

Emil Oberhoffer Collection

M/A 1998.53.01-04

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May 12, 2016

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

James K. Hosmer Special Collections Library
Finding aid revised and expanded in 2012
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Summary Information

Repository	James K. Hosmer Special Collections Library
Creator - Creator	Oberhoffer, Emil, 1867-1933
Title	Emil Oberhoffer Collection
Date	1900-1950
Extent	3.42 Linear feet
Language	English

Biography

Emil Johann Oberhoffer was born near Munich, Bavaria on August 10, 1867. His family was musically-inclined and Oberhoffer showed an early affinity for the organ and violin. He studied piano in Paris, France under noted pianist Isidor Philipp.

He emigrated to the United States in 1885 and would later move to Minnesota in 1897. In addition to teaching and lecturing, Oberhoffer found work with a number of local choral groups including the Apollo Club of Minneapolis, the Schubert Choral Association in St. Paul, and the Minneapolis Philharmonic Club. He became frustrated at the quality of the ensembles used as accompanists for these groups, and it is said that this became the catalyst for the establishment of a permanent orchestra in Minneapolis. The Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra gave its first performance, under Oberhoffer's direction, on November 5th, 1903.

Oberhoffer built the Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra into a symphony of not only local but regional reknown. He was adamant that touring would not only raise the orchestra's profile but generate a profit--so adamant than he personally underwrote the first three tours from 1907 to 1909. In the years ahead the orchestra would continue to tour in places including Chicago, New York, Boston, and California. He began traditions that continue with the Minnesota Orchestra today including weekend pops concerts and special programs for youth. He was remembered as a graceful and energetic conductor who alledgedly practiced practiced in front of a full-length mirror.

Oberhoffer left Minneapolis in 1922 after increasing friction with the orchestra's management. Thereafter he held conductor positions with a variety of orchestras including the Los Angeles Philharmonic, San Francisco Symphony, Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra and Detroit Symphony Orchestra.

Emil Oberhoffer died in San Diego on May 22, 1933. He is buried in the Lakewood Cemetery in Minneapolis where the Oberhoffer Obelisk stands in his memory.

Description of Collection

The collection consists of four boxes of various materials including newspaper clippings, correspondence, handwritten notes, inventories of musical scores, music manuscripts, and assorted other items.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

James K. Hosmer Special Collections Library Finding aid revised and expanded in 2012

Related Materials

Related Materials

Minnesota Orchestra Collection (M/A 2012.24.01-09)

Controlled Access Headings

Corporate Name(s)

- Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra.

Personal Name(s)

- Oberhoffer, Emil, 1867-1933

Subject(s)

- Composers -- Minnesota -- Minneapolis.
 - Music -- Minnesota -- Minneapolis.
 - Musicians -- Minnesota -- Minneapolis.
-

General Collection Resources

Title(s)

- Festival Te Deum /Zgr 12o1 (Adult Sheet Music)
- Love's Weather */Zgd 12o3 (Adult Reference Music Score)
- Minnesota boat song /Zgd 12o1 (Adult Sheet Music)
- Slumber Song /Zgd 1201.1 (Adult Sheet Music)

Biographical and General

Collection Inventory

Biographical and General 1900-1950		
Newspaper clippings		
	Box	Folder
Clippings 1900-1909	1	1
Clippings 1900-1949	1	2
Clippings (post-Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra) 1923-1950	1	3
Clippings 1904, 1922, 1927	1	3
Clippings 1933	1	6
Scope and Contents note		
Contains a 1933 Musical America Article about Oberhoffer.		
Clippings	1	10
Clippings	1	11
	Box	Folder

Music Manuscripts

Correspondence 1922-1945	1	5
Notes for Children's Concerts n.d.	1	7
Concert Programs 1897-1926	1	8
Funeral Address and Portraits	1	9
Notes	1	12
Score Catalog	1	13
Score Catalog	1	14
Scrapbook	1	15
		Box-folder
Portrait (1923); Room dedication; Orchestrations List 1900-1950		2
Music Manuscripts 1900-1950		
		Box
Americana 1900-1950		3
General note		
Subtitles: "American March or Homage" or "A Festival March of Homage." Includes 62 parts.		

Music Manuscripts

Almighty God! we call to Thee (Procession Hymn for Festival use, 2 copies) 1900-1950

2

General note

Alternate title on manuscript: Almighty God! I call to Thee.

Arline 1900-1950

4

General note

Words and music by Emil Oberhoffer

Awake, My Soul, Stretch Every Nerve! 1900-1950

2

General note

Original ms score and printed copy clipped from a periodical

Boccacio 1892

4

General note

By Franz von Suppe; orchestration by Emil Oberhoffer. Nine instrumental parts.

The Brownie King (2 copies) 1894

2

General note

Poetry by Franklyn W. Lee, music by Emil Oberhoffer. Words in German and in English.

Chauson Norvegienne by Felix Fourdrain 1900-1950

2

Music Manuscripts

General note

Arranged by Emil Oberhoffer

Dear Heart 1900-1950

2

General note

Poetry by Henry William Parker; handwritten on letterhead of Merchants National Bank, St. Paul, MN.

The Dying Child; Hora Novissima 1900-1950

4

General note

Includes 28 parts

Elegie [for violin and piano]

4

Eroica, 3rd Symphony [Dritte Symphonie] by Beethoven 1900-1950

4

General note

Emil Oberhoffer's marked-up copy.

First Act 1999-1950

4

General note

Title of work not apparent. Incomplete; first act only.

Contents of songs: No. 1 -- untitled; No. 2 - I Am a Bold Moonshiner (for solo and chorus); No. 3 - Good Bourbon Whiskey (for Setemup and chorus); No. 4 - Nature is

Music Manuscripts

at Peace (solo); No. 5 - Love! Love! (song Nepenthe); No. 6 - Duet Will you be mine? (Setemup and Nepenthe); No. 7 - Chorus - Merry Mountain Maidens; No. 8 - Entrance of Fungus and Tremens; No. 9 - This Net of Mine; No. 10 - My Mission is to Write (Tremens); No. 11 - Finale

Hail to the Lord's Anointed! (Processional Hymn) 1900-1950

2

General note

Processional hymn

Harris March [formerly Pioneer Press March] 1900-1950

2

A Hymn of Thanksgiving for Victory [In commemoration of the Peace of Versailles A.D> 1919 1900-1950

3

General note

Alternate title: "Te Deum Laudamas." Includes 53 parts.

Ich hab' im traume geweinet

2

General note

Score is a gift from Oberhoffer estate, 9/9/35 and is signed by John Oberhofer. Note that Emil Oberhoffer's middle name was Johann.

Idyll 1900-1950

2

General note

Music Manuscripts

Score signed by "John Oberhofer." Note that Emil Oberhoffer's middle name was Johann.

Inspirer and Hearer of Prayer 1900-1950

2

General note

Hymn-anthem. Personal note in pencil on back of score: "Dear Mrs. Jones, This is for anthem after the Sermon on Sunday. I have put one from Requiem on the program after all. Rehearsal Saturday 4 P.M. at the church. Emil Oberhoffer."

Introit 1900-1950

2

Land of the Sky Blue Water by Ch.W. Cadman 1914

2

General note

Charles W. Cadman's famous song. Arranged by Emil Overhoffer; alternate title, "From the Land of Skye-blue Water"

Le Festin De l'Araignee: Fragments Symphonique by Albert Roussel 1900-1950

4

General note

Reduction for piano by Emil Oberhoffer.

Love Lost 1919

3

General note

Includes 30 instrumental parts and vocal score (2 copies of vocal manuscript. Words by May Bell Willis.

Music Manuscripts

March, or Second March 1900-1950

2

General note

pencil copy, unsigned, believed to be Oberhoffer.

Marche Heroique; Our Fallen Heroes 1900-1950

2

General note

March for military band by "Emilio Reffali-Rehlioh" (pen-name?) Believed to be Oberhoffer's.

Melodie in A-dur 1900-1950

2

General note

Fragment?

Notturmo for Horn and Orchestra by A. Roesel 1900-1950

4

General note

Orchestration by Emil Oberhoffer

Ode to Music 1898

4

Overture Hamlet, by Norman O'Neill 1900-1950

4

General note

Music Manuscripts

Emil Oberhoffer's marked-up copy.

Overture Romantique 1900-1950

3

General note

Includes 53 parts.

Petrouchka by Stravinsky 1928

4

General note

Reduction for piano by Emil Oberhoffer

Slumbersong Waltzs {Schlummerlieder Walzer} 1900-1950

4

General note

Includes 36 parts

Bin

Symphonie Classique and L'Amour des Trois Oranges by Prokofieff 1900-1950

4

General note

Piano reduction by Emil Oberhoffer

Box

Symphony No. 5 by Beethoven 1900-1950

3

General note

Music Manuscripts

Emil Oberhoffer's marked-up copy.

Symphony No. 7 [Siebente] by Beethoven 1900-1950 4

General note

Emil Oberhoffer's marked-up copy.

Trauer Marsch 1900-1950 2

Tune Pictures [Tonbilder] for Piano Solo 1900-1950 2

General note

Might be a fragment. Second page signed "John Oberhofer." Note that Emil Oberhoffer's middle name was Johann. Includes: Aus der Heinat and Fluchting ist die Zeit.

Valses Nobles et Sentimentales [op.77 and op.50]; by Schubert 1900-1950 4

General note

by Franz Schubert, paraphrase by Emil Oberhoffer

Das Wohltemporierte Klavier (The well-tempered clavichord) by J.S. Bach 1900-1950 3

General note

Oberhoffer's score with the conductor's markings.

Why are Thou cast down, o my soul?; anthem for four voices 2

Music Manuscripts

General note

Score is torn in half.

Xmas Carol 1900-1950

4

General note

Organ part and piano solo.