
Finding Aid for the Henry F. Gilbert Collection

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Performing Arts Special Collections

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Henry F. Gilbert Collection

Collection number: 115-M

Creator: Gilbert, Henry F.

Extent: 1 box

Repository: University of California, Los Angeles. Library. Performing Arts Special Collections
Los Angeles, California 90095-1490

Abstract: Sheet music and orchestral scores by Henry F. Gilbert.

Access

Collection is open for research.

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Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Henry F. Gilbert Collection, 115-M, Performing Arts Special Collections , University of California, Los Angeles.

Biography

The composer Henry Franklin Belknap Gilbert was born in Somerville, Massachusetts on September 26, 1868. The product of a musical family, Gilbert studied violin, piano, composition, and theory at the New England Conservatory under Edward MacDowell, a leading composer at the turn of the twentieth century. Gilbert's travels within and outside the United States exposed him to the music of non-European cultures, which inspired him to compose from some of those sources. He wrote works influenced by African-American spiritual or gospel music, as well as the music of Native Americans. His compositions are noted for their American themes and inspiration. Gilbert wrote songs, choral works, and works for band and opera, with his most successful works being orchestral. Works given major performances during his lifetime include "Dance in Place Congo," a one-act opera performed in 1918 by the Metropolitan Opera Ballet and Orchestra. Other prominent works include "Negro Rhapsody" and "Comedy Overture on Negro Themes," the latter conducted by Gliere in Russia in 1914. Henry Gilbert's "Symphonic Piece" was performed by the Boston Symphony Orchestra under Koussevitsky in 1926, and "Nocturne" was performed by the Philadelphia Orchestra shortly before his death on May 19, 1928, in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Scope and Content

Sheet music and orchestral scores by Henry F. Gilbert.

The collection is organized into the following series:

Series 1. Sheet Music, c.1897-1930. 1 box

Series 2. Orchestral Scores, c.1897-1930. 1 box

Series 1. **Sheet Music c.1897-1930**

Physical Description: 1 box

Box 1

Celtic Studies: four songs by Henry F. Gilbert 1905

Composer: Gilbert, Henry

Publisher: Wa-Wan Press

Scope and Content Note

I. Poem by John Todhunter.

Box 1

Celtic Studies: four songs by Henry F. Gilbert 1905

Composer: Gilbert, Henry F.

Publisher: Wa-Wan Press

Scope and Content Note

IV. Poem by a Viking Skald.

- Box 1 **Fish Wharf Rhapsody 1909**
 Composer: Gilbert, Henry F.
 Publisher: Wa-Wan Press
- Box 1 **Give Me The Splendid Silent Sun 1914**
 Composer: Gilbert, Henry F.
 Publisher: H. W. Gray Co.
- Box 1 **O Were My Love Yon Lilac Fair 1897**
 Composer: Gilbert, Henry F.
 Publisher: H. F. Gilbert
Note
 Also includes "professional copy" of song.
- Box 1 **Perdita 1897**
 Composer: Gilbert, Henry F.
 Publisher: H. F. Gilbert
Note
 "Professional copy."
- Box 1 **Perdita 1897**
 Composer: Gilbert, Henry F.
 Publisher: H. W. Gray Co.
- Box 1 **Rocking Chair Songs -- "A Funny Fact" 1915**
 Composer: Gilbert, Henry F.
 Publisher: Rocking Chair Syndicate
- Box 1 **The Curl 1897**
 Composer: Gilbert, Henry F.
 Publisher: H. W. Gray Co.
- Box 1 **The Curl 1897**
 Composer: Gilbert, Henry F.
 Publisher: H. F. Gilbert
- Box 1 **The Lament Of Deirdre 1903**
 Composer: Gilbert, Henry F.
 Publisher: H. W. Gray Co.
- Box 1 **The Owl 1910**
 Composer: Gilbert, Henry F.
 Publisher: Wa-Wan Press
- Box 1 **The Pirate Song 1930**
 Composer: Gilbert, Henry F.
 Publisher: H. W. Gray Co.

Box 1

Two South American Gypsy Songs 1906

Composer: Gilbert, Henry F.

Publisher: H. W. Gray Co.

Scope and Content Note

No. 2: "La Zambulidora."

Series 2. **Orchestral Scores c.1897-1930**

Physical Description: 1 box

Box 1

The Dance In Place Congo, "Symphonic Poem (after George W. Cable)"; op. 15 1922

Composer: Gilbert, Henry F.

Publisher: H. W. Gray Co.

Box 1

Two Episodes For Orchestra 1897

Composer: Gilbert, Henry F.

Publisher: Henry F. Gilbert

Scope and Content Note

Legend -- Negro Episode.