Descriptive Summary
Title: Ernst Krenek Manuscript and Letters to Will Ogdon
Identifier/Call Number: MSS 0700
Contributing Institution: Special Collections & Archives, UC San Diego
9500 Gilman Drive
La Jolla, California, 92093-0175
Languages: English
Physical Description: 0.25 Linear feet (1 archives box)
Date (inclusive): 1938-1985
Abstract: Two photographs, one typewritten manuscript of Krenek's book *Music Here and Now*, and four folders of letters from Krenek to Will Odgon, written between 1943 and 1985. The letters include references to music composition, occasional advice on career and personal matters, and happenings within Krenek and Odgon's musical circles.
Creator: Krenek, Ernst, 1900-1991
Publication Rights
Publication rights are held by the creator of the collection.
Preferred Citation
Ernst Krenek Manuscript and Letters to Will Ogdon, MSS 0700. Special Collections & Archives, UC San Diego.
Acquisition Information
Not available.
Biography
Ernst Krenek (1900-1991) was a Vienna-born composer of Czech ancestry. An active composer for more than seven decades, Krenek had a role in many of the century's significant musical movements, from atonality to neoclassicism and from jazz-influenced writing to total serialism. He enjoyed early popular success in Europe with his opera *Jonny spielt auf* (Johnny Strikes Up, 1926), but under increasing pressure from the Nazi regime, he immigrated to the United States in 1938, where he developed credibility as a major modernist and instructor. Krenek taught music at various universities, including Hamline University in Saint Paul, Minnesota from 1942-1947, and became an American citizen in 1945. His students included Will Ogdon (who followed him from the University of Wisconsin to Hamline, and in 1955, completed the first important analytical study of Krenek's music as his doctoral thesis), George Perle and Robert Erickson. Krenek moved to California in 1947, where he continued to write and compose music. In 1965, when the department of music at UC San Diego was first being developed, Krenek made a recommendation for Ogdon or Erickson to be appointed as first chair. Ogdon was selected, and he quickly recruited Erickson; Krenek's influence over his former pupils can be seen in the department's early focus on composition as the foundation of music curriculum. Krenek authored several books, including *Music Here and Now* (1939), a study of Johannes Ockeghem (1953), and *Horizons Circled: Reflections on my Music* (1974).
Scope and Content of Collection
Two photographs, one typewritten manuscript of Krenek's book *Music Here and Now*, and four folders of letters from Krenek to Will Odgon, written between 1943 and 1985. The letters include references to music composition, occasional advice on career and personal matters, and happenings within Krenek and Odgon's musical circles.
Related Materials
Daniel Oliver Correspondence with Ernst Krenek, MSS 43. Ernst Krenek Correspondence with Albert Goldberg, MSS 132. Ernst Krenek Letters to Robert Holliday, MSS 396. Ernst Krenek Letters to Mildred Kayden, MSS 713.
All related materials cited available at Special Collections & Archives, UC San Diego.
Subjects and Indexing Terms
Krenek, Ernst, 1900-1991 -- Correspondence
Ogdon, Will, 1921-2013
Composers -- United States -- Correspondence
Music -- United States -- 20th century

FILES

Box 1, Folder 1  Photographs circa 1957
| Box 1, Folder 2 | **Typewritten manuscript for *Music Here and Now* 1938-1939**  
General note  
Manuscript stamped "Barthold Fles, literary agent" in margins. In German, with edits and annotations. |
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<td>Box 1, Folder 3-6</td>
<td><strong>Letters to Wilbur Ogdon 1943-1985</strong></td>
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