



Smithsonian

National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the Mongo Santamaria Papers

NMAH.AC.0893

Sarah Allan

2008

Archives Center, National Museum of American History
P.O. Box 37012
Suite 1100, MRC 601
Washington, D.C. 20013-7012
Business Number: Phone: 202-633-3270
Fax Number: Fax: 202-786-2453
archivescenter@si.edu
<https://americanhistory.si.edu/archives>

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Mongo Santamaria Papers
Date:	1950s-1996
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0893
Creator:	Santamaria, Mongo, 1917-
Extent:	2 Cubic feet (4 boxes)
Language:	Collection is in English. Some materials are in Spanish, French and Japanese.
Summary:	Collection includes music manuscripts, articles and clippings, concert programs, passports, and photographs.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Donated to the Archives Center by Mongo Santamaria's daughter, Nancy Anderson.

Related Materials

The materials in this collection complement the Latino Music Collection, Tito Puente Papers, Chico O'Farrill Papers, Dizzy Gillespie Collection and Paquito d'Rivera Music Manuscripts and Photograph.

Processing Information

Collection processed by Sarah Allan (volunteer), 2008; supervised by Vanessa Broussard Simmons, February 2013.

Preferred Citation

Mongo Santamaria Papers, 1965-2001, Archives Center, National Museum of American History. Gift of Nancy Anderson.

Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Fees for commercial reproduction. Reproduction restricted due to copyright or trademark.

Biographical / Historical

Cuban-born percussionist, composer, arranger, and bandleader.

Scope and Contents

This collection documents, mostly in photographs, the musical career of Mongo Santamaria. Other materials include music manuscripts, magazine and newspaper articles, flyers, posters, and passports.

Series 1, Photographs, circa 1950s–1990s, includes primarily black and white and some color images of Mongo Santamaria. There is a photograph of Santamaria with the first Congo he brought from Cuba to the United States. Of particular interest is Santamaria performing with Tito Puente and Cal Tjada's bands. Some of the earlier photographs document performances at the Palladium Nightclub and Apollo Theatre. There are publicity photographs of Santamaria and his band created by the recording studios. The photographs also include award ceremonies, bar scenes and concert appearances. The materials are arranged in chronological order.

Series 2, Music Manuscripts, 1958-1985; undated, includes music created by Santamaria and music performed by him but written by other composers. Escena Afro-Cubanas composed and arranged by Valerie Capers (1985), Just Say Good-by by Rodgers Grant, Mambo Olga Pachanga by Nicolas Martinez (1961) and Peace by Horace Silver are included among these materials. The materials are arranged in alphabetical order by title.

Series 3, Personal and Background Information, 1945-1996; undated, include a profile of Santamaria and other musicians written in Japanese. There are also magazine articles documenting the development of Santamaria's career and his public appearances. Articles from the Miami Herald and the Chicago Tribune are also included among the materials. Personal items consist of Santamaria's Cuban and American passports. The materials are arranged in alphabetical order by type.

Series 4, Performance Materials, 1977-1996; undated, includes the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences Certificate to Mongo Santamaria and his Latin-Jazz Orchestra in recognition of nomination for the Best Tropical Latin Performance for Free Spirit, Espirito Libre, 1985. There are also flyers and an entertainment guide, some in Spanish, advertising public appearances for concert performances. A program in French for a jazz festival in Vienna includes profiles of the performers. There are posters including a black and white drawing of jazz musicians by Robert Leonard (1985) and appearances at the Miami Jazz and Heritage Festival, Apollo Theatre, Oberlin College and the Blue Note. Materials are arranged in alphabetical order by type.

Arrangement

The collection is divided into 4 series.

Series 1: Photographs, circa 1950s-1990

Series 2, Music Manuscripts, 1958-1985 and undated

Series 3, Personal and Background Information, 1945-1996 and undated

Series 4, Performance Materials, 1977-1996 and undated

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Drummers (Musicians)
- Jazz
- Jazz musicians -- United States
- Music -- 20th century

Musicians -- United States

Types of Materials:

Articles
Concert programs
Manuscripts -- Music -- 20th century
Passports
Photographs -- 1950-2000

Container Listing

Series 1: Photographs, circa 1950s-1990s

Box 1, Folder 1	1950s
Box 2, Folder 1	1950s
Box 2, Folder 2	1950s
Box 1, Folder 2	1960s
Box 2, Folder 3	1960s
Box 1	1970s
Box 2, Folder 4	1970s
Map-folder 1	1970s
Box 1	1980s
Box 2, Folder 5	1980s
Box 1	1990s
Frame 1	Framed print

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Series 2: Music Manuscripts, 1958-1985; undated

Box 3, Folder 1	Afro Blue, undated
	Besitos "Pa" "Ti", undated
Box 3, Folder 2	Congo Blue, 1962
Box 3, Folder 3	Escena Afro-Cubanas, 1985
Box 3, Folder 4	Just Say Goodbye, undated
Box 3, Folder 5	Mambo Olga Pachanga, 1961
Box 3, Folder 6	Peace, undated
Box 3, Folder 7	Pita Camion, undated
Box 3, Folder 8	Trumpet Felice, undated
Box 3	Watermelon Man, undated
Box 3	Yambu, 1958

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Series 3: Personal and Background Information, 1945-1996, undated

Box 3, Folder 9	Artist profile, undated
Box 3, Folder 10	Magazine articles, 1965-1992
Box 3, Folder 11	Newspaper articles, 1981, 1989
Box 3, Folder 12	Passports, 1945-1996

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Series 4: Performance Materials, 1977-1996, undated

Box 3, Folder 13 Entertainment guide, 1979

Box 3, Folder 14 Flyers, 1977-1996

Box 3, Folder 15 National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences Certificate, 1985

Box 4 Posters, 1977-1993, undated

Box 3, Folder 16 Program, 1991

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