linden D uft
Lieder nach Ruckert. Um Mitternacht
Cantrell, Scott Carragan, William Barr, Paul Pierce, Terry Speziale, Anthony Kenreich, Glen Vondra, Mimi Rogers, Paul W oerner, Danielle Goodzeit, Andrea Bacchus, Peter, 1954-
Zahab, Roger Columbia, Marya Gilmore, Clifford Miller, Daniel Tregellas, Patricia Holz, Doris Meyerson, Janice, 1950-
Bruckner, Anton, 1824-1896
Beethoven, Ludwig van, 1770-1827
Mahler, Gustav, 1860-1911
Braun, Anton, 1824-1896
Mahler, Alma, 1879-
1964
The New York Mahlerites: Scott Cantrell, William Carragan, organ ; Paul Rogers, Andrea Goodzeit, piano ; Paul Barr, Terry Pierce, Anthony Speziale, Glen Kenreich, trombone ; Mimi Vondra, Danielle Woerner, Doris Holz, soprano ; Janice Meyerson, mezzo-soprano ; Peter Bacchus, flute ; Roger Zahab, Marya Columbia, violins ; Clifford Gilmore, viola ; Daniel Miller, cello ; Michael Egan, double bass ; Patricia Tregellas, accordion. Performed at St. Peter's Lutheran Church, NYC.

Composer documentaries
Includes interviews in which composers' lives and works are discussed as well as documentaires

Bernard Hermann, film composer 1978
*LT-7 6773 (2 sound tape reels : analog, 3 3/4 ips, mono. ; 7 in.)
Herrmann, Bernard

Discussion of Beethoven's Egmont
*LT-7 6774 (2 sound tape reels : analog, 3 3/4 ips, mono. ; 7 in.)
Diether, Jack
Beethoven, Ludwig van, 1770-1827
Jack Diether, speaker. Recorded for the CBC.

Discussion of Mahler's Third Symphony February 5, 1973
*LT-7 6775 (1 sound tape reel : analog, 3 3/4 ips, mono. ; 7 in.)
Symphonies, no. 3
Diether, Jack
Lavine, Oscar
Mahler, Gustav, 1860-1911
Jack Diether interviewed by Oscar Lavine on WBAI. (Recorded 2/2/73)

Discussion of Mahler November 5, 1967
*LDC 31283 (2 sound tape reels : analog, 7 1/2 ips, acetate-based, mono. ; 7 in.)
Intermission feature
Diether, Jack
Bookspan, Martin

Discussion of Mahler January 11, 1968
*LDC 31283 (2 sound tape reels : analog, 7 1/2 ips, acetate-based, mono. ; 7 in.)
Discussion of Diether, Jack
Composer documentaries (cont.)

**Hands across the sea** February 3, 1968
*LDC 31283* (2 sound tape reels : analog, 7 1/2 ips, acetate-based, mono. ; 7 in.)
Das Knaben WunderhornDas Klagende LiedDas Klagende Lied (part 2)Das Knaben Wunderhorn (selections)
Opening announcements
Interview begins
Interview continues
Interview concludes
Closing announcements
Mahler, Gustav, 1860-1911
Diether, Jack
Neuman, Herman

Jack Diether interviewed by Herman Neuman on Wyn Morris. Discussion about Mahler.
Broadcast on WNYC. Preservation copy in: *LT-10 12415.* Access to original items restricted.
Contents: Opening announcements (1:01) -- Interview begins (7:17) -- Das Klagende Lied (part 2) / Gustav Mahler (20:29) -- Interview continues (4:02) -- Das Knaben Wunderhorn (selections) / Gustav Mahler (12:43) -- Interview concludes/ closing announcements (00:59).

**Life of Vaughan Williams** April 4, 1972
*LDC 31279* (2 sound tape reels : analog, 7 1/2 ips, acetate-based ; 7 in.)
Symphonies, no.8, D minor
Symphony #8 - excerpt
Unidentified work
Opening announcements
Life of Vaughan Williams, 7/3/72
Vaughan Williams, Ralph
Vaughan Williams, Ralph, 1872-1958
Contents: Life of Vaughan Williams (29:52) -- Unidentified work (8:44) -- Opening announcements (1:12) -- Life of Vaughan Williams, 7/3/72 (29:45) -- Symphony #8 - excerpt / Ralph Vaughan Williams (00:35).

**The listening room** June 14, 1974
*LDC 31283* (2 sound tape reels : analog, 7 1/2 ips, acetate-based, mono. ; 7 in.)
Das Knaben Wunderhorn
Symphonies, no. 8
Das Knaben Wunderhorn (part 1)
Symphony #8 (conclusion)
Discussion begins
Discussion continues
Discussion concludes
Diether, Jack
Sherman, Robert, 1932-
Mahler, Gustav, 1860-1911

**Mahler the surrealist** October 13, 1970
*LT-7 6776* (1 sound tape reel : analog, 3 3/4 ips, mono. ; 7 in.)
Mahler, Gustav, 1860-1911
Diether, Jack
"Defective at start." Recorded at Wheaton College.

**Mahler the surrealist** October 20, 1970
*LT-7 6777* (1 sound tape reel : analog, 3 3/4 ips, mono. ; 7 in.)
Mahler, Gustav, 1860-1911
Diether, Jack
First 60 min. only. Recorded in Potsdam.

**An obituary tribute to Jascha Horenstein** July 17, 1973
*LDC 31264* (2 sound tape reels : analog, 7 1/2 ips, polyester-based, stereo.) recorded for the CBC. Preservation copy in: *LT-10 12396.* Access to original items restricted.

**Portrait of Anton Bruckner**
*LDC 31265* (2 sound tape reels : analog, 7 1/2 ips, acetate-based, mono. ; 7 in.)
A portrait of Anton Bruckner
Credits and closing announcements
Bruckner, Anton, 1824-1896
Chesterman, Robert
Canadian Broadcasting Corporation
Contents: A portrait of Anton Bruckner (59:44) -- Credits and closing announcements (1:01).

**Portrait of Gustav Mahler** February 1968
*LDC 31260* (3 sound tape reels : analog, 7 1/2 ips, acetate-based, mono. ; 7 in.)
A portrait of Gustav Mahler
Credits and closing announcements
Unidentified fragment
Mahler, Gustav, 1860-1911
Chesterman, Robert
Ralstan, Derek
Taylor, Lee
Brinson, Roy
Carlson, Lillian
Haworth, Peter
Buck, William
Brockington, Peter
Switzer, Bob
Canadian Broadcasting Corporation
Recorded for the CBC. New opening dubbed 4/30/73. Preservation copy in: *LT-10 12395.* Access to original items restricted.
Contents: A portrait of Gustav Mahler (1:25:40) -- Credits and closing announcements (1:06) -- Unidentified fragment (4:18).
Composer documentaries (cont.)

Portrait of Sir Edward Elgar
*LDC 31282 (2 sound tape reels : analog, 7 1/2 ips, stereo. ; 7 in.)
Opening announcementsCredits and closing announcementsSelf-deleted portion of cue
1Elgar, Edward, 1857-1934

A radio talk on Mahler's 8th symphony August 24, 1948
* LTC 1254 (1 sound tape reel : analog, paper-based ; 10 in.)
Symphonies, no. 8Mahler, Gustav, 1860-1911
Re-recorded from an original, paper-based reel tape donated by Mrs. Jack Diether. Broadcast by radio station KOWL, Santa Monica, CA, Aug. 24, 1948 Access to original items restricted.

Sound cues

Bernard Hermann cues
*LT-7 6772 (2 sound tape reels : analog, 3 3/4 ips, mono. ; 7 in.)
Sound cues for the radio documentary Bernard Hermann, film composer. Includes 1 replacement cue for The life of Beethoven.

Film music cues September 1, 1974
*LT-7 6778 (1 sound tape reel : analog, 3 3/4 ips, mono. ; 7 in.)
Sound cues for lecture on film music.

Life of Beethoven. Conflict. Voice track
*LDC 31277 (1 sound tape reel : analog, 7 1/2 ips, acetate-based ; 7 in.)
Life of Beethoven. Conflict. Voice track

Life of Beethoven. De profundis. Voice track May 19, 1971
*LDC 31277 (2 sound tape reels : analog, 7 1/2 ips, acetate-based ; 7 in.)
Voice test of Eric Schneider (Karl van Beethoven)Voice track for part 8Unidentified fragmentVoice track for part 8 continued

Portrait of Sir Edward Elgar cues
*LT-7 6780
*LT-7 6781 (3 sound tape reels : analog ; 7 in.)
Elgar, Edward, 1857-1934
Music cues for the radio documentary Portrait of Sir Edward Elgar.