Guide to the Sam DeVincent Collection
of Illustrated American Sheet Music,
Series 26: General Sheet Music

NMAH.AC.0300.S26
Vanessa Broussard Simmons, Stephanie Haeg,
Eva Buchanan, Katie DeFonzo, Justine Thomas

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Collection Overview

Repository: Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title: Sam DeVincent Collection of Illustrated American Sheet Music, Series 26: General Sheet Music
Identifier: NMAH.AC.0300.S26
Date: 1865-1939
Extent: 105 Boxes
Creator: DeVincent, Sam, 1918-1997
Language: English
Summary: Sam DeVincent loved music and art and began collecting sheet music with lithographs at an early age. Series 26 contains materials documenting the business of and popular attitudes towards collecting in the United States. An overview to the entire DeVincent collection is available here: Sam DeVincent Collection of Illustrated American Sheet Music.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information
This collection was purchased by the Smithsonian Institution in 1988 from Sam and Nancy Lee DeVincent.

Materials in Other Organizations
Sam DeVincent Collection of American Sheet Music, Lilly Library, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana
This collection contains duplicates of materials in the Smithsonian collection, as well as materials acquired by Mr. DeVincent after the donation to the Smithsonian. The phonograph records described above were transferred to the University of Missouri at Kansas City.

Materials in the Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Donald J. Stubblebine Collection of Musical Theater and Motion Picture Sheet Music and Reference Material, 1843-2010 (AC1211)

Forms Part Of
Series 26: General Sheet Music forms part of the Sam DeVincent Collection of Illustrated American Sheet Music.

An ongoing, updated list of DeVincent topical series is available via the Smithsonian finding aid portal.
Processing Information

Collection processed by Eva Buchanan, Katie DeFonzo, and Stephanie Haeg, interns, summer 2017; Amanda Scott; Monisha Bernard; Justine Thomas, spring 2018; supervised by Vanessa Broussard Simmons, archivist.

Preferred Citation

The Sam DeVincent Collection of Illustrated American Sheet Music, Archives Center, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution

Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Collection items available for reproduction, but the Archives Center makes no guarantees concerning copyright restrictions. Other intellectual property rights may apply. Archives Center cost-recovery and use fees may apply when requesting reproductions.

Scope and Contents

Consists of material that does not relate to subjects created by the Archives Center in series 1-25. The bulk of the material dates from 1865 to 1939 and is arranged into four subseries. Subseries 1 includes Individual Songs contained in boxes 1-86. Subseries 2 is Unidentified Songs included in boxes 92-94. Subseries 3 consists of Multiple Songs, sheet music with more than one title, in boxes 95-96. Subseries 4, Other Subjects, included in boxes 86-91 and 97-105, includes materials related to different genres of music, themes, and composers.
Container Listing

Subseries 26.1: Individual Songs, 1843-1986, undated

Consists of individual song titles contained in boxes 1-86. Materials arranged loosely in alphabetical order by title. The bulk of the material dates from 1865 to 1971. The music is mostly arranged for piano, piano/vocal, and violin. Compositions include a wide variety of dances such as waltzes, polkas, marches, two-steps, tangos, and fox-trots. Some of the pieces are exercises directed towards children. A portion of the compositions are in Spanish, German, French, Italian, and Russian. This subseries consists of diverse subject material such as songs about romance, nature, religion, dreams, patriotism, and war. Most illustrations in the series depict individuals connected in some way to these subjects.

Box 1, Folder 1  AB-AD
Box 1, Folder 2  AE-AH
Box 1, Folder 3  AI-AL
Box 2, Folder 1  AL-AM
Box 2, Folder 2  AM-AN
Box 2, Folder 3  AN
Box 3, Folder 1  AP-AS
Box 3, Folder 2  AT
Box 3, Folder 3  AV
Box 4, Folder 1  AV-AZ
Box 4, Folder 2-3  BA
Box 4, Folder 4;  BE
Box 5, Folder 1-2
Box 5, Folder 4  BI-BL
Box 6, Folder 1-3  BL
Box 7, Folder 1  BO
Box 7, Folder 2  BO-BR
Box 7, Folder 3  BR
Box 7, Folder 4  BR-BU
Box 8, Folder 1  BU-BY
Box 8, Folder 2-3  CA
Box 9, Folder 1  CA-CE
Box 9, Folder 2-4  CH
Box 10, Folder 1  CH-CL
Box 10, Folder 2  CL-CO
Box 11, Folder 1-2; Box 10, Folder 3-4  CO
Box 11, Folder 3  CR-CT
Box 11, Folder 4  CT-CU
Box 12, Folder 1  CV-DA
Box 13, Folder 1; Box 12, Folder 2-3  DA
Box 13, Folder 2  DE
Box 13, Folder 3  DH-DI
Box 14, Folder 1-2  DO
Box 15, Folder 1; Box 14, Folder 3  DR
Box 15, Folder 2  DR-DZ
Box 15, Folder 3  EA-EL
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Box 32, Folder 1  JO
Box 32, Folder 2; JU
Box 32, Folder 3
Box 33, Folder 1  KA-KI
Box 33, Folder 2  KI-KU
Box 35, Folder 1-3; LA
Box 34, Folder 1-3;
Box 33, Folder 3
Box 36, Folder 1  LA-LE
Box 36, Folder 2-4  LE
Box 38, Folder 1-2; LI
Box 37, Folder 1-4
Box 39, Folder 1-3; LO
Box 38, Folder 3-4
Box 39, Folder 4  LO-LY
Box 41, Folder 1-3; MA
Box 40, Folder 1-3
Box 42, Folder 1  MA-ME
Box 42, Folder 2-3  ME
Box 43, Folder 1-2  MI
Box 43, Folder 3  MI-MO
Box 44, Folder 1-2  MO
Box 44, Folder 3  MO-MU
<p>| Box 45, Folder 1 | MU-MY |
| Box 45, Folder 2 | MY |
| Box 45, Folder 3 | MY-NE |
| Box 46, Folder 1 | NE-NI |
| Box 46, Folder 2 | NI-NO |
| Box 46, Folder 3; Box 47, Folder 1 | NO |
| Box 47, Folder 2 | NO-NY |
| Box 47, Folder 3 | OA-OG |
| Box 48, Folder 1 | OH-OL |
| Box 48, Folder 2 | OL |
| Box 48, Folder 3 | OM-ON |
| Box 49, Folder 1 | ON-OO |
| Box 49, Folder 2 | OP-OS |
| Box 49, Folder 3 | OS-OV |
| Box 50, Folder 1 | OW-PA |
| Box 50, Folder 2 | PA |
| Box 50, Folder 3 | PE |
| Box 51, Folder 1 | PH-PI |
| Box 51, Folder 2 | PL-PO |
| Box 52, Folder 1; Box 51, Folder 3 | PO |
| Box 52, Folder 2-3 | PR |</p>
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Box 61, Folder 2
Box 62, Folder 1  SO-SP
Box 62, Folder 2  SP
Box 62, Folder 3  SP-ST
Box 63, Folder 2;  ST
Box 63, Folder 3;
Box 64, Folder 1;
Box 63, Folder 1
Box 64, Folder 3;
Box 64, Folder 2
Box 65, Folder 1  SU-SW
Box 65, Folder 2  SW
Box 65, Folder 3  SW-TA
Box 66, Folder 1  TA
Box 66, Folder 2  TA-TE
Box 66, Folder 3  TE-TH
Box 67, Folder 1-2  TH
Box 67, Folder 3  TH-TI
Box 68, Folder 1  TI-TO
Box 68, Folder 2  TO-TR
Box 68, Folder 3  TR
Box 69, Folder 1  TR-TW
Box 69, Folder 2  TW
Box 69, Folder 3  UM-UN
Box 70, Folder 1  UP-VA
Box 70, Folder 2-4  VA
Box 71, Folder 1  VA-VE
Box 71, Folder 2  VE-VI
Box 71, Folder 3  VI-VO
Box 72, Folder 1-2  WA
Box 72, Folder 3  WA-WE
Box 73, Folder 1  WE
Box 73, Folder 2  WE-WH
Box 74, Folder 1;  WH
Box 73, Folder 3
Box 74, Folder 2  WH-WI
Box 74, Folder 3  WI
Box 75, Folder 1  WI-WO
Box 75, Folder 2  WO-YE
Box 75, Folder 3  YO
Box 76, Folder 1  A
Box 76, Folder 2  B
Box 76, Folder 3  B-C
Box 77, Folder 1  C-D
Box 77, Folder 2  D
Box 77, Folder 3  D-E
Subseries 26.2: Unidentified Songs, 1874-1939, undated

3 Boxes

Contains material in boxes 92-94 and includes an assortment of loose sheets, song advertisements on back covers, and incomplete songs. These materials are generally fragments of larger compositions. Materials arranged loosely in folders. The music is primarily arranged for piano and piano/vocal. The bulk of the material dates from 1889 to 1929, yet a large portion of the materials are undated. Compositions do not relate to a particular subject matter, and in some cases it may be difficult to identify the song.

Box 92, Folder 1 Song Advertisements on Back Covers
Box 92, Folder 2 Song Advertisements on Back Covers
Box 92, Folder 3 Incomplete Songs
Box 93, Folder 1 Incomplete
Box 93, Folder 2 Incomplete
Box 94, Folder 1 Incomplete
Box 94, Folder 2 Incomplete
Box 94, Folder 3 Incomplete

Subseries 26.3: Multiple Songs, 1867-1950, undated

2 Boxes

Includes compositions with more than one song title contained in boxes 95-96. Materials arranged loosely in folders. Compositions do not relate to a particular subject matter yet generally are composed for piano and piano/vocal with the addition of violin and banjo arrangements. A portion of the songs is for piano studies, popular dances, and general sheet music. The bulk of the material dates from 1877 to 1932, with a large portion ofundated sheet music.

Box 95, Folder 1 Multiple Songs
Subseries 26.4: Other Subjects, 1845-1954, undated

13 Boxes

Contains sheet music relating to subjects created by DeVincent and maintained by the Archives Center that does not have enough material for an entire series. Materials are arranged in alphabetical order by subject. The materials are contained in boxes 86-91 and 97-105. The bulk of the material dates from 1859 to 1924. Music is generally composed for piano, piano/vocal, and organ. Subjects include caprice, composers, DeVincent family names, Etude, first editions, heroes, Hitchcock's Ten Cent or Dime Series, instrumental, intermezzo, the American composer John Rogers Thomas, meditation, nocturne, novelette, organs, puzzles, rhythm and swing, and songsters.

Box 86, Folder 2 Instrumental, A
Box 86, Folder 3 Instrumental, B
Box 86, Folder 4 Instrumental, C-F
Box 87, Folder 1 Instrumental, C
Box 87, Folder 2 Instrumental, E-F
Box 87, Folder 3 Instrumental, F-G
Box 88, Folder 1 Instrumental, H-I
Box 88, Folder 2 Instrumental, I-L
Box 88, Folder 3 Instrumental, L-M
Box 89, Folder 1 Instrumental, N-O
Box 89, Folder 2 Instrumental, O-P
Box 89, Folder 3 Instrumental, O
Box 102, Folder 1  Heroes, M-W
Box 102, Folder 2  Hitchcock
Box 102, Folder 3  Intermezzo, B-R
Box 102, Folder 4  John Rogers Thomas
Box 103, Folder 1  Meditation, A-W
Box 103, Folder 2  Nocturne, E-M
Box 103, Folder 3  Nocturne, N-Z
Box 104, Folder 1  Novelette, A-W
Box 104, Folder 2  Organ
Box 104, Folder 3  Puzzles, C-S
Box 105, Folder 1  Rhythm and Swing, A-W
Box 105, Folder 2  Songsters, A-Z