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Music Division

Guide to the

Manny Blanc papers

1941-1983 (bulk 1977-1982)

JPB 11-7

Compiled by L. Reyman, June 2011

Summary

Creator: Blanc, Manny

Title: Manny Blanc papers, 1941-1983 (bulk 1977-1982)

Size: 2.96 linear feet (12 boxes)

Source: Donated by Michele Berman, 2011

Abstract: Manny Blanc was born into a family of musicians. He worked professionally as a drummer, arranger, copyist, and composer of both popular and orchestral works. He was also an accomplished artist, showing work in group shows and private galleries.

Access: Collection is open to the public. Library policy on photocopying will apply. Advance notice may be required.

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Preferred citation: Manny Blanc Papers, Music Division, The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts

Processing note

This collection arrived with the scores individually foldered. The personal documents have been organized alphabetically. No items were deaccessioned.

Creator history

Manny Blanc was born into a family of musicians. He was born August 17, 1914 to Samuel (Shimele) and Sarah Blank. Shimele Blanc, his father, emigrated from Eastern Europe to New York City. In addition to working as a composer and a musician, his father owned a music store on Second Avenue. Other musical relatives include one cousin who was a member of the Honolulu Symphony Orchestra and several other cousins who had musical careers in South America.

Manny Blanc graduated from Seward Park High School (Lower East Side) in 1932. He studied music at the Curtis Institute and Julliard. He served in the U.S. Army as a member of the 186th Field Artillery Orchestra. Although he was initially stationed at Camp Ethan Allen in Burlington, Vermont, he spent most of his army career at Camp Edwards in Buzzard's Bay, Massachusetts. He married Charlotte Warowitz, August 7, 1941, while in the army. The couple had two children, Michele and Susan.

Blanc composed ballet music and symphonies as well as wrote works for string quartets and brass. In addition to his composition work, he played drums with Mousie Powell and his Musical Maniacs while his brother Murray played trumpet. Blanc also played with the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra and the (Franko) Goldman Band.

In his early forties, Blanc received a paint set while recovering from minor surgery. That gift began a new phase in his life as a painter. During the late 1950s, Blanc became a student of Charles Seide at the Brooklyn Museum Art School and began exhibiting his paintings in group shows and in private galleries.

He died on February 21, 1984.

Source:

Michele Blanc Berman, biographical statements

http://www.askart.com/askart/b/manny_blanc/manny_blanc.aspx, retrieved 5/20/11

Scope and content note

The Manny Blanc papers consist primarily of original compositions by Blanc himself. The compositions contain the full score and, oftentimes, sketches and parts (published and un-published). There is a small amount of music written by others such as Elliott Carter, Edgard Varese, Dmitry Shostakovich, Luciano Berio, Paul Hindemith, and Bedrich Smetana that Blanc made arrangements of.

In addition, there are a few personal documents held in the collection, including a family tree, a scrapbook (scanned), loose photographs, and several biographical statements written by his daughter Michele Blanc Berman.

Arrangement

The Manny Blanc papers are organized into the following series:

Series I: Scores, 1953-1983

Series II: Scores by Others, 1960-1970

Series III: Personal Materials, 1941-1980

Key terms

Subjects

Band music -- 20th century

Band music, Arranged -- Scores and parts

Musical arranging

Musical compositions

Orchestra music

Occupations

Composers

Names

Blanc, Manny

Special formats

Scores

Container list

Series I: Scores, 1953-1983

Series I contains scores that were written and/or arranged by Manny Blanc and are listed alphabetically by title. Each title has scores (full and partial) and, in some cases, pencil sketches, parts, and lead sheets.

- b.1 f.1 24 Authentic Latin American Cow-Bell Rhythms, undated
- b.1 f.2 Altair, undated (score)
- b.1 f.3-6 Antigua-Italiano Suite #1, #2, #3, #4, undated (score and parts)
- b.7 f.1 Arrange-A-Gram, undated (arranged by Blanc)
- b.1 f.7 Aubade, 1977 (score)
- b.1 f.8 Baal, 1981 (full score and working score)
- b.8 f.1 Bakitra, 1979 (score, pencil sketch and parts)
- b.1 f.9 Bar Harbor Sounds, 1979 (score and piano sketch)
- b.1 f.10 Benedictus, 1980 (score and pencil sketches)
- b.8 f.2 Bhout, 1979 (score, pencil sketch and parts)
- b.1 f.11 Bionic Man, 1976 (score and parts)
- b.1 f.12 Birdcage Walk, 1980 (score, pencil sketch and parts)
- b.1 f.13 Blulette Fantastique, 1982 (score and parts)
- b.8 f.3 Bokura, 1979 (score, pencil sketch and parts)
- b.1 f.14 Bows Arrow Lane, 1980 (score, pencil sketches and parts)
- b.1 f.15 Box-Piano Fuge, 1976 (scores, pencil sketch, parts and piano)
- b.1 f.16 Chansom Fantastique, 1981 (score and parts)
- b.8 f.4 Chants for String Orchestra, 1979 (score and pencil sketch)
- b.1 f.17 Chingada, undated (score)
- b.1 f.18 Cinnamon Garden, 1976 (score and parts)
- b.1 f.19 Claraforo, 1978 (score, pencil sketch and flute part)
- b.1 f.20 Clouds, 1982 (score and parts)
- b.1 f.21 The Clowns, 1981 (score and pencil sketch)
- b.2 f.1 Composition music books, undated (arranged by Manny Blanc)
- b.8 f.5 Cranberry Alley, 1979 (score and pencil sketches)
- b.8 f.6 Dirge, 1979 (score and pencil sketches)
- b.2 f.2 Dixieland Bells, Dixieland Bridge and Dixieland Traveller, undated (published scores)
- b.2 f.3 Drukkerin, 1977 (pencil score)
- b.2 f.4 Dusky Morn, 1980 (score, pencil sketches, parts)
- b.2 f.5 Dyoma, 1980 (score, pencil sketch and parts)
- b.2 f.6 Earl Grey Tea, 1983 (score, pencil sketch and parts)
- b.2 f.7 Early Autumn, 1980 (score, pencil sketches and parts)
- b.2 f.8 Enigma, 1976 (score)
- b.2 f.9 The Fall and Autumn, 1976 (score)
- b.2 f.10 Fast Walk Through the Hades Catacombs, 1977 (score and pencil sketch)
- b.2 f.11 Friday-10th of July, undated (score and solo horn part)
- b.2 f.12 Goa, 1978 (score, pencil sketch and parts)
- b.2 f.13 Godthaabe, 1979 (score, pencil sketch and parts)

Series I: Scores (cont.)

- b.8 f.7 Googan's Walk, 1979 (score and pencil sketches)
- b.2 f.14 Green Swallow Road, 1980 (score, pencil sketch and parts)
- b.2 f.15 Grey Wolf Cave, 1978 (score and parts)
- b.2 f.16 Haikui, 1980 (score, pencil sketches and parts)
- b.2 f.17 Hamilton Bridge, 1976 (score)
- b.2 f.18 Hammond Park, undated (score)
- b.2 f.19 Hashkivenu and Veshomeru #2, undated (scores)
- b.2 f.20 Heliox, 1978 (score, pencil sketch and parts)
- b.2 f.21 Herod, 1977 (score, parts, pencil score for piano)
- b.2 f.22 Hillsboro Road, 1980 (pencil sketches)
- b.2 f.23 Human Progressions, 1977 (score)
- b.8 f.8 Hymnal, 1979 (score, pencil sketch and parts)
- b.3 f.1 Inshalla, undated (score)
- b.3 f.2 Interludium, 1977 (score and pencil sketch)
- b.8 f.9 Intermezzo, 1979 (score and pencil sketch)
- b.3 f.3 Jewish Overture #2, undated (parts)
- b.3 f.4 Johnny , 1963 (lead sheets)
- b.3 f.5 Kara-Hisar (Black Castle), undated (score)
- b.3 f.6 Khwama, 1980 (score and pencil sketch)
- b.3 f.7 Kleine Valse Musike for 5, 1977 (score)
- b.3 f.8 Kolerat, 1978 (score, pencil sketch and parts)
- b.8 f.10 Kyrie, 1979 (score, pencil sketch and parts)
- b.9 f.1 Lagan of Memory, 1976 (score)
- b.3 f.9 Lagoon, undated (score, piano score and parts)
- b.3 f.10 Lion Gate Bridge, 1979 (score and pencil sketches)
- b.3 f.11 London Bridge, 1977 (score and parts)
- b.3 f.12 Love Fugue, 1976 (scores, pencil sketches, and parts)
- b.3 f.13 Melodies and Tonalities, 1976 (score and pencil sketches)
- b.3 f.14 Melrose, undated (score and parts)
- b.3 f.15 Metamophosis, 1976 (score and parts)
- b.3 f.16 Moe's Fugue, 1976 (score and parts)
- b.3 f.17 Monkey River Town, undated (score)
- b.3 f.18 Moodus Tragico, 1983
conductor's score, pencil sketch and parts
- b.3 f.19 Moon-silk, 1977 (score)
- b.3 f.20 New Modern Jazz Notation, Book 1, undated
- b.3 f.21 Non-Micro-Tonic Fun, undated (score and parts)
- b.3 f.22 Nuget From the 18th Century, undated (parts)
- b.3 f.23 Nunundaga and other selections, 1977 (score)

Series I: Scores (cont.)

- b.4 f.1 Oak Bend Road, 1978 (score, pencil sketch and parts)
- b.7 f.2 Official Li'l Abner Square Dance Handbook, 1953 (arranged by Manny Blanc)
- b.4 f.2 Old Grey Marish, undated (published score)
- b.4 f.3 Otin, undated (score and parts)
- b.4 f.4 Pascaletta, 1980 (pencil score and parts)
- b.4 f.5 Passilla, 1978 (score, pencil sketches and parts)
- b.4 f.6 Peaceable Jones , 1968 (pencil sketches)
- b.4 f.7 Peach Tree Alley, 1976 (score and pencil sketches)
- b.4 f.8 Percogestic, 1977 (score and pencil score)
- b.4 f.9 Polka Gagliardo, 1978 (score, pencil sketch and parts)
- b.9 f.2 Polyeme, 1979 (score and pencil sketch)
- b.4 f.10 Ponticello, 1977 (score and pencil sketch)
- b.4 f.11 Praeludium, 1980 (score, sketch and parts)
- b.4 f.12 Prego for 3, 1982 (score)
- b.4 f.13 Preludes, 1974 (pencil sketches)
- b.11 f.1 Quaracha, 1949 (score)
- b.4 f.14 Quartet, strings no. 1 op.3, First String Quartette op. 3, 1946 (score)
- b.4 f.15 Quartet, strings no. 2 op.4, Second String Quartette op. 4, 1946 (score)
- b.9 f.3 Radiance of Dark, 1979 (score and pencil sketches)
- b.4 f.16 Ragtime for Brass, 1978 (score and pencil sketches)
- b.4 f.17 Ragtime for String Quartet, 1978 (score, pencil sketch and parts)
- b.4 f.18 Red Geranium Road, 1977 (parts)
- b.4 f.19 Rene's Fugue, 1983
- b.4 f.20 Riki-Tin and Praeldium #2, 1979 (pencil sketch)
- b.4 f.21 Romanza, undated (score and pencil sketches)
- b.4 f.22 Ruttieweg 38, 1980 (score and parts)
- b.5 f.1 Sarishan, 1977 (score)
- b.5 f.2 Savaroni, 1979
- b.5 f.3 Scarborough Bush Lane, 1977 (score and pencil sketch)
- b.5 f.4 Scherzo for 5 Brass, 1978 (score and pencil sketches)
- b.5 f.5-13 Selections, undated (scores, pencil sketches and parts)
- b.7 f.3-4 Selections, undated (Sam Ash notebooks--all pencil sketches)
- b.9 f.4 Selections, undated
- b.5 f.14 The Seventh Power, 1976 (score)
- b.5 f.15 Shibena, 1977 (Piano score and pencil sketch)
- b.5 f.16 Shoes That Are So Soft, 1954
- b.5 f.17 Silver's Fugue, 1976 (manuscript and pencil sketch)
- b.5 f.18 Snuff Box Lane, 1980 (score, pencil sketch and parts)
- b.9 f.5 Song of a 3rd Kind, 1979 (score and pencil sketches)

Series I: Scores (cont.)

- b.9 f.6 Sorilehi, 1979 (score, pencil sketch and parts)
- b.9 f.7 Soul Feelings, 1976 (score and pencil sketches)
- b.5 f.19 Sound Demonstrations, undated (pencil sketch and parts)
- b.5 f.20 Sour Pickle Passageway, 1976 (score, pencil sketch and parts)
- b.5 f.21 Springtime Song, 1982 (score)
- b.6 f.1 Square Dance, 1950 (score)
- b.6 f.2 Spirals, 1977 (score)
- b.9 f.8 Stepanek's Pram, 1976 (score)
- b.6 f.3 String Quartet and Inner Thoughts, 1980 (pencil sketch)
- b.6 f.4 The Sun on the Trees, 1976 (score)
- b.6 f.5 Sunrise Valley, 1980 (score, pencil sketch and parts)
- b.6 f.6 Sweet Caroline Square, 1982 (score)
- b.9 f.9 Synthesis #1, #2, #3, undated (score and pencil sketches)
- b.6 f.7 Tablets of Ifa, 1976 (score and pencil sketches)
- b.6 f.8 Tajli, 1979 (score and pencil sketches)
- b.6 f.9 Tchaka (The Lion), 1976 (score, pencil sketch and bass part)
- b.6 f.10 Theme and Harmonies, 1978
score (incomplete), pencil sketches and parts
- b.6 f.11 This Is It, undated (pencil sketch (incomplete))
- b.6 f.12 Torina, 1979 (score and pencil sketches)
- b.9 f.10 Toto-Lotto-Lose, 1974 (pencil sketch)
- b.9 f.11 Underground Man, 1974 (pencil sketch)
- b.6 f.13 Vespers, 1981 (score, pencil sketch and parts)
- b.6 f.14 View From The Bridge, 1979 (score, pencil sketch and parts)
- b.6 f.15 Wendebo, 1979 (score, pencil sketch and parts)
- b.6 f.16 Wild Horse Meadow, 1982 (score and pencil sketches)
- b.6 f.17 Wild Turkey Way, 1981 (score and pencil sketches)
- b.6 f.18 Winds of May, 1982 (score and pencil sketches)
- b.9 f.12 Xanadu, 1979 (score, pencil sketch and parts)
- b.6 f.19 Yiddishkite, 1983 (score, pencil sketch and parts)
- b.9 f.13 Zodiac series, 1974-1975 (pencil sketch)

Series II: Scores by Others, 1960-1970

Series II holds compositions written by other composers and arranged by Blanc. This series is organized alphabetically by the composers last name.

- b.11 f.2 Berio, Luciano, 1970 (score)
Carter Elliot
- b.10 f.2 Holiday Overture, 1960
- b.10 f.3 Minataur Suite, undated
- b.11 f.3 Piano Concerto, undated

Series II: Scores by Others (cont.)

Carter Elliot (cont.)

- b.7 f.5 Pocahantas, undated
- b.7 f.6 Hindemith, Paul
- b.7 f.7 Shostakovich, Dmitry, Third Symphony, undated
- b.7 f.8 Smetana, Bedrich
Moldau selections arranged by Manny Blanc, score and pencil sketches
- b.7 f.9 Varese, Edgard (Deserts (percussion))

Series III: Personal Materials, 1941-1980

The last series is comprised of personal documents, including genealogical material such as biographical statements, and a family tree. There are loose photographs and a scrapbook created during Blanc's time in the U.S. Army. The scrapbook is not original, but scanned with paper copies. There is also a CD of the same material.

- b.12 f.1 Associated Musicians of Greater New York Directory, 1980
- b.12 f.2 Blank Family Genealogy, undated
- b.12 f.3 Music Contracts, 1951-1961
- b.12 f.4 Photographs, ca. 1950s
- b.12 f.5 Programs and Miscellany, 1951-1976
- b.12 f.6 Scrapbook, ca. 1941-1943