



Smithsonian

*National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center*

## Guide to the Ralph Burns Papers

NMAH.AC.0736

Annie Kuebler

1994

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## Collection Overview

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| <b>Repository:</b>      | Archives Center, National Museum of American History  |
| <b>Title:</b>           | Ralph Burns Papers  |
| <b>Date:</b>            | circa 1940-1994   |
| <b>Identifier:</b>      | NMAH.AC.0736  |
| <b>Creator:</b>         | Burns, Ralph, 1922-2001   |
| <b>Extent:</b>          | 1 Cubic foot (4 boxes )   |
| <b>Language:</b>        | English .   |
| <b>Summary:</b>         | This collection contains sheet music and presentation scores of songs written and arranged by composer Ralph Burns. |
| <b>Digital Content:</b> | <a href="#">Image(s): Ralph Burns Papers</a>  |

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Collection donated by Ralph Burns, 2000.

### Processing Information

Collection processed by Annie Kuebler, 2000.

### Preferred Citation

Ralph Burns Collection, circa 1940-1994, Archives Center, National Museum of American History.

### Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

### Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

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## Biographical / Historical

Ralph Burns (1922-2001) was a jazz composer and arranger. Born in Newtown Massachusetts, Burns moved to New York City in the 1940s and worked with the Woody Herman Band, arranging some of their most famous songs, including "Apple Honey," and "Early Autumn." He later had a successful career arranging film scores.

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## Scope and Contents

This collection documents the career of the composer and arranger Ralph Burns. The papers include six holograph scores, three bound presentation scores, photographs, a calendar and a bound scrapbook created by Burns' mother containing photographs, programs and clippings.

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## Arrangement

The collection is arranged into two series.

Series 1: Music Manuscripts and Photographs

Series 2: Bound Broadway Presentation Scores

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## Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Music -- 20th century -- United States
- Musicians -- 20th century

Types of Materials:

- Holographs
- Photographs -- 20th century
- Scores
- Scrapbooks -- 20th century

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## Container Listing

### Series 1: Music Manuscripts and Photographs

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| Box 1, Folder 1 | Bijou, undated                                   |
| Box 1, Folder 2 | Duke Ellington Medley (for Boston Pops), undated |
| Box 1, Folder 3 | Early Autumn, undated                            |
| Box 1, Folder 4 | Happiness Is Just a Thing Called Joe, undated    |
| Box 1, Folder 5 | Lady McGowan's Dream, undated                    |
| Box 1, Folder 6 | Photographs, undated                             |
| Box 4, Folder 1 | Apple Honey, undated                             |

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## Series 2: Bound Broadway Presentation Scores

Box 2, Folder 1 Chicago (signed by Mathilde Pincus, Al Miller and Bob Fosse),  
1977-04-19-1977-04-20

Box 2, Folder 2 Irene (signed by Mathilde Pincus and Al Miller), 1975-06-04

Box 3, Folder 1 Pippin (signed by Mathilde Pincus and Al Miller), 1975-06-04

Box 3, Folder 2 Scrapbook, circa 1940-1973

Box 3, Folder 3 1994 Catalina Bar and Grill Jazz Calendar, 1994

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