Title: Jacob A. Evanson Collection

Overview of the Collection

Reference Code: Pittsburgh Music Archive #7

Creator: Jacob A. Evanson (1899-1994)

Dates: 1937 - 1965

Extent: 6 binders and 4 volumes of bound folksongs

Language: English

Repository:

Music Department, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh-Main, 4400 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Acquisition Information: This collection was donated to Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh

Copyright: none

Restrictions: none

Requested Citation: Jacob A. Evanson Collection, Pittsburgh Music Archive #7, Music Department, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh

Finding Aid Created By: Mina Belle Wichmann, Joelle Killebrew

Notes on the Collection

Historical Note

Jacob Evanson was a Pittsburgh Music Educator, and a Pittsburgh (and PA) folk music expert. He was the Special Supervisor of Vocal Music, Pittsburgh Public Schools and Pittsburgh Board of Education (1937-1965).

Scope and Content Note

Binders and bound volumes of Evanson’s collection of folk songs. Evanson’s reports of his studies of folksongs and singing in Pittsburgh Public Schools.

Arrangement Note

These binders are miscellaneous in nature. There are no exclusive collections in any one binder. Various fields of interest can be found throughout.
Container List

1. Binder #1: Folk songs representative of French, English, Appalachian Mountains, Negro (Leadbelly and others), Sacred Harp, American ballads, Early ballads from “Popular Music of Olden Times” by William Chappell; Shanty tunes, etc.

2. Binder #2: His folk song transcriptions from the Krepps MS.: James Taylor Krepps of Fayette City, PA (d.1901). Collection found at Senator John Heinz History Center, Pittsburgh, PA.

3. Binder #3: Songs representative of those sung at collegiate institutions such as Rhode Island State College (1917), Harvard, Brown, Dartmouth, etc. Also in this binder is a hand-written rebuttal of music critic Paul Henry Lang’s review in the New York Herald-Tribune of composer Roy Harris’s “Festival Folk Fantasy” of February 23 (1956?).


5. Binder #5: Religious ballads; Spiritual folk songs of early America; Sacred Harp, “Trail” ballads; French folk songs.

6. Folksongs of Pennsylvania. Songs were included in a concert performed by high school students in a program in 1959.


See also

1. Pittsburgh Music Information File
2. Jacob A. Evanson in the CLP library catalog
3. Maurice Levy Oral History of Music in Pittsburgh Collection: #3, #18, #19, #52, #55, #64, #77, #147
4. Folksong making in Pittsburgh