
Finding Aid for the Jakob Gimpel papers PASC-M.0240

Finding aid prepared by Shira Peltzman, 2020.

UCLA Library Special Collections

Online finding aid last updated 2020 December 11.

Room A1713, Charles E. Young Research Library

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URL: <https://www.library.ucla.edu/special-collections>

Contributing Institution: UCLA Library Special Collections

Title: Jakob Gimpel papers

Creator: Gimpel, Jakob

Identifier/Call Number: PASC-M.0240

Physical Description: 13.5 Linear Feet(27 boxes)

Date (inclusive): circa 1870-1990

Stored off-site. All requests to access special collections material must be made in advance using the request button located on this page.

Language of Material: Materials are in English.

Conditions Governing Access

Portions of collection unprocessed. Some material is unavailable for access. Please contact Special Collections reference (spec-coll@library.ucla.edu) for more information.

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Processing Information

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UCLA Catalog Record ID

UCLA Catalog Record ID: [5734193](#)

Administrative/Biographical History

Gimpel, Jakob, born Lvov, Ukraine, April 16, 1906; died Los Angeles, California, March 12, 1989. American pianist and teacher of Polish birth. Having graduated from the Lwów (formerly Lemberg) Conservatory at the age of 15, he went to Vienna and became a pupil of Steuermann, also taking private lessons in composition from Berg. He made his Vienna début in 1923. Before World War II Gimpel toured with the violinists Erica Morini and Nathan Milstein, and also with his younger brother, Bronislav. He emigrated to the United States in 1939, settling in Los Angeles. One of the first pianists to record for the newly founded company Vox, he also made widely admired discs for Columbia. In 1954 he resumed playing in Europe. Gimpel gave concerts with the Palestine Symphony Orchestra (later the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra) from its inception and maintained a busy career until the time of his death. He taught at the California State University at Northridge from 1971 to 1986. Especially effective in large-scale works, Gimpel never quite achieved the reputation he deserved. A dynamic and authoritative player in Beethoven's 'Emperor' Concerto and Brahms's D minor Concerto, he was equally at home in less familiar works by such composers as Reger and Szymanowski. He had a thoroughly schooled and well-controlled virtuoso technique which, allied to an ability to phrase with sophistication, ensured that his performances were invariably distinguished. (Source: New Grove Dictionary)

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of scores and books related to Jakob Gimpel.
