



Smithsonian
National Museum of American History
Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the Sam DeVincent Collection of Illustrated American Sheet Music, Series 29: Piano

NMAH.AC.0300.S29

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Sam DeVincent Collection of Illustrated American Sheet Music, Series 29: Piano
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0300.S29
Date:	1841-1962, undated
Extent:	8 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 29 contains materials documenting piano in the United States. An overview to the entire DeVincent collection is available here: Sam DeVincent Collection of Illustrated American Sheet Music .
Digital Content:	Image(s): Piano

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 29: Piano 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; 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.

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Scope and Contents

Consists of material documenting the cultural values and popular attitudes toward the piano in the United States. Includes sheet music created specifically for piano players as well as organ accompaniment. The bulk of the material dates from 1860 to 1930. The material is arranged alphabetically by title in eight boxes. Most of the material includes songs for dances such as the waltz, foxtrot, two-step, polka, and marches. A portion of the material also contains educational compositions for learning the piano including basic melodies and fingering practices. Many of these lessons are directed towards children with subjects such as fairy dances, flowers, parades, and schools. Other compositions include major themes of love, romance, and beauty.

Container Listing

Box 1, Folder 1	Titles, A
Box 1, Folder 2	Titles, B
Box 1, Folder 3	Titles, B-C
Box 2, Folder 1	Titles, C-D
Box 2, Folder 2	Titles, D
Box 2, Folder 3	Titles, E
Box 3, Folder 1	Titles, F
Box 3, Folder 2	Titles, F-H
Box 3, Folder 3	Titles, H-I
Box 4, Folder 1	Titles, I-K
Box 4, Folder 2	Titles, L
Box 4, Folder 3	Titles, L-M
Box 5, Folder 1	Titles, M
Box 5, Folder 2	Titles, M
Box 5, Folder 3	Titles, M-O
Box 6, Folder 1	Titles, P
Box 6, Folder 2	Titles, P
Box 6, Folder 3	Titles, R-S
Box 7, Folder 1	Titles, S
Box 7, Folder 2	Titles, S

Box 7, Folder 3	Titles, S-T
Box 8, Folder 1	Titles, T-V
Box 8, Folder 2	Titles, V
Box 8, Folder 3	Titles, V-Z