



The New York Public Library Music Division

Guide to the

Cesare Sodero scores

1898-1944

JPB 85-67

Summary

Composer: Sodero, Cesare, 1886-1947

Title: Cesare Sodero scores

Date: 1898-1944

Size: 0.5 linear feet (2 boxes)

Abstract: The Cesare Sodero scores contains original musical compositions and one arrangement by Sodero. There are no purely textual records within this collection; neither are there any materials documenting his extensive career as a conductor. Since Sodero functioned primarily as a conductor, his musical compositions can be considered as an adjunct activity to his many conducting responsibilities.

Preferred citation: Cesare Sodero scores, JPB 85-67. Music Division, The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts

Language of the Material: English

Creator History

Cesare Sodero was born in Naples, Italy on August 2, 1886. Cesare Sodero was born in Naples, Italy on August 2, 1886. At the Naples Conservatory he studied with Giuseppe Martucci, graduating at age fourteen in 1900. The following year he made his conducting debut. He toured Europe as a cellist until 1906 when he was invited by Oscar Hammerstein I to join his opera company in New York. He was principal cellist of the Manhattan Opera Company until its demise in 1910.

Sodero then embarked upon a career conducting various opera companies. In 1914 he became principal conductor of the New York Recording Department of Thomas A. Edison. Between 1914 and 1925 Sodero participated in numerous recordings, particularly of operatic excerpts.

From 1925 through 1934, Sodero focused his energies on radio, conducting hundreds of operatic and symphonic broadcasts. He eventually became music director of the Mutual Radio Network. From 1934 to 1942 he was conductor of the Mendelssohn Glee Club of New York. From 1942 until his death, Sodero was a conductor of Italian opera at the Metropolitan Opera.

Cesare Sodero died December 16, 1947 in New York City.

Scope and Content Note

The Cesare Sodero scores contains original musical compositions and one arrangement by Sodero. There are no purely textual records within this collection; neither are there any materials documenting his extensive career as a conductor. Since Sodero functioned primarily a conductor, his musical compositions can be considered as an adjunct activity to his many conducting responsibilities.

As many of the scores lack a date, it can be challenging to gain a comprehensive view of Sodero's compositional career. Some of the scores are written on music paper produced by Belwin. As the company came into existence in 1918, it is a reasonable guess that most scores written on such paper date no earlier than 1920.

Some of the scores have a duration written on the title page or initial page. This strongly suggests that they were used by Sodero for radio broadcasts. Durations present on scores have been included in the notes for those scores.

Key Terms

Names

Belloc, Hilaire, 1870-1953

Casals, Pablo, 1876-1973

Erskine, Gladys Shaw, 1895-

Inglese, Giuseppe

Keller, Helen, 1880-1968

Litchfield, Grace Denio, 1849-1944

Mattullath, Alice

McCarthy, Denis Aloysius, 1871-1931

Picchianti, Silvio

Sodero, Cesare, 1886-1947

Thompson, Randall, 1899-1984

Container List

Series 1: Works composed by Sodero

- b. 1 f. 1 **Agitato** [no date] (12 pages. [incomplete?])
Orchestral musicScores
For orchestra.
- b. 1 f. 2 **Beffa nuziale. Sei forte!** (3 pages.)
ScoresSongsSongs with piano
For medium voice and piano. Caption reads: "From 'Beffa nuziale'." Words in Italian. This aria is sung by the character Valeria.
Un canto dall'oscurità 1920
Keller, Helen, 1880-1968 (Lyricist)
In Italian.
- b. 1 f. 3 **Orchestra score** [1920] ([19] pages. Full score.)
Songs with orchestraSongsScores
For soprano and orchestra. Instrument names in English. Note on title page: "Sung by Florence Easton, conducted by Richard Hageman, Metropolitan Opera House, Sunday night concert, Feb. 1922." The Metropolitan Opera database indicates the Easton sung "Un canto dell'oscurità at the Sunday night concert of February 1, 1920.
- b. 1 f. 4 **[Orchestra score]** ([19] pages.)
SongsScoresSongs with orchestra
Full score. Instrument names in Italian. Duration on page [1]: 4:35.
- b. 1 f. 5 **Partitura (small orchestra)** 1918 (13 pages.)
SongsScoresSongs with orchestra
Version for small orchestra. Voice part notated without text.
- b. 1 f. 6 **[Parts for small orchestra]** (19 parts for flute/piccolo, oboe/English horn, clarinet 1, clarinet 2, bassoon, horns, trumpet 1, trumpet 2, trombone, percussion (timpani/bass drum/gong), piano, harp, organ, violin 1 [2 copies], violin 2, viola, cello, double bass.)
Parts (Music)Songs with orchestraOrchestral music -- Parts
- b. 1 f. 7 **[Vocal score]** (6 pages.)
SongsSongs with orchestra -- Vocal scores with pianoVocal scores
For voice and piano. Version on older paper.
- b. 1 f. 8 **[Vocal score]** (8 pages.)
SongsVocal scoresSongs with orchestra -- Vocal scores with piano
For voice and piano. Version on newer paper.
- b. 1 f. 8 **Cristantemi** [no date indicated] (13 pages.)
ScoresSongsSongs with orchestraPascoli, Giovanni, 1855-1912 (Lyricist)
Full score. For soprano and orchestra. Words by Giovanni Pascoli.
Elegy
- b. 1 f. 9 **Score** (6 pages.)
String orchestra music -- ScoresScores
Score for string orchestra. Note on title page: "The first and second violins should be divided in three equal groups."
- b. 1 f. 10 **Parts** (5 parts for 1 violins, 2nd violins, violas, cellos, double basses.)
String orchestra music -- PartsParts (Music)
Duration timing at end of 2nd violins and viola parts: 4:40.
- b. 1 f. 11 **[Arranged]** (2 pages.)
Piano music, ArrangedPiano scores
Arranged for piano.

Series 1: Works composed by Sodero (cont.)

- b. 1 f. 12 **Episodio Norvegese** (6 pages.)
Piano musicScores
For piano.
Festa al villaggio (schizo per piccola orchestra)
- b. 1 f. 13 **[Score]** (1 score (27 pages).)
Orchestral music -- ScoresScores
For orchestra.
- b. 1 f. 14 **Village festival 1937** (1 score (27 pages).)
ScoresOrchestral music -- Scores
For orchestra. Date on title page: July 19, 1937.
The gossips : (intermezzo) [1935?]
- b. 1 f. 15 **[Score]** (1 score (20 pages).)
ScoresOrchestral music -- ScoresBarrow, Ruth (Writer of accompanying material)
For small orchestra. Full score. Duration: 3 minutes. Includes typewritten note from Ruth Barrow of the Composers' Music Corporation dated June 10, 1935.
- b. 1 f. 16 **[Parts]** (18 parts for flute, oboe, 1st clarinet, 2nd clarinet, bassoon, 1st horn, 2nd horn, 1st trumpet, 2nd trumpet, trombone, percussion (timpani/small drum/triangle), harp, 1st violins [2 copies], 2nd violins, viola, cello, double bass.)
Orchestral music -- PartsParts (Music)
Guidami tu! = Show me the way! [1922]
Mattullath, Alice (Translator) Picchianti, Silvio (Lyricist)
For tenor and small orchestra. Poem by Silvio Picchianti. English translation by Alice Mattullath.
- b. 1 f. 17 **[Score for tenor and small orchestra]** (1 score (12 pages).)
ScoresSongs (High voice) with orchestra -- Scores
For tenor and small orchestra. Duration timing on title page: 3:25.
- b. 1 f. 18 **[Vocal score]** 1922 (1 vocal score (7 pages).)
Songs (High voice) with orchestra -- Vocal scores with pianoVocal scores
Score published by Composers' Music Corporation. English title on vocal score: The soldier's star.
- b. 1 f. 19 **Hold high the friendly lamp 1939** (1 vocal score (8 pages).)
Choruses, Secular (Mixed voices, 4 parts) with pianoVocal scoresErskine, Gladys Shaw, 1895- (Lyricist)
For mixed chorus (soprano, alto tenor bass) with piano accompaniment. Title page of vocal score reads: "For mixed voices and orchestra." Poem by Gladys Shaw Erskine. Dated: N.Y. June 1939.
Idillio pastorale =Pastoral idyl 1915
For orchestra. Timing written on scores: 5:30.
- b. 2 f. 1 **Partitura [score]** (1 score (36 pages). Although originally composed in 1915, this score probably dates from the 1920s or 1930s.)
Orchestral music -- ScoresScores
- b. 2 f. 2 **Partitura [score]** (1 score (36 pages). This score possibly dates from 1915 or a few years thereafter.)
Orchestral music -- ScoresScores
- b. 2 f. 3 **Parts** (12 parts for flute, oboe, 1st clarinet, 2nd clarinet, bassoon, 2 horns, harp, 1st violins, 2nd violins, violas, cello, double bass.)
Orchestral music -- PartsParts (Music)
In June 1937
McCarthy, Denis Aloysius, 1871-1931 (Lyricist)
Note on scores: Brooklyn, N.Y., March 31, 1937.

Series 1: Works composed by Sodero (cont.)
In June (cont.)

- b. 2 f. 4 **Score in original key** (1 score (6 pages).)
Songs with pianoSongsScores
Song. Original version in key of F major. Poem written as text on verso of title page. First line of text: The joys of June are many and the fears of June are few.
- b. 2 f. 5 **Score for low voice** (1 score (6 pages).)
SongsScoresSongs with piano
Song. Version for low voice in D major. Poem written as text on verso of title page.
- b. 2 f. 6 **Insomnia = Insomnia between 1930? and 1939? (1 score (10 pages).)**
Songs (High voice) with orchestra -- ScoresScoresMattullath, Alice (Translator)
For medium voice and orchestra. Poem by N.N. English translation by Alice Mattullath.
Text in Italian and English.
Invocation 1923
Casals, Pablo, 1876-1973 (Dedicatee)
For cello and piano. Dedicated to Pablo Casals.
- b. 2 f. 7 **Score and part** (1 score (9 pages) and 1 part (3 pages).)
ScoresParts (Music)Cello and piano music -- Scores and parts
Duration written on title page: 6:00.
- b. 2 f. 8 **Score** (1 score (9 pages).)
Cello and piano musicScores
Duration written on title page: 5:30.
- b. 2 f. 9 **Orchestral score** (1 score; [12] pages, paginated as: [1], 7, 2, [unnumbered verso of page 2 has fragmentary sketch], 3, 10, 6, 8, 4, 9, 5, 11, 12. Poor condition.)
Cello with orchestra, Arranged -- ScoresScores
- b. 2 f. 10 **Parts** (11 parts for flute, oboe, 1st clarinet, 2nd clarinet, "one horn," bassoon, "two 1st violins," "one 2nd violin," "one viola," cello and double bass.)
Parts (Music)Cello with orchestra, Arranged
- b. 2 f. 11 **Moonlight on the lake 1939? (1 score (5 pages).)**
Orchestral music -- ScoresScores
On title page: theme song. Published in 1939 by Carl Fischer Inc. with the title: Moonlight on the lake : an Indian idyl.
Nocturne 1939
Renzi, Paolo (Oboist) (Dedicatee)
For oboe or violin an small orchestra. Duration: about 6 minutes. Date on title page: N.Y., April, 1939. Dedication: for Paolo Renzi.
- b. 2 f. 12 **Partitura [Score]** (1 score (27 pages).)
Oboe with chamber orchestraScores
- b. 2 f. 13 **Parts** (14 parts for flute, oboe, clarinet, horn, bassoon, 1st violins [4 copies], 2nd violins [2 copies], violas, cellos, and double basses.)
Oboe with chamber orchestraParts (Music)
- b. 2 f. 14 **[Piano reduction with solo parts]** (1 score (11 pages) + 2 parts (3 pages each).
Manuscript.)
ScoresParts (Music)Oboe with chamber orchestra -- Solo with piano
Arranged for oboe (or violin) with piano accompaniment. Oboe part indicates alterations when solo part is performed by a violin.
- b. 2 f. 15 **[Reproductions]** (4 scores (9 pages each) and 3 parts (2 pages each).)
Oboe with chamber orchestra -- Solo with pianoParts (Music)
Contains onion skins of piano reduction (for reproduction), 3 copies of piano reduction, and 3 copies of oboe part.
- b. 2 f. 16 **Non sente amor! [1930?-1939?] (1 score (4 pages).)**
Songs with pianoSongsInglese, Giuseppe (Lyricist)
Song for medium voice and piano. Poem written as text on page [5].

Series 1: Works composed by Sodero (cont.)

- b. 2 f. 17 **Novelletta** [1910?-1929?] (1 score (5 pages).)
Piano musicScores
For piano. First leaf is torn.

- b. 2 f. 18 **Preludio appassionato** [1920?-1934?] (1 score (28 pages).)
Violin with orchestra -- ScoresScores
For violin and orchestra. Full score. Duration: 4:20.

Punchinello and the butterfly : a humorous episode 1938
For violin and small orchestra.

- b. 2 f. 19 **Partitura [score]** (1 score (18 pages). Duration written on title page: 1:30.)

- b. 2 f. 20 **Parts** (15 parts for 1st flute, 2nd flute/piccolo, oboe, 1st clarinet, 2nd clarinet, bassoon, horn, trumpet, 1st violins [3 copies], 2nd violins, violas, cellos, double basses. Manuscript.)

- b. 2 f. 21 **Tantum ergo** 1898 (1 score (6 pages).)
For baritone and piano. Date on title page: Napoli 1898. Composer's name signed as: "Cre. Sodero-Bartoli."

- b. 2 f. 22 **To a hurt child** 1944 (1 score (5 pages).)
Litchfield, Grace Denio, 1849-1944 (Lyricist)
For voice and piano. Poem by Grace Denio Litchfield. Dedication: For Corallina. Dated: Hope, Arkansas, July 3rd, 1944. Photostat.

Series 2: Works orchestrated by Sodero

- b. 2 f. 23 **Tarantella** [1937?] (1 score (38 pages).)
Thompson, Randall, 1899-1984 (Composer) Belloc, Hilaire, 1870-1953 (Lyricist)
For men's chorus and orchestra. Music by Randall Thompson, words by Hilaire Belloc.
Originally for men's chorus and piano; orchestration by Cesare Sodero. Original piano part pasted into orchestral score.