

# Guide to the AXA Equitable Life Insurance Company Papers relating to Charles Ives

MSS 149



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

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## Collection Overview

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

**CALL NUMBER:** MSS 149

**CREATOR:** Ives, Charles, 1874-1954

**TITLE:** The AXA Equitable Life Insurance Company Papers Related to Charles Ives

**DATES:** 1914–1986

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

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** This collection contains correspondence, company memos, and insurance documents. Also included are programs, biographical information, clippings and press releases - ostensibly collected by the insurance company archives. Of particular interest is Charles Ives' own life insurance policy, and training materials that Ives created for his employees.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/music.mss.0149>

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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.mss.0149>.

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

b.        box

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

The Papers were established in the Irving S. Gilmore Music Library in 2018 by Jonathan Cross, archivist at the AXA Equitable Life Insurance Company.

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### Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

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## Related Materials

Researchers should consult the Charles Ives Papers (MSS 14), also held by the Irving S. Gilmore Music Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

Charles Ives and Julian Myrick met in 1899, while employed at Charles H. Raymond and Company, general agents for Mutual Life Insurance Company. In 1907, Ives and Myrick started their own agency, Ives and Company, which later became Ives and Myrick, which was owned by Mutual Life Insurance Company.

Ives held firm beliefs about the purpose and value of life insurance, about which he wrote a number of articles. Although Ives was rather reserved, he played an active role in training their agents. Ives and Myrick was a very successful agency, and its employees were fiercely loyal. Charles Ives retired from business in 1930.

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## Content Description

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## Arrangement

The collection is organized into two series: I. Files and II. Scrapbooks.

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## Collection Contents

### I.: Files, 1916–1986

Series contains biographical files, files related to the PBS film, "A Good Dissonance Like a Man" (1977), correspondence, company documents, performance programs and press clippings. The correspondence is related to the Ives and Myrick company, while the remainder of the files cover both the Ives and Myrick company and Ives' musical career. Also included is documentation related to Charles Ives' own life insurance policy.

Folding and labels have been maintained from the Mututal of New York Library Historical Collection.

b. 1	Box 1 Biographical files; Publications written by Charles Ives; "Dissonance Like a Man" files; Correspondence (1916-1977).
b. 2	Box 2 Contains Publications written about Charles Ives; Performance Programs (1959-1986) and Press Clippings (1930-1974).
b. 3	Box 3 Press clippings (1975-1977); Press releases (1954); Charles Ives' own life insurance policy; "Death Benefit Folder" for Charles Ives; Training materials for Ives and Myrick insurance agents; company correspondence and memos; Senior thesis, "Can He Let His Children Starve For His Dissonances? The Double Life of Charles Ives" by Jude Webre (Columbia University 2007); Senior essay, "The Background and The Symbol: Charles E. Ives" by Ralph Joseph Moore (Yale College, 1954); Videorecording: "A Good Dissonance Like a Man" (1977).

**II.: Scrapbooks, 1914–1948**

The scrapbooks contain financial documents related to Ives and Myrick, clippings, ads, contract templates, form letters, and company correspondence. Also included are folders of loose clippings that were likely removed from the scrapbooks.

b. 4	"Business scrapbook of Charles Ives"
b. 5	"Ives-Myrick Agency Scrapbook no. 1" Scrapbook is very large and fragile. Access must be arranged with the archivist.

## **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.

### **Occupations**

Life insurance agents

### **Contributors**

Ives, Charles, 1874-1954

Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York

Myrick, Julian S. (Julian Southall), 1880-1969