



Smithsonian

National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center

Betty McGettigan Collection
of Duke Ellington Memorabilia

NMAH.AC.0494

Deborra A. Richardson

1994

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Betty McGettigan Collection of Duke Ellington Memorabilia
Date:	1969-1986
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0494
Creator:	Ellington, Duke, 1899-1974 (Composer) Yim, Ken (Photographer) Rider, Doug (Photographer) English, Fred (Photographer) McGettigan, Betty (Collector)
Extent:	2 Cubic feet (7 boxes)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Image(s): Betty McGettigan Collection of Duke Ellington Memorabilia

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Collection purchased from Betty McGettigan, July 26, 1993.

Processing Information

Collection processed by Deborra Richardson, archivist, 1994.

Preferred Citation

The Betty McGettigan Collection of Duke Ellington Memorabilia, Archives Center, National Museum of American History.

Restrictions on Access

Unrestricted research use on site. Researchers must handle unprotected photographs with gloves.

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Biographical / Historical

Betty McGettigan met Duke Ellington while coordinating a benefit concert for the California Youth Symphony, circa 1969. Shortly thereafter, she began working with him as a writer/secretary, especially on the opera Queenie Pie.

Scope and Contents

The bulk of this collection consists of materials pertaining to Queenie Pie, a comic opera in seven scenes. Also included are publicity, correspondence for the opera, Ellington's autobiography *Music is My Mistress*, and a script for the Ellington work, *My People*.

Arrangement

The collection is divided into four series.

Series 1: Queenie Pie

Series 2: Correspondence

Series 3: Photographs

Series 4: *Music is My Mistress*

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Names:

Bimbo's Club
California Youth Symphony Orchestra
Collier, Ron
Foothill College

Places:

Los Altos (California)
San Francisco (Calif.)
Toronto (California)

Preferred Titles:

Palo Alto Times
Sepia (Magazine)

Container Listing

Series 1: Queenie Pie

Scope and Contents: Articles consists of news and magazine articles, some undated, others ranging from February, 1973 to April, 1978. Subjects include Duke Ellington, Jazz, movies, musical theatre, opera, beauty pageants, and celebrities. These articles were used in Betty McGettigan's research for Queenie Pie.

Subseries 1.1: Music

Box 1, Folder 1	Original music manuscripts
Box 1, Folder 2	Copyist's scores, scenes I - V
Box 1, Folder 3	Copyist's scenes VI & VII
Box 1, Folder 4	Original music manuscript notebook
Box 2, Folder 5-7	Opera Buffa score and libretto (3 books)

Subseries 1.2: Scripts

Box 3, Folder 1-5	"Steps in birthing Queenie Pie" (A-E) [Duke's working notes]
Box 3, Folder 6	Script for Queenie Pie, June 1973
Box 3, Folder 7	Script for Queenie Pie
Box 3, Folder 8	Betty McGettigan's handwritten notes for Queenie Pie. used to complete work after Duke's death
Box 3, Folder 9-10	Betty's Work Book (A-B)
Box 3, Folder 11	Betty's Work Book (C) includes production score for the 1986 staging of Queenie Pie -- edited by Maurice Perez
Box 3, Folder 12	Betty's Work Book (D) (1986 production score)

Subseries 1.3: Articles

Box 4, Folder 1	Articles on Duke Ellington, related to Duke Ellington, or on jazz, February, 1973 - April, 1977, some undated
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Box 4, Folder 2	Articles on movies, musical theatre, and opera, including reviews on Porgy and Bess,, August, 1975 to June, 1977, some undated
Box 4, Folder 3	Articles on celebrities and "The Black Elite", undated
Box 4, Folder 4	Articles concerning beauty contests, April, 1978, undated
Box 4, Folder 5	Articles from Stanton Delaplane's "Postcard" and from Von Hoffman's "The Spectators,", undated
Box 4, Folder 6	Clippings of Rattan Furniture, undated
Box 7, Folder 2	Duke Ellington's Queenie Pie, 1986 1 Poster

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Series 2: Correspondence

Scope and Contents: Correspondence consists of letters and notes to and from Duke Ellington, Mercer Ellington, and Betty McGettigan, Duke Ellington memorabilia, ephemera and miscellanea (including business cards and loose files). The letters to and from Duke include business correspondence, letters from friends and acquaintances, fan mail, birthday and Easter correspondence. The notes to McGettigan accompanied her pay (April, 1972-January, 1974), concerned company business, or included short greetings. Among the names on the business cards and the loose file of names and addresses were the composers Betty Jackson King and Coleridge Taylor Perkinson, and Brock Peters an actor with a beautiful singing voice. All three are African Americans.

Box 4, Folder 7	Duke Ellington birth certificate
Box 4, Folder 8	75th Birthday wishes
Box 4, Folder 9	Letters and notes to Duke and Mercer Ellington, and from the company, 1973, undated
Box 4, Folder 10	Performance schedule/chart from DE's last European tour and handwritten list of musicians/instruments, undated, undated
Box 4, Folder 11	Correspondence and program from the California Youth Symphony, 1969
Box 4, Folder 12	Notes to Betty McGettigan, from Duke Ellington or regarding Duke Ellington, including a personal Christmas card and personalized signature on art paper, 1970
Box 4, Folder 13	Correspondence between Betty McGettigan and NMAH (Division of Musical History and Archives Center), 1992
Box 4, Folder 14	Miscellaneous receipts, 1972-1973
Box 4, Folder 15	Handwritten addresses on note papers, alphabetized by last name
Box 4, Folder 16	Business cards, alphabetized by last name
Box 4, Folder 17	Miscellaneous notations on scrap paper
Box 4, Folder 18	Church ephemera
Box 7, Folder 1	Lausmann's Lousy Loggers Band (album cover), 1972 Notes: Album signed "Happy Birthday Mr. Duke Ellington from all the guys in our band, Rex."

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Series 3: Photographs

Scope and Contents: Photographs consists of fifteen 8x10 black-and-white photos and three 5x7 photos, dating from 1969-1974. There are three groups and one miscellaneous shot. Nine photos are from the March 9, 1969 concert of the California Youth Symphony Orchestra with guest, Duke Ellington, at Foothill College in Los Altos, California. Two photos are from Bimbo's Club in San Francisco, California (December, 1969). Three photos are head and shoulders shots of Duke Ellington. The final photo is Duke with a friend. In addition, there are three copies of a publicity shot of Duke at the piano, two in black and white, one in color. Photographers represented in this series are: Doug Rider, Fred English, Ken Yim (*Palo Alto Times*), and *Sepia Magazine*.

Box 5, Folder 1	Duke Ellington at the piano, autographed to Betty McGettigan, Fred English photo, (Foothill College).
Box 5, Folder 1	Duke Ellington and Betty McGettigan -- arriving (Foothill College).
Box 5, Folder 1	Duke Ellington and Betty McGettigan (Los Altos, California).
Box 5, Folder 1	Duke Ellington at the piano -- rehearsal, Fred English photo (Foothill College).
Box 5, Folder 1	Duke Ellington at the piano -- taking a break at rehearsal, Ramon Espinosa, violinist from CYSO in background, Ken Yim photo -- Palo Alto Times (Foothill College).
Box 5, Folder 1	Duke Ellington at the piano -- concert (Foothill College).
Box 5, Folder 2	Johnny Hodges, Michael McGettigan, Duke Ellington -- "Trying Out the New Saxophone" at Bimbo's Club, San Francisco, Doug Richards photo.
Box 5, Folder 2	Johnny Hodges, Michael McGettigan, Duke Ellington -- at Bimbo's Club, San Francisco, December, 1969, Doug Richards photo., 1969
Box 5, Folder 2	Duke Ellington and friend (Ron Collier?) in Toronto, courtesy Ron Collier.
Box 5, Folder 2	Duke Ellington, Betty McGettigan and son, Michael McGettigan, Stanford, California, 1969
Box 5, Folder 3	Duke Ellington -- head and shoulders shot, circa 1970
Box 5, Folder 3	Duke Ellington -- head and shoulders shot, -- "A Favorite hat and shirt," Sepia Magazine, 1974
Box 5, Folder 3	Duke Ellington -- head shot, circa 1974
Box 5, Folder 3	Duke Ellington at the piano -- publicity photo, circa 1970

Box 5, Folder 3

Duke Ellington at the piano -- duplicate of 16.

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Series 4: Music is My Mistress

Scope and Contents: Music is My Mistress consists of typed and written drafts from the Ellington autobiography, as well as some correspondence with its publisher, Doubleday, and promotional materials. Some of the draft materials are unidentified and may not have been published in Music is My Mistress.

Box 6, Folder 1	Doubleday materials: correspondence, contract agreements, promotional materials for Music is My Mistress, book outline
Box 6, Folder 2	Dramatis Felidae" -- typescripts of biographical notes from Music is My Mistress.
Box 6, Folder 3	"The Big Apple," "City of Jazz," "Jazz for Young People," "Jump for Joy," "Long Island Entertainer," "On Music," "Pool Room," "Rollin'," "Taste Buds," "Thoughts on Composing" -- typescript draft ideas for Music is My Mistress.
Box 6, Folder 4	"Nipponese Journal," "Dakar Journal," "Goutelas Journal," "Prague Journal," "Russian Journal," and "Pacific Journal" -- typescript draft ideas about places visited on tour
Box 6, Folder 5	"Retire to What," "Epilogue: The Mirrored Self," "Epilogue" -- questions
Box 6, Folder 6	Honors and Awards list from Music is My Mistress
Box 6, Folder 7	Miscellaneous untitled articles concerning sacred music and clergy from Music is My Mistress?
Box 6, Folder 8	Miscellaneous untitled articles from Music is My Mistress?

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