Guide to the Antoni Van der Voort Papers, 1930s-1952

Collection number: PA Mss 22

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University of California, Santa Barbara

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Antoni Van der Voort Papers,
Date (inclusive): 1930s-1952
Collection number: PA Mss 22
Creator: Antoni Van der Voort
Extent: 6 boxes, 5 linear feet
Repository: University of California, Santa Barbara. Library. Dept. of Special Collections

Shelf location: For current information on the location of these materials, please consult the library's online catalog.

Abstract: Music manuscripts of Dutch/American violinist and composer involved in the Depression-era Federal Composer's Program and composer of Dream of Life, Sketches from Fairyland and a Sinfonietta, the latter the winner of the 1942 Composition Prize from the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra.

Language: English.

Provenance
Unknown.

Restrictions
None.

Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Antoni Van der Voort Papers, PA Mss 22, Special Collections, University of California, Santa Barbara.

Biography
Antoni Van der Voort, a composer and violinist, was born in Haarlem, the Netherlands. He was educated in Haarlem and later at the Conservatory in Rotterdam, where he made his debut on the violin. Mr. Van der Voort joined the Symphony orchestra of Haarlem at age 17 and later became the concertmaster of the orchestra of Wiesbaden, Germany. He also
toured with other symphony orchestras throughout Europe. After coming to the United States shortly before World War I, he was a member of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra for five years. He arrived in Santa Barbara in 1915 and played in the Clerbois Little Symphony Orchestra and in the former Santa Barbara Orchestra. Mr. Van der Voort also played in the WPA (Works Project Administration) orchestra, part of Roosevelt’s New Deal designed to provide unemployed musicians with work. He also taught violin privately and composed. In 1942 Mr. Van der Voort won national prominence when the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra awarded him a prize for "Sinfonietta." He conducted the first performance.

He died in Santa Barbara on April 13, 1952 at the age of 82.

**Scope and Content**

The Antoni Van der Voort Papers is divided into 3 series, Series I, Biographical Information; Series II, Compositions; Series III, Arrangements.

Series I, Biographical Information consists of several newspaper clippings about Antoni Van der Voort.

Series II, Compositions consists of handwritten scores and parts, many of which are sketches and drafts, of Antoni Van der Voort’s original compositions. The compositions are arranged in alphabetical order by title. A Dream of Life a ballet, was originally titled Song of the Colors. The two titles are grouped together in the collection. Let Me Grow Lovely Growing Old is untitled on the score. The piece is a song setting and the title used in this catalogue is derived from the first sentence of the text. Some of the movements of Short Stories seem to be arranged for different ensembles. It is likely that these are from different arrangements of the same compositions. One of the many copies of Sinfonietta contains the program from the St. Louis symphony orchestra performance of 1942. It is presumably this copy that Mr. Van der Voort conducted from. Many of the parts for the pieces A Dream of Life, General MacArthur, Sketches From Fairyland, and Sinfonietta are missing and incomplete.

Series III, Arrangements is arranged in alphabetical order by title. Drink to Me is an arrangement of Drink to Me Only With Thine Eyes. My Lady Chlo and Gavotte are on opposite sides of string quartet part scores.

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**Series I, General and Biographical Information**

- Box 1, Folder 1: Newspaper Articles
- Series II, Compositions
  - Box 1, Folder 2: String Quartet
    - Score, Mss.
    - Parts, Mss.
    - Sketches, Mss.
  - Folder 3: Violin and Piano
    - Score, Mss.
  - Folder 4: Soprano and Small Orchestra
    - Score, Mss.
    - Parts, Mss.
  - Folder 5: Soprano, Cello, and Piano
    - Score, Mss.
  - Folder 6: A Dream of Life for Orchestra
    - Orchestra, Mss.
    - Score, Mss.
    - Parts, Mss.
  - Folder 7: Small orchestra
    - Piano Reduction, Mss.
    - Parts, Mss.
  - Folder 8: Unfinished Score, Mss.
  - Folder 9: Arr. For Clarinet, Violin, Cello, Piano
    - Score, Mss.
    - Part for piano with cues, Mss.
  - Folder 10: Arr. String Quartet and Piano, Score, Mss
Folder 11: Arr. Piano, Violin and Viola, Score, Mss
Box 2, Folder 1: For Niente (incomplete, for orchestra)
                  Score, Mss.
Folder 2: General MacArthur (orchestra)
          Piano Conductor, Mss.
          Parts, Mss.
Folder 3: Lereve and Doux Souvenir (violin and piano)
          Scores (5 copies)
Folder 4: "Let Me Grow Lovely Growing Old" (piano and voice)
          Score, Mss.
Folder 5: Little Waltz (orchestra)
          Score, Mss.
          Parts, Mss.
          Scherzo
          For Piano
Folder 6: Score, Mss.
          String Quartet
Folder 7: Score, Mss.
Folder 8: Short Stories (string quartet)
          Scores, Mss.
          Sketches, Mss.
Sinfonietta for Orchestra
Box 7, Folder 1: Professionally copied and bound score
Folder 2: Professionally copied and bound parts
Box 3, Folder 1: Finished score, with St. Louis Symphony program, Mss.
Folder 2: Smaller bound score of above, Mss.
Folder 3: Bound score of above, Mss.
Folder 4: Earlier bound score, Mss.
Folder 5: Incomplete Score, Mss.
Folder 6: Parts, Mss.
          Sketches from Fairyland for Orchestra
          Finished score, Mss.
          Parts, Mss.
Box 4, Folder 1: Earlier Score, Mss.
Folder 2: Parts, Mss.
Folder 2: Different copy of above score, Mss.
Folder 3: Incomplete score, Mss.
Folder 4: Arr. For String Quartet and Piano
          Score (2), Mss.
Folder 5: Arr. Prince Charming for Piano
          Score, Mss.
Folder 6: Arr. Prince Charming for Piano, Violin I and II, Cello and Bass
          Parts, Mss.
          Rumpelstiltskin
          Parts, Mss.
Box *, Folder *: Song of Colors (See Dream of Life)
Folder 8: Misc. Sketches
Series III, Arrangements
Box 6, Folder 1: Albumblatt, Quartet in F Major by E. Grieg
                  Parts, Mss.
Folder 2: Ciaccona by Tomaso Vitali (string quartet)
          Score, Mss.
Folder 3: Drink to Me, for orchestra
          Score, Mss.
          Parts, Mss
Folder 4: Elegie by Massenet (two violins)
          Parts, Mss.
Folder 5  
Gavotte by Chr. Linding and My Lady Chlo, by H. Henry Clough-Leichter (piano and voice)  
Parts, Mss.