

# The Blake Stern Papers

Misc. Ms. 307



1996-2007

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PO Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520  
(203) 432-0497

[musicspecialcollections@yale.edu](mailto:musicspecialcollections@yale.edu)

<https://guides.library.yale.edu/MusicSpecialCollections>

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## Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	3
Requesting Instructions .....	3
Administrative Information .....	3
Conditions Governing Access .....	3
Conditions Governing Use .....	3
Preferred Citation .....	4
Biographical / Historical .....	4
Scope and Contents .....	4
Arrangement .....	4
Collection Contents .....	5
Series I: Correspondence .....	5
Subseries I.A: From others to Blake Stern .....	5
Subseries I.B: Correspondence regarding Blake Stern .....	5
Series II: Programs .....	6
Series III: Scrapbook and clippings .....	7
Series IV: Miscellaneous .....	8
Series V: Photographs .....	9
Selected Search Terms .....	10

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Gilmore Music Library  
120 High Street  
PO Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520  
(203) 432-0497  
musicspecialcollections@yale.edu  
<https://guides.library.yale.edu/MusicSpecialCollections>

**CALL NUMBER:** Misc. Ms. 307

**CREATOR:** Stern, Blake

**TITLE:** The Blake Stern Papers

**DATES:** 1938-1985

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 3.5 linear feet (5 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** Materials chiefly in English.

**SUMMARY:** Programs, clippings, photographs, awards, posters, and correspondence by and about the American singer and teacher Blake Stern (1917-1987)

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/music.misc.0307>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use on site, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/music.misc.0307>.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b.      box  
f.      folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open to researchers by appointment. There are no restricted materials in the collection. Please contact the [Special Collections staff](#) to schedule an appointment.

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### Conditions Governing Use

The collection is 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.

## Preferred Citation

Misc. Ms. 307, The Blake Stern Papers in the Irving S. Gilmore Music Library of Yale University.

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## Biographical / Historical

The tenor Blake Stern was born in Iowa in 1917. In 1940 he earned a bachelor's degree from Grinnell College. He served in the Navy during World War II, and then continued his education at the Juilliard School, where he studied with Julius Herford and Mack Harrell, receiving the M.S. in 1950. After teaching at the University of Minnesota, he joined the faculty of the Yale School of Music in 1955; he remained there for 32 years. Stern was best known as an oratorio singer. He performed with many leading orchestras and conductors in America and around the world. He died Logan, Iowa on December 22, 1987, just six months after his retirement from Yale.

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## Scope and Contents

This collection documents the career of tenor and Yale faculty member Blake Stern. The collection holds a large number of programs and clippings related to Stern's performances, as well as photographs, awards, posters, and a small number of letters.

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## Arrangement

In 5 series as follows: I. Correspondence. II. Programs. III. Scrapbook and clippings. IV. Miscellaneous. V. Photographs.

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## Collection Contents

Inventory

b. 1, f. 1

### Series I: Correspondence

#### Subseries I.A: From others to Blake Stern

b. 1, f. 2	Dr. Walter S. Collins (Dean, Michigan State University)	1 Aug. 1968
b. 1, f. 2	Judith Liegner	2 Jan. 1968
b. 1, f. 2	Klaus Liepmann	23 Oct. 1967
b. 1, f. 2	Klaus Liepmann	1 Dec. 1967

#### Subseries I.B: Correspondence regarding Blake Stern

b. 1, f. 2	From Dr. Walter S. Collins to Luther Noss	7 Aug. 1968
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**Series II: Programs**

b. 1, f. 3	1938-1949	1938-1949
b. 1, f. 4	1950-1957	1950-1957
b. 1, f. 5	1958-1959	1958-1959
b. 1, f. 6	1960-1962	1960-1962
b. 1, f. 7	1963-1964	1963-1964
b. 1, f. 8	1965-1967	1965-1967
b. 2, f. 9	1968-1969	1968-1969
b. 2, f. 10	1970-1972	1970-1972
b. 2, f. 11	1973-1979	1973-1979
b. 2, f. 12	1980-1985	1980-1985
b. 2, f. 13	dated, but lacks year	dated, but lacks year

**Series III: Scrapbook and clippings**

Clippings were copied onto acid-free paper and the originals discarded.

b. 2, f. 14	Clippings	1940s
b. 2, f. 15	Clippings	1950s
b. 2, f. 16	Clippings	1960s
b. 2, f. 17	Clippings	1970s-1980s
b. 2, f. 18	Clippings	no date
b. 3, f. 19	Scrapbook from the Anchorage Festival of Music	1956

**Series IV: Miscellaneous**

b. 2, f. 20	Publicity materials 2 advertisements, 15 typescript pages of review excerpts.	
b. 2, f. 21	Song translations <i>2 songs : 4 p., 5 p.</i>	
b. 3, f. 22	Diploma, Yale University	1969
b. 3, f. 23	Alumni Award, Grinnell College	1960
b. 4	Posters of Stern performances <i>12 items</i>	



## Series V: Photographs

b. 5, f. 24      Stern portraits with negatives, no. 1-11

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b. 5, f. 25      Stern portraits, no negatives, no. 12-26

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b. 5, f. 26      Group pictures, no. 27-32

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## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Subjects**

Singers -- United States

### **Names**

Stern, Blake