

Guide to Irving Schlein Papers

MSS 161



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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
Content Description	4
Arrangement	4
Collection Contents	5
Series I: Music	5
Chamber Music	5
Small Orchestra and Mixed Ensembles	8
Symphonies	9
Other Orchestral	10
Piano	11
Narrator with Piano	13
Organ	13
Concertos	13
Symphonic Band	14
Opera, Folk Operas, Musicals	14
Choral	15
Songs	15
Slave Songs of the United States, 1965	15
Exercises	15
II: Writings	16
Writings on Music	16
Scripts	16
Autobiography	16
Poetry	16
III: Correspondence	17
IV: Playbills and Concert Programs	18
V: Photographs	19

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 161

CREATOR: Schlein, Irving, 1905-1986, composer

TITLE: Irving Schlein Papers

DATES: circa 1937 - 1986

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 22 linear feet (24 Boxes)

LANGUAGE: English (Latin script)

SUMMARY: Original music manuscripts, personal writings (e.g. correspondence, essays, plays, poems), and ephemera.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/music.mss.0161>

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.0161>.

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

b. box

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

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Preferred Citation

MSS 161, Irving Schlein Papers in the Gilmore Music Library of Yale University.

Biographical / Historical

Irving Schlein (1905-1986) was an American composer of orchestral, chamber, instrumental, choral and operatic works. A lifelong New Yorker, he also enjoyed a 30-year career on Broadway as a musical director, pianist, arranger, and composer.

He held degrees in piano from New York College of Music ('28) and Juilliard School of music ('30) and was one of the last two living students of Franz Liszt. He later studied composition with Wallingford Riegger, Roger Sessions, Aaron Copland, and Roy Harris.

Many of Schlein's compositions reacted to events and American world history -- such as slavery, World War II, and the Holocaust -- as well as everyday life. He was known for his collaborations with Kurt Weill, and also worked with Al Jolson, Cole Porter, and Lerner and Lowe. Later in life, he taught music in the New York City school system, producing his vocal works, including the folk opera "Stackalee," with his students. He transcribed the 1867 A. L. Ware and Garrison collection of "Slave Songs of the United States." In 1968, he completed his full-length dramatic opera, "Salamambo." Schlein died in his native Manhattan in 1986 at the age of 80.

Content Description

Original music manuscripts, personal writings (e.g. correspondence, essays, plays, poems), and ephemera.

Arrangement

The collection is divided into five series: I. Music, II. Writings, III. Correspondence, IV. Playbills and Concert Programs, V. Photographs

Collection Contents

Series I: Music

Chamber Music

b.1

Ancient Instruments

Andante for Recorder, Pardessus de Viole, and Viola d'Amore ISSM 104	Undated
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Beautiful Annabell Lee ISSM 106	Undated
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Berceuse and Dance for Viola d'Amore and Piano ISSM 109	Undated
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Berceuse for Recorder and Harpsichord ISSM 110	Undated
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"The Mighty Bowl" - Pardessus de Viole and Viole da Gamba ISSM 105	Undated
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Movement for Quartet of Viols ISSM 108	Undated
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Petite Suite pour Viole d'Amour et Clavier ISSM 107	Undated
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Sonatine pour Viole d'Amour and Harpsichord ISSM 103	1950
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Suite à l'Antique ISSM 102	1980
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Strings and Piano

Berceuse I and II for Violin and Piano ISSM 91	1979
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"The Mighty Bowl" Transcribed for Piano and Violin ISSM 88	1978
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Petite Suite for Viola and Piano ISSM 2	1940
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Sirba for Violin and Piano ISSM 39	1980
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Sonata (Hebraica) for Viola and Piano ISSM 4	1950
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Chamber Music > Strings and Piano (continued)

	Sonata (No. 1) for Violin and Piano ISSM 18	1945
	Sonata (No. 2) for Violin and Piano ISSM 20	1949
	Sonatina for Cello and Piano ISSM 17	1948
	Sonatine for Contrabass and Piano ISSM 7	1960
b. 1	String Solos and Ensembles	
	Berceuse (for String Trio?) ISSM 33	1949
	Divertimento for Two Violas ISSM 41	Undated
	Double Fugue for Strings	1941
	Fugue for String Quartet ISSM 31. One version of opening of Fugue is listed as the first movement of String Quartet No. 2.	1941
	Fugue in C# Minor ISSM 32	1941
	Strictly from the Birds ISSM 177	1980
	String Quartet No. 1 ISSM 28	1939
	String Quartet No. 2 ISSM 21	1942
	String Quartet No. 3 ISSM 35	1943
	Two Movements for String Quartet ISSM 29	1937
	Unidentified (possibly excerpt from "Fugue for String Quartet?")	Undated
b. 2	Wind Solos and Ensembles	
	Allegretto (Petite Suite for Brigadoon Woodwinds) ISSM 42	1947
	Divertimento for Clarinet and Piano ISSM 12	1950

Chamber Music > Wind Solos and Ensembles (continued)

Divertimento for Wind Quartet ISSM 11	1945
Duet for Bb Instruments (for Two Trumpets) ISSM 45	1949
Encore Piece for Flute and Piano ISSM 92	1974
In Modo Classico for Flute and Horn ISSM 80	1972
Mozartean Duet for Clarinet and Trumpet ISSM 44	1949
Petite Suite for Two Flutes and Horn ISSM 79	1949
A Piece in the Classic Mode (for Two Flutes) ISSM 98	1984
Quintet for Woodwinds	1950
Rondo Espressivo (for Flute and Piano) ISSM 89	1978
Six Short Pieces for Flute and Horn ISSM 38	1972
Sonata for Clarinet and Piano ISSM 3	1950
Sonatina for Flute and Piano ISSM 5. Full score and partial flute part.	1950
Sonatina No. 1 for Unaccompanied Flute ISSM 36	1945
Sonatine For Five Clarinets ISSM 24	1950
Sonatina for Flute Solo ISSM 37	1945
Theme from (Postlude to) "Salambo" for Horn and Piano ISSM 55	1968
Three Movements for Two Oboes and Piano ISSM 8	1946
Three Short Pieces for Trumpet and Trombone ISSM 176	1949

Chamber Music > Wind Solos and Ensembles (continued)

	Trio for Horn, Bassoon, and Piano ISSM 9	1949
b. 3-4	Small Orchestra and Mixed Ensembles	
	American Vistas - Suite for Orchestra ISSM 128	1952
	Backstage Music for Ill-winds ISSM 19. Parts only.	Undated
	Ballet Suite ISSM 145. Score and piano reduction.	1971
	Canon in the Octave ISSM 99	Undated
	Music for 7 Instruments (Concertino for 7 Instruments) ISSM 14	1945
	"Contrasts" for Oboe, Horn, and Strings ISSM 13	1941
	Dance ISSM 148	Undated
	Edgewood Suite ISSM 40	Undated
	The Enchanted Fiddle ISSM 175	1945
	Episodes for Orchestra ISSM 168	Undated
	Miniatures ISSM 111	Undated
	Ode for Chamber Orchestra ISSM 85	1939
	Ode to Staphylococcus ISSM 76	1984
	One Movement for Horn, Oboe, and Strings ISSM 46	1950
	Prologue and Epilogue for Orchestra ISSM 170	1953
	Prologue to a Radio Play ISSM 174	1949

Small Orchestra and Mixed Ensembles (continued)

	Ramshack ISSM 70	1950
	Spinning Song ISSM 146	Undated
	Suite for Small Orchestra (I) ISSM 171	1962
	Suite for Small Orchestra (II) ISSM 172	1962
	Suite for String Orchestra ISSM 173	1962
	Summer Piece ISSM 43	1943
	Theme and Variations ISSM 78	1938
	Trio for Flute, Clarinet, and Viola ISSM 47	1940
	Whimsic - Swing in 2 Minutes, 20 Seconds ISSM 147	1947
b. 5-6	Symphonies	
	Dance Sinfonia ISSM 136. Score and parts.	1943
	Symphonia Brevis ISSM 129	1938
	Symphonic Jubilee ISSM 131	1940
	Symphonic Testament ISSM 130	1950
	Symphonietta ISSM 144	1960
	Symphony No. 2 ISSM 125. Top of first page also says "'I Have a Dream' - May 1968	1940
	Symphony No. 3 ISSM 81. Top of first page also says "Symphony No. 4"	1941
	Symphony No. 6 ISSM 6. Original title on front page is "Symphony # 2"	1944

Symphonies (continued)

	Symphony No. 7 ISSM 126	1945
	Symphony No. 8 ISSM 82	1946
	Symphony No. 8 for Symphonic Band ISSM 143. Original title in inventory was "Symphony no. 5 for Symphonic Band." Physical item says "no. 8." Same piece?	1943
	Symphony No. 9 ISSM 127	1947
	Symphony of the Americas ISSM 100. Score and parts.	1944
b. 7	Other Orchestral	
	Concert Overture for Orchestra ISSM 133	1950
	Dance Overture for Orchestra ISSM 200	1946
	Derivative Music (Latin American) for Orchestra ISSM 83	1950
	Give Me the Splendid Silent Sun for Narrator and Orchestra ISSM 140	1945
	Grand Central Terminal - A Symphonic Burlesk ISSM 132. Draft/ piano reduction and full score.	1955
	Immigrants all...Americans all - Suite for Orchestra ISSM 134	1960
	Ode for Symphony Orchestra ISSM 77	1939
	Ode to Victory for Orchestra - dedicated to the United Nations ISSM 86	1943
	Pioneer 10 Pushes Beyond Goals, Into the Unknown ISSM 135	1983
	Pioneers! O Pioneers! ISSM 139. Pencil draft/ piano reduction and full score.	1942
	Preludes for Orchestra ISSM 169	1945
	Prelude from "The Bell and The Light" Opera ISSM 204	1956

Other Orchestral (continued)

Song of the Broad-Axe for Chorus and Orchestra ISSM 141	1940
Spirit of the Union for Chorus and Orchestra or Band ISSM 142. Piano reduction and full score.	1961
Testament to Freedom for Soloists, Chorus, and Orchestra ISSM 163	1979
Three Walt Whitman Songs ISSM 138	1952

Piano

b. 8

Solo Piano

Solo Piano - Preludes

Solo Piano - Sonatas and Suites

Cowboy Suite for Piano ISSM 160	1965
Dance Suite for Piano ISSM 164	1978
Hindu Suite for Piano ISSM 74	Undated
Petite Suite pour Enfants (Modal) ISSM 90	1974
Piano Sonata No. 1 ISSM 48	1938
Piano Sonata No. 2 ISSM 49	1939
Piano Sonata No. 3 ISSM 57	1940
Piano Sonata No. 4 ISSM 50	1941
Piano Sonata No. 5 ISSM 51	1942
Piano Sonata No. 6 ISSM 94	1979
Sonatine for Piano ISSM 52	1942

Piano > Solo Piano > Solo Piano - Sonatas and Suites (continued)

	Suite No. 1 for Piano ISSM 114	1937
	Suite No. 2 for Piano ISSM 93	1942
	Suite No. 3 for Piano ISSM 59	Undated
	Suite of Fugues for Piano ISSM 112	1937
	Solo Piano - Others	
	Album for the Young, Book 1 ISSM 56	1979
	Album for the Young, Book 2 ISSM 87	1986
	Caprice ISSM 61	Undated
	Flight ISSM 97	Undated
	Four Moods ISSM 96	Undated
	New Music - March 1986, for Piano ISSM 34	1986
	Poor Rosy ISSM 60	1972
	Strictly from the Birds ISSM 73	1979
	Thank You, Oren ISSM 101	1984
	Tocatta ISSM 58	1951
	Walking Down Broadway ISSM 95	1956
b. 17	Two-Piano	
	Duo Concertante for Two Pianos ISSM 22	1955

Piano > Two-Piano (continued)

	Encore Piece for Two Pianos ISSM 25	1950
	Laughing Pianos ISSM 27	1950
	A Musical Escapade for Two Pianos	Undated
	Two Movements for Two Pianos ISSM 26	1947
	"Oklahoma"- arranged for two pianos by Schlein	1943
b. 17	Narrator with Piano	
	Common School - A Study of English Literature ISSM 167. Score and book.	1978
	Man and His World ISSM 162	1980
	Ode to Mathematics ISSM 71	1966
	Ode to Staphylococcus ISSM 75	1989
	Miscellaneous/Unidentified	Undated
b. 17	Organ	
	Basso Ostinato and Toccata and Fugue for Organ ISSM 199	1945
	Poeme ISSM 215. Related to Prelude for Hammond Organ	Undated
	Prelude for Hammond Organ ISSM 197	Undated
	Preludes for Organ ISSM 198	1945
	Unidentified (Toccata and Fugue)	Undated
b. 9	Concertos	
	Andante and Allegro for Organ and Orchestra ISSM 53	1941
	Concertino for Cello and Orchestra ISSM 15	1950

Concertos (continued)

	Concertino for Piano and Orchestra Score and piano reduction.	1950
	Concerto No. 1 for Piano and Orchestra ISSM 72	1942
	Concerto No. 2 for Piano and String Orchestra ("Opus Two") ISSM 10	1947
	Dance Suite for Horn and Orchestra	Undated
	A Musical Escapade for Piano and Orchestra	1984
b. 10	Symphonic Band	
	Divertimento for Band ISSM 183	1952
	Festive Dance ISSM 180	1955
	Fughetta for Band ISSM 179	1942
	Hymn, for Band	Undated
	Sonatina for Band ISSM 181	1952
	Summer Piece for Band ISSM 182. Partial draft of score and set of parts.	1943
	Opera, Folk Operas, Musicals	
	The Bell and the Light (Negro Folk-Opera) ISSM 209. Script and notated music.	1955
	Johnny Merripranks (Children's Opera) ISSM 208	1965
	Kentucky (Musical Play) ISSM 206	1983
	Madison (Operetta)	Undated
	"Money," Full Score ISSM 205	1953
	"Money," Piano-Vocal Score ISSM 214	1953
	Morning Exercises for All the Year, A Day Book for Teachers Copyright 1920. Joseph C. Sindelar, author	Undated

Opera, Folk Operas, Musicals (continued)

	Morning Exercises for All the Year, Musical Calendar ISSM 210	Undated
	My Heart's in the Highlands ISSM 211. Bound photocopied version and several drafts.	Undated
	Robert Burns Likely connected to "My Heart's in the Highlands."	Undated
	Salamambo Full score (ISSM 212), piano-vocal score (ISSM 213). Additional materials, including drafts and typed libretto.	1969
	Stackalee Multiple versions/ materials, including piano score (ISSM 159) and orchestral score (ISSM 207).	1949
b. 17	Choral	
b. 18	Songs	
b. 21	Slave Songs of the United States	1965
b. 21	Exercises	

II: Writings

Writings on Music

"History of Music"

Course material written by Schlein.

"Music Manual"

Writings on different musical genres/ styles, and treatises on music theory.

"Folk Material and the Composer"

"Great Pianists and Composers"

Scripts

"Sigmund Freud"

Undated

Multiple drafts/ versions.

Autobiography

Poetry

III: Correspondence

b.24

IV: Playbills and Concert Programs

b. 23

V: Photographs

b.24