

Guide to the Anthony Strilko Papers, 1950-1991

JPB 06-63

Music Division

**The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts
New York, New York**

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Descriptive Summary

Title:	Anthony Strilko Papers
Collection ID:	JPB 06-63
Creator:	Strilko, Anthony
Extent:	20 linear feet (43 boxes)
Repository:	Music Division. The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts

Abstract:

Anthony Strilko was a noted American composer who worked primarily in song cycles and sacred music. His collection contains correspondence, programs, clippings, and primarily scores, both final and rough drafts.

Administrative Information

Access

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

Publication Rights

For permission to publish, contact the Curator, Music Division.

Preferred Citation

Anthony Strilko Papers, JPB 06-63, Music Division, The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts.

Processing Information

The collection was processed and cataloged in 2007.

Biographical Note

Anthony Strilko was born on July 4, 1931 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. When Strilko was in his teens, he moved to Manhattan to attend Juilliard, where he eventually earned a B.S. and M.S. in Composition. He was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship that enabled him to attend the Paris Conservatory. While in Paris he studied with Darius Milhaud. Strilko received many awards in his youth, including a Fromm Foundation Award, an Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge Prize, and the Joseph H. Bearns Prize from Columbia University.

In a New York Times survey of prominent composers in 1957, Strilko was declared a “young hopeful”. Over the course of his career, he composed hundreds of works, primarily consisting of chamber music and sacred and secular choral works. Over the years, Strilko’s compositions were performed in Damrosch Park, the Lincoln Center, the Kennedy Center, and Carnegie Hall.

In addition to composing, Strilko directed Apollo Music Services, a music preparation company that provided editing and copyist services for composers. His clients included Leonard Bernstein, Elliot Carter, and David Diamond. He was also the musical coordinator to the Rebekah Harkness Foundation, William Schuman, and the Martha Graham Dance Company.

Strilko was interested in the spiritualist movement, and composed several works for spiritualist Christian churches. He died on June 22, 2000 at the age of 68 as a result of lung cancer.

Scope and Content Note

The Anthony Strilko Papers contain documents from 1950-1991. The collection primarily consists of Strilko’s scores, which include many drafts and revisions to each work. Strilko often used classical poetry as a basis for his compositions. His scores also include many sacred works commissioned for various churches across the country. He also enjoyed composing lengthy studies and song cycles, including his *Verses* series and his *Experiment in Beauty*. The majority of his compositions date from his most prolific periods, between 1960 and 1970. Correspondence, programs, research, and business records are also represented within the collection, but there is little of a personal nature.

Organization

The collection is organized into 6 series. They are:

Series I: Correspondence, 1957-1986

Series II: Business Records, 1960-1980

Series III: Programs and Clippings, 1950-1991

Series IV: Research Materials, 1960-1980

Series V: Scores, 1955-1991

Series VI: Oversized Materials, 1959-1990

Series Descriptions

Series I: Correspondence, 1957-1986

1 box

Arrangement: Alphabetical

Correspondence includes personal and business related letters, often dealing with commissioned work. The most common topic is discussion of performance arrangements, especially in cases where Strilko was unable to be in attendance.

Series II: Business Records, 1960-1980

1 box

Arrangement: Alphabetical

Business records contain financial materials relating to publishing, payment for commissions and Apollo Music Services, Strilko's transcription business. These include client records and contracts.

Series III: Programs and Clippings, 1950-1991

1 box

Arrangement: Chronological

Programs and Clippings includes programs, reviews, and newspaper clippings pertaining to performances of Strilko's work. These include performances where Strilko was present and performing, and also those where he was not in attendance but his work was performed.

Series IV: Research Materials, 1960-1980

1 box

Arrangement: Alphabetical

Research Materials contain various articles, poems, and source materials put together by Strilko while researching background for various compositions. This series mainly consists of poetry samples and information on spiritualist séances, which he used as a basis for several of his works.

Series V: Scores, 1955-1991

25 boxes

Arrangement: Alphabetical

The scores series contains compositions by Strilko, both published and in draft form, many with hand corrections. The bulk of the scores are unpublished, and many are simply sketches of unfinished projects.

Series VI: Oversized Materials, 1959-1990

11 boxes

Arrangement: Alphabetical

Oversized materials include scores and drafts in oversized formats.

Series I: Correspondence, 1957-1986

<u>Box</u>	<u>Fol</u>	
1	1	Anseindig, Mark, 1966
	2	ASCAP, undated
	3	Bean, Calvert, 1971
	4	Block, Suzanne, undated
	5	Bogradus, Edgar, 1961-1975
	6	Broido, Arnold, 1984
	7	Brozen, Milton, undated
	8	Cohen, Helen, undated
	9	Copland, Aaron, undated
	10	Cox, Ainslee, undated
	11	Culp, Jimmy, undated
	12	Department of State, 1957
	13	Diamond, David, undated
	14	Earnest, John David, 1986
	15	Feist, Milton, undated
	16	Gould, Walter, 1972
	17	Hancock, Gerre, undated
	18	Hoiby, Lee, undated
	19	Hunsberger, Donald, undated
	20	Husa, Karel, 1976
	21	Kinnel, Galway, undated
	22	Larsson, Raymond, undated
	23	Leonard, Lotte, 1965
	24	MCA Music, 1970
	25	Perry, Ronald, undated
	26	Rogers, John, 1972
	27	Schumann, William, undated
	28	Spencer, Nancy, undated
	29	Staplin, Boyd, undated
	30	Stone, Kurt, 1964
	31	Strilky, Maurice, undated

32	Sweeney, John, 1974
33	Villamil, Victoria, undated
34	Wagner, Gerald, undated
35	Wexler, Daniel, 1968
36	Wyton, Alec, 1971

Series II: Business Records, 1960-1980

<u>Box</u>	<u>Fol</u>	
2	1	Amberson Enterprises, 1961-1975
	2	Apollo Music Services, 1960-1980
	3	Apollo Music Services - Client Records, 1970-1980
	4	Comissions, undated
	5	Fundraising, undated
	6	Green Rubber Band, 1968
	7	Performance Requests, 1961-1978
	8	Publishing Contracts, 1963-1975
	9	Verses I and II Finances, undated

Series III: Programs and Clippings, 1950-1991

<u>Box</u>	<u>Fol</u>	
3	1	1950-1955
	2	1956-1959
	3	1960-1969
	4	1970-1979
	5	1980-1991

Series IV: Research Materials, 1960-1980

<u>Box</u>	<u>Fol</u>	
4	1	<i>The Cry of the Nymph to Eros</i>
	2	<i>David's Harp</i>
	3	<i>Letters From Children</i>
	4	National Association of Negro Musicians
	5	Poetry samples
	6	Seance instructions
	7	Spiritualism materials
	8	<i>Verses Set I</i>
	9	<i>Verses Set II</i>

Series V: Scores, 1955-1991

<u>Box</u>	<u>Fol</u>	
5	1	<i>Adorations</i> (for Martha Graham ballet)
	2	<i>Ah! Sunflower</i> , 1990 (rough sketches)
	3	<i>America: Three Episodes for Orchestra</i> , undated
	4	<i>The Ancient Hill</i> , undated (for voice and piano)
	5	<i>Apollo</i> , undated (pencil sketch)
		<i>Auguries of Innocence</i> , undated (for soprano and orchestra)
	6	bassoon
	7	cello
	8	clarinet

	9	flute
	10	oboe
	11	percussion
	12	piano
	13	trumpet
6	1	tuba
	2	violin
	3	<i>The Ballad of the Harp-Weaver</i> , undated (onionskin)
	4	<i>The Black Boy</i> , undated (work sheets)
	5	<i>Blow Northern Wind</i> , undated (rough drafts and sketches)
	6	<i>Both Winds</i> , undated (drafts)
7	1	<i>The Canal Bank</i> , 1962 (published version, for voice and piano)
		<i>Canticle to Apollo</i> , undated
	2	onionskin draft (onionskin)
	3	published version
	4	<i>Carol</i> , undated (rough sketch)
		<i>Carol of the Animals</i> , undated
	5	onionskin draft
	6	published reproduction
	7	<i>Carol of the Winter Bird</i> , undated (onionskin)
		<i>To Celebrate the Summer Solstice</i> , undated
	8	draft onionskin
	9	holograph score
	10	<i>Chanson d'Autumne</i> , undated (reproduction)
	11	<i>Le Chat</i> , undated (reproduction)
	12	<i>Chester</i> , undated (revisions and drafts)
	13	<i>The Child</i> , 1968 (For voice and piano, onionskin draft)
	14	<i>Child of God</i> , undated (rough sketch)
8	1	<i>Cinquains</i> , undated (early sketch)
	2	<i>The Clod and the Pebble</i> , undated (sketches and revisions)
	3	<i>Cortege</i> , undated (pen and ink draft)
		<i>Crooked Heart</i> , undated (For voice and piano)
	4	holograph score
	5	onionskin sketch
	6	<i>Cupid and the Bee</i> , undated (onionskin)
	7	<i>Dear Mom and Dad</i> , undated (pencil sketch)
	8	<i>The Divine Image</i> , undated (for voice and piano)
	9	<i>Epitaph</i> , undated (onionskin)
		<i>Experiment in Beauty</i> , 1964
9	1	early song sampler
	2	early marked draft
	3	early second draft
	4	final draft with pencil corrections
	5	final draft
10	1	full score
	2	guitar

- 3 organ
- 4 percussion
- 5 piano
- 11 1 *Far Away*, undated (onionskin)
- 2 *The Fiddler's Son*, undated (sketches)
- 3 *Finale*, undated (pencil sketch)
- 4 *The First Warm Day*, 1972 (sketches in parts)
- 5 *Flower Stories*, undated (onionskin)
- 6 *For Lynn Owen*, undated (pencil sketch)
- 7 *Frank the Prophet*, 1972 (parts and revisions)
- From Autumn's Thrilling Tomb*, 1967
- 8 pencil sketches
- 9 reproductions
- 12 1 *The Garden of Love*, 1978
- 2 *The Golden Net*, undated (reproduction)
- 3 *Happy Birthday for Adelle*, undated (pencil sketch)
- 4 *Hermes*, 1974 (piano/vocal score)
- 5 *Hermes Interlude*, undated (rough pencil sketch)
- 6 *The High Valley*, undated (pencil sketch)
- 7 *Hole*, 1970 (parts with revisions)
- Holy Art Thou*, 1985
- 8 holograph
- 9 onionskin with revisions
- 10 *How Does One Know*, undated (pencil sketches)
- 11 *How Great Thou Art*, undated (reproduction)
- 12 *Hush, Tom*, undated (reproductions)
- 13 1 *If I Were A Bird Tonight*, 1973 (reproduction)
- 2 *In Grey Light Running Wild*, 1968
- onionskin
- 3 published copy
- 4 rough draft
- 5 *In Memoriam*, 1976 (draft with revisions)
- 6 *Introduction*, undated (pencil sketches)
- A Journey*, undated - parts
- 7 all parts
- 8 cello
- 9 clarinet
- 10 harp
- 11 piano
- 12 percussion
- 14 1 voice
- 2 variations and drafts
- 3 *Joyful Noise*, undated (pencil sketch)
- 4 *Joyful Sunday*, undated (pencil sketch)
- 5 *Kol Nidrey*, undated (pencil sketch)
- 15 1 *Lantern in the Snow*, undated (pencil sketch)

	2	<i>Like a Leaf</i> , 1972 (parts)
	3	<i>Lines from Shelley</i> , undated (onionskin original)
		<i>Litany to the Holy Spirit</i> , undated
	4	onionskin original
	5	pencil sketch
	6	reproduction
		<i>Little Elegy</i> , undated
	7	holograph
	8	onionskin
	9	reproductions
	10	transposed for medium voice
		<i>Mantras</i> , undated
	11	onionskin
	12	rough pen and ink draft
		<i>March and Funeral Music</i> , 1963
	13	draft
	14	onionskin
		<i>The Meditation of Hermes Trismegistis</i> , undated
16	1	all parts - section 1
	2	all parts - section 2
17	1	bassoon
	2	cello
	3	clarinet
	4	french horn
	5	harp
	6	oboe
	7	trombone
	8	trumpet
	9	viola
	10	violin
		<i>A Miracle</i> , 1972
18	1	revisions
	2	sketches
	3	<i>Miracle of the Roses</i> , undated (handwritten score)
	4	<i>Miracle Sun</i> (reproduction)
		<i>Music for Oboe Alone</i> , 1969
	5	pencil sketch
	6	published version
		<i>Music for Oboe and Piano</i> , undated
	7	onionskin
	8	pen and ink copy
		<i>Music for Violin and Piano</i> , undated
	9	draft
	10	onionskin
	11	revised pencil score
		<i>My Babe Would Not Sleep</i> , 1982

	12	draft
	13	onionskin copy
	14	published reproduction
	15	<i>My Bird</i> , 1972 (rough sketches)
19	1	<i>Nata Nobis</i> , undated (onionskin)
	2	<i>Night</i> , undated (pencil sketch)
	3	<i>Noel II</i> , undated (pencil sketch)
		<i>Nowell</i> , 1982
	4	alto II revisions
	5	onionskin
	6	published copy
	7	<i>Oboe Music for Hillary</i> , 1978 (pen and ink sketch)
	8	<i>On This Tree</i> , undated (holograph score)
	9	<i>One</i> , undated (vocal score)
	10	<i>Ophelia</i> , undated (onionskin)
		<i>Our Father</i> , undated
	11	draft
	12	reproduction
	13	Overture for Orchestra, undated
20	1	<i>Pandora</i> , undated (rough drafts and sketches)
		<i>The Path Toward the High Valley</i> , 1993
	2	onionskin
	3	pencil score
	4	voice and piano
	5	<i>Il Pleur dans mon Coeur</i> , undated (onionskin)
		<i>Point Charles</i> , 1985
	6	final draft
	7	pencil sketch
	8	<i>A Poison Tree</i> , undated (pencil sketch)
		<i>The Red Rose</i> , undated
	9	onionskin
	10	pencil score
	11	work score
		<i>Ringo Dingo</i> , 1973
	12	handwritten draft
	13	published version
	14	<i>Rivers of My Hand</i> , 1972 (revisions)
	15	<i>Rose in Snow</i> , undated (pencil sketches)
		<i>Run Away Tom</i> , 1972
	16	conductor's score
	17	parts with revisions
21	1	<i>Sailinti</i> , undated (rough sketch)
	2	<i>Samuel Nelly</i> , 1970 (reproduction with revisions)
		<i>Sea Harp</i> , undated
	3	pencil sketch
	4	reproduction

- 5 *The Setting Sun*, undated (onionskin)
 Seven Choruses from 16th Century Elizabethan Texts, 1962
- 6 onionskin
- 7 onionskin reproduction
- 8 published, for mixed voice a capella
- 9 reproduction, published for mixed voice a capella
- 10 *Shema*, undated (rough pencil sketch)
 Shepherd Songs, 1973
- 11 first pencil sketch
- 12 pencil revisions
- 13 voice and piano score
- 22 1 *The Silent Minority*, 1970 (parts with revisions)
- 2 *Sing Hello, Sing Goodbye*, undated (onionskin)
 Six Simple Songs of Cats, Men and Angels, undated
- 3 draft with pencil corrections
- 4 onionskin draft
- 5 original final copy
- Something for Everybody*, 1975
- 6 file copy
- 7 pencil sketch
- 8 published for three part chorus
- Sonata for Piano*, undated
- 9 onionskin
- 10 original pen and ink draft
- 11 *Sonata for Piano #2*, undated (pencil sketch)
 Song for the Full Moon, 1973
- 12 holograph score
- 13 reproduction
- Songs from "Markings"*, 1977
- 14 low key setting
- 15 pencil sketch
- 23 1 *Spindrift*, 1974
- 2 for medium voice and piano
- 3 reproduction with marked changes
- 4 reproduction updated with revisions
- 5 vocal score
- 6 *The Spirit of '76*, undated (pencil sketch)
 Spring, 1972
- 7 parts with revisions
- 8 pencil sketch
- 9 *Spring in Central Park*, undated (onionskin)
 String Quartet, undated
- 10 final pen and ink draft
- 11 first draft, pencil
- 12 onionskin
- 13 reproductions

24	1	<i>There Is No Death</i> , undated (onionskin)
		<i>This Dance of Ours</i> , 1970
	2	final draft, for piano and voice
	3	parts
	4	sketches
		<i>Three Cinquains</i> , 1955
	5	published, for soprano and mixed chorus
	6	revisions
		<i>Three Songs to Far Eastern Poems</i> , undated
	7	draft
	8	onionskin reproduction
		<i>Tidings of Peace</i> , undated
	9	early draft
	10	onionskin
	11	soprano and mixed orchestra - final
		<i>Tranquil Music for Organ</i> , 1957
	12	onionskin
	13	pencil sketch
	14	published version
	15	<i>Trumpet Music for Turk</i> , undated (draft)
	16	<i>Tunes of Joy</i> , 1968 (rough sketch)
	17	<i>Veni Emmanuel</i> , undated (for organ)
25	1-5	Untitled Manuscripts (drafts and sketches without identification)
26	1-4	Untitled Manuscripts
		<i>Verses, Set I</i> , 1981
27	1	draft
	2	onionskin
		parts
	3	bassoon
	4	clarinet
	5	flute
	6	french horn
	7	oboe
	8	saxophone
	9	trumpet
		<i>Verses, Set II</i> , undated
		parts
28	1	clarinet
	2	flute
	3	french horn
	4	oboe
	5	saxophone
	6	tuba
	7	pencil sketches
	8	reproduction
		<i>Verses, Set III</i> , undated

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| 29 | 1 | onionskin |
| | 2 | rough sketches |
| | | <i>Verses, Set VI</i> , undated |
| | 3 | draft with corrections |
| | 4 | onionskin |
| | 5 | pencil sketches |
| | 6 | reproduction |
| | | <i>Verses, Set VII</i> , undated |
| | 7 | reproductions |
| | 8 | work score |

Series VI: Oversized Materials, 1959-1990

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| | | <i>The Cry of the Nymph to Eros</i> , undated |
| 30 | 1 | drafts |
| | 2 | full score |
| | 3 | orchestral score |
| | 4 | parts |
| | 5 | vocal score |
| | | <i>From the Pickering Manuscript</i> , 1990 |
| 31 | 1 | final draft |
| | 2 | onionskin |
| | 3 | rough sketches |
| | | <i>Lamentations and Songs of Praise</i> , 1978 |
| 32 | 1 | drafts |
| | 2 | onionskin |
| | | parts |
| | 3 | bassoon |
| | 4 | clarinet |
| | 5 | flute |
| | 6 | french horn |
| | 7 | oboe |
| | 8 | percussion |
| | 9 | piccolo |
| | 10 | saxophone |
| | 11 | trombone/tuba |
| 33 | 1 | reproductions |
| | 2 | reproductions with pen revisions |
| | | <i>The Last Puppet</i> , undated |
| 34 | 1 | draft with revisions |
| | 2 | first draft with corrections |
| | 3 | onionskin libretto |
| | 4 | vocal score |
| | | <i>Letters from Children</i> , 1978 |
| 35 | 1 | draft with marked revisions |
| | 2 | original unrevised score |
| | 3 | reproductions |
| | 4 | sketches for vibraphone |

		<i>The Meditation of Hermes Trismegistis</i> , undated
36	1	draft
	2	onionskin draft with revisions
	3	work score
	4	work score with pencil corrections
		<i>Music for Violincello and Piano</i> , undated
37	1	reproductions
	2	sketches
		<i>Overture for Orchestra</i> , 1959
38	1	orchestral score
	2	orchestral score with revisions
	3	reproductions
		<i>Songs of Innocence</i> , 1960
39	1	original draft
	2	revised copies
	3	sketches
40	1-18	Untitled sketches
		<i>Verses Set I</i>
41	1	full score with corrections
	2	full score with final revisions
	3	onionskin score
	4	percussion sections
42	1-3	<i>Verses Set II</i> , full score
		<i>William Blake's Garden</i> , undated
43	1	onionskin, for voice and piano
	2	reproductions
	3	sketches