The Duane A. Davidson Papers

MSS 17

Compiled by Adrienne Nesnow

December 1979
Revised: 2010-01-26

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Overview

REPOSITORY: Irving S. Gilmore Music Library, Yale University
P.O. Box 208240
120 High Street
New Haven, CT
06520-8240
Email: musiclibrary@yale.edu
Phone: (203) 432-0492
Fax: (203) 432-7339

CALL NUMBER: MSS 17

CREATOR: Duane A. Davidson

TITLE: The Duane A. Davidson Papers

DATES: 1955-1977 (inclusive)

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 6 boxes (4 linear feet)

LANGUAGE(S): Materials chiefly in English.

SUMMARY: Music, correspondence and other papers, and photographs by the American composer Duane A. Davidson (1934 or 1935-1964)

FINDING AID LINK: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, use the following address: http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/music.mss.0017.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The Duane A. Davidson Papers were established in the Music Library of Yale University in 1976 by Davidson's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harley Davidson (no relation to the motorcycle manufacturer).

Information about Access

The Papers are open to researchers by appointment. There are no restricted materials in the collection. Please contact the Special Collections staff to schedule an appointment.

Ownership & Copyright

The Duane A. Davidson Papers are the physical property of the Irving S. Gilmore Music Library of Yale University. Copyrights belong to the composers and authors, or their legal heirs and assigns.

Cite As

Biographical Sketch

Duane A. Davidson was born in Rural Retreat, Virginia in 1934 or 1935. He earned a B.A. from Emory and Henry College in Virginia, and a master's degree in music in 1960 from Yale, where he was a student of Quincy Porter. His further studies included lessons with Leon Kirchner at Tanglewood in 1960. Davidson received awards for several of his works. In 1953 he was named the outstanding young composer during Pan American week. *Psalm 150* won for him the Block Award, and in June 1960 he gained first prize in the Queen Elizabeth International Contest of the Wind Music Society in London. His *Jazz Implications* won first prize in the Composer's Competition in London in June 1960, and was premiered on the BBC. His works have been performed in London, Rome, Graz, Tanglewood, and Middlebury College in Vermont. Duane Davidson died in Washington, D.C. in December 1964.

Description of the Papers

The Duane A. Davidson Papers contain sketches, manuscript scores, and published editions of Davidson's musical works, including orchestral music, chamber works, piano pieces, songs, and choral music. Davidson's life and work are further documented by: programs, press releases, and reviews; correspondence with Quincy Porter; writings by Davidson; and sound recordings.

Arrangement

In 2 series as follows: I. Miscellaneous items. II. Musical works of Duane A. Davidson.
I. Miscellaneous items

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Davidson, Duane A. 3 items</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2 autograph letters signed, to Quincy Porter 1960 Jun 8, 1960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1 typed letter signed, to Quincy Porter 1960</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Reviews of Davidson's works, photocopies 1963-1976</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8 items</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Press releases, brief biographies, in part, photocopies 1965-1976</td>
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<tr>
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<td>4 items</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Photographs of presentation of 52 of Duane's manuscripts by Harley Davidson (father) to Dean Philip Nelson of the Yale University School of Music 1976 Nov 18</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5 items</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Programs including Davidson's works, in part, photocopies 1958-1977</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>16 items</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Davidson, Duane A. Reflections of Duane A. Davidson c1966</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 item</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>(poetry)</td>
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**II. Musical works of Duane A. Davidson**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1   | 7      | Petite Pièce 1955 Mar 3 items  
|     |        | Holograph signed, in ink, score.  
|     |        | Holograph signed, in ink, score.  
|     |        | Holograph signed, in ink, in part photocopies, parts, 2 copies. |
| 1   | 8      | Three Songs for Gabrielle 1955 Dec 2 items  
|     |        | Holograph signed, in ink and pencil, piano-vocal score.  
|     |        | Photocopy of above. |
| 1   | 9      | Introduction - Berceuse and Rondino 1956 Jul 8 7 items  
|     |        | Holograph signed, in pencil, for horn and piano [originally entitled Suite No. 2: I. Prelude, II. Berceuse, III. Rondino]  
|     |        | Prelude for horn and piano.  
|     |        | Berceuse for oboe and piano, 2 copies.  
|     |        | Berceuse, oboe part.  
|     |        | Holograph signed, in ink, for horn and piano.  
|     |        | Photocopy of holograph signed, horn part. |
| 1   | 10     | Sonatine for oboe and piano 1956 Jul 3 items  
|     |        | Holograph in pencil.  
|     |        | Photocopy of above, 2 copies. |
| 1   | 11     | Summer Day 1957 Jan 9 1 item  
|     |        | Holograph signed, in pencil, piano-vocal score. |
| 1   | 12     | Pretense 1957 Jan 10 2 items  
|     |        | Holograph signed, in pencil, piano-vocal score.  
|     |        | Photocopy of above. |
| 1   | 13     | Sonata for horn and piano 1957 Aug 1 item  
|     |        | Holograph signed, in ink. |
| 1   | 14     | Divertissement en Fa 1957 1 item  
<p>|     |        | Holograph signed, in pencil, for oboe, horn, and bassoon. |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
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<th>Description</th>
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</table>
| 1   | 15     | Cantata No. 1: Melora's Song 1958 Sep  
5 items  
Holograph signed, in ink and pencil, for soprano, woodwinds, and piano.  
Holograph signed, in ink, for soprano, woodwind quintet, and piano.  
Vocal score for rehearsal only photocopy of signed holograph.  
Photocopy of above.  
Holograph signed, in pencil, sketch. |
| 1   | 16     | Cantata No. 1: Song from a Green Hill [substitute lyrics]  
2 items  
Holograph signed, in ink and pencil.  
Photocopy of above. |
| 1   | 17     | String Quartet No. 1 1958 Dee 31  
4 items  
Holograph signed, in pencil.  
Photocopy of holograph signed, parts.  
Holograph in pencil, sketch  
Photocopy of holograph signed, with note about revisions in score dated 1960 Apr. |
| 1   | 18     | Fugue in C Minor  
3 items  
Holograph signed, in ink, for keyboard instrument. |
| 1   | 18     | Little Fugue in C Minor 1958  
Holograph signed, in pencil, for string quartet.  
Photocopy, parts. |
| 1   | 19     | Introduction - Song and Parody 1958  
3 items  
Holograph, signed in ink and pencil, for harp and bassoon.  
Holograph in pencil.  
Parts, original and photocopy reduction of bassoon, and photocopy reduction of manuscript for harp only. |
| 2   | 1      | Danse Rituelle 1959 Jan  
1 item  
Holograph signed, in pencil, 4 hands. |
| 2   | 2      | The West Wind 1959 Jan  
3 items  
Holograph signed, in ink, piano-vocal score.  
Photocopy of above.  
Holograph in pencil, sketch. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
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<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| 2   | 3      | Madrigal 1959 Mar 7  
3 items  
Holograph signed in pencil, for chorus, unaccompanied.  
Holograph signed in ink, for chorus (SATB), unaccompanied.  
Photocopy of above. |
| 2   | 4-5    | Jazz Implications 1959 Apr  
7 items  
Holograph signed, in ink and pencil, for band.  
Holograph signed, in ink, for band, 2 copies.  
Holograph signed in ink, parts, 3 copies, in part, photocopies.  
Holograph in pencil, sketch. |
| 2   | 6-8    | Cantata No. 2: Journey of Paradoxes 1959 Oct 17  
11 items  
Holograph signed in pencil, piano-vocal score.  
Holograph signed, in ink, for soprano and orchestra, 5 copies, in part, photocopies.  
Holograph in ink, parts, 3 copies.  
Holograph in pencil. |
| 3   | 1      | Fugue in F Minor 1959 Oct 17  
6 items  
Holograph signed, in pencil, for keyboard instrument.  
Photocopy reduction of above.  
Manuscript, in pencil, for woodwind quartet.  
Photocopy reduction of above.  
Parts, for woodwind quartet, 2 copies. |
| 3   | 2      | Sonata, piano, no. 1 1960 Jan  
3 items  
Holograph signed, in ink.  
Photocopy reduction of above.  
Holograph signed in pencil, sketch. |
| 6   | 1      | Introduction and Dance No. 1 1960 Mar  
3 items  
Holograph signed in ink and pencil, score.  
Holograph in ink, score.  
Holograph in pencil, sketch. |
| 3   | 3      | Introduction and Dance 1960 Aug  
2 items  
Holograph signed, in ink, score. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
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<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| 3   | 4      | Psalm 150: Hallelujah 1960 Nov  
*3 items*  
Holograph signed, in ink, for chorus (SATB), unaccompanied.  
Photocopy of above.  
Photocopy of holograph, sketch. |
| 3   | 5      | Le 14 Juillet no date  
*3 items*  
Holograph signed, in ink, fantasy for piano.  
"To Gérard, bonne chance pour '59-'60, Duane"--verso of title page.  
Photocopy of above.  
Holograph in ink, sketch. |
| 3   | 6-9    | Cantata No. 3: The Execution 1961  
*13 items*  
Holograph signed, in pencil, for soprano, tenor, chorus of 4 alto voices, and chamber orchestra.  
Holograph signed, in ink, of above.  
Photocopy of above.  
Holograph signed, in ink, rehearsal reduction for 2 pianos.  
Holograph signed, in ink, vocal parts, orchestra reduction, 5 copies, in part, photocopies.  
Holograph signed, in ink, parts.  
Photocopies of above.  
Holograph in ink and pencil, sketch.  
Holograph and typescript, synopsis of scenes. |
| 4   | 1-3    | Stravaganza I 1961  
*10 items*  
Holograph signed, in ink, for trombone and orchestra.  
Holograph signed, in ink, for trombone and orchestra, revised version, 2 copies.  
Holograph signed, in ink, piano reduction.  
Holograph signed, in ink, solo trombone part, 3 copies, in part, photocopies.  
Holograph signed, in ink, parts.  
Manuscript in ink, parts, some duplicates, in part, photocopies.  
Holograph in pencil, sketches. |
| 4   | 4      | Berceuse for Ann and Child 1962 Jan 3  
*3 items*  
Holograph signed, in ink, score.  
Parts, 2 copies, in part, photocopies. |
## II. Musical works of Duane A. Davidson

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
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</tr>
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</table>
| 4   | 5      | Choreographies 1962  
3 items  
Photocopy of holograph signed, a concerto for oboe and orchestra, score.  
Holograph in ink and pencil, sketch of movement I.  
Holograph in ink and pencil, sketch of movements I and II. |
| 4   | 6-7    | Psalm 23 1962-1964  
6 items  
Holograph signed, in ink, for chorus (SATB) and piano.  
Photocopy of above.  
Holograph signed in pencil, for chorus (SATB) and orchestra, score.  
Photocopy of above. |
| 4   | 6-7    | Chorale, Introduction and Psalm  
Holograph signed, in ink, for chorus (SATB) and orchestra, score [his Psalm 23]  
Holograph, in part, signed, in part photocopies, parts. |
| 5   | 1-3    | French Suite for Small Orchestra 1964  
5 items  
Holograph signed, in ink, score.  
Photocopy of above.  
Holograph in ink, in part, signed, in part photocopies, parts. Some duplicates.  
Holograph in pencil, score.  
Photocopy of holograph of score. |
| 5   | 4      | Cantata No. 4: The Queen's Marie no date  
3 items  
Holograph in ink, score, incomplete.  
Photocopy of above.  
Holograph in pencil, sketch. |
| 5   | 5      | Composition exercises no date  
16 items  
Holographs in ink and pencil. |
| 5   | 6      | Joanna no date  
2 items  
Holograph in ink, synopsis of opera in 3 acts.  
Holograph in ink and pencil, various sketches. |
| 5   | 7      | Psalm 100 no date  
1 item  
Holograph in pencil, sketch. |
II. Musical works of Duane A. Davidson

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 5   | 8      | Quartet for Woodwinds no date  
1 item  
Photocopy of score. |
| 5   | 9      | Sketches no date  
1 item  
Holographs in ink and pencil, various sketches. |
| 5   | 10     | String Quartet No. 2 no date  
1 item  
Photocopy of score. |
| 5   | 11     | Theme and Variations no date  
1 item  
For woodwind quintet, photocopy of parts. |
| 5   | 12     | Various sketched and libretti no date  
16 items  
In part, holographs in ink and pencil. |
| 6   |        | Tapes of performances of selected musical works of Duane A. Davidson.  
5 items |
| 6   |        | Jazz Implications 1977 Feb 24-25  
U.S. Naval Academy Band, Lt. John R, Bledsoe, USN, conductor, 7.5 IPS. |
| 6   |        | Instrumental works  
Piano sonata, String Quartet No. 1, Sonatina for Oboe and Piano, Sonata for Trombone and Piano, 7.5 IPS, 2 copies. |
| 6   |        | Choral works  
Chorale and Psalm 23, Madrigal, Cantata No. 1, Cantata No. 2, 2 copies. |
Access Terms

Davidson, Duane A. (Duane Andrew), 1934-1964.
Porter, Quincy, 1897-1966.
Music--United States--20th century.
Composers--Correspondence.
Cantatas, Secular--Scores.
Piano music.
Songs.
String quartets--Scores.