The Sister Mary Dominic Ray papers, 1927-1989 An inventory of holdings at the American Music Research Center



American Music Research Center, University of Colorado at Boulder

Descriptive summary

Title Sister Mary Dominic Ray papers

Date(s) 1927-1989 COU-AMRC-86

Creator(s) Ray, Mary Dominic, Sister, O.P., 1913-1994 **Repository** The American Music Research Center

University of Colorado at Boulder

288 UCB

Boulder, CO 80309

Location Housed in the American Music Research Center

Physical Description 15 linear feet

31 boxes

Scope and Contents

Papers of Sister Mary Dominic Ray (1913-1994), musician, musicologist, collector; founder, American Music Research Center (Dominican College), 1947. Includes artifacts and photographs documenting the early years of the AMRC, as well as papers supporting Sister Mary's research and publications. Includes several original music sheets from the 18th and 19th centuries. Of related interest is the collection of early American tune books and hymnals, housed at the Howard B. Waltz Music Library.

Administrative Information

Arrangement

Arranged by format and topic

Access

The collection is open for research

Usage Restrictions

Copyright is not held by the American Music Research Center. Requests to publish materials should be directed to the copyright holder.

Acquisition history

Purchased from Dominican College

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Sister Mary Dominic Ray papers, University of Colorado, Boulder

Index Terms

Access points related to this collection:

Personal names

Ray, Mary Dominic, Sister, O.P., 1913-1994 Ray, Mary Dominic, Sister, O.P., 1913-1994 -- Archives

Corporate names

American Music Research Center

Subject headings

Music -- United States
Popular music -- United States

Biography of Sister Mary Dominic Ray

Sister Mary Dominic Ray was born in Burlington, Vermont, Sept. 5, 1913. She received her Bachelor of Music degree from the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music in Piano in 1937. From 1937 – 1938 she studied with Georg Gruenberg in Berlin, Germany, and continued with him in subsequent years in the United States. Sister Dominic made her professional debut in San Francisco in 1939 as Joyzelle Ray. From 1939 – 1946 she concertized under the management of Alice Metcalf, Curran Swint and L.E. Behymer.

In 1943, Sister Dominic joined the music faculty of Dominican College and in 1947, she joined the Order of Dominican Sisters of San Rafael, California, taking the name Sister Mary Dominic. She resumed her public concerts in 1962 and appeared with orchestras, chamber music groups, and in solo recitals.

Her interest in early American music began in 1959 with a study of American Moravian music and included such topics as California mission music, Samuel Felsted's Jonah, music of the gold rush, and comic operas. The study led her to research many aspects of the nation's music history, and in 1968 she founded the American Music Research Center. AMRC was one of the few such centers in the United States devoted to the preservation, study, and performance of America's musical heritage.

Sister Dominic's publications include:

Gloria Dei: the Story of California Mission Music, (Co-authored with Joseph H. Engbeck, Jr.) Published by the State of California, Department of Parks and Recreation and the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission of California, 1974.

The Gold Digger's Song Book, Introduction by Sister Mary Dominic Ray, O.P. Reprint of the original 1856 book by Mart Taylor. Published by The Book Club of California (San Francisco), 1975.

"Drums, Wigs and Six Wax Lights, (the History of Comic Opera in America, 1735 to 1860)". *Hi-fidelity and Musical America*, August 1975.

"Karl Krueger and Seattle Symphony Orchestra", Northwest Arts, Vol. IV, no. 11, June 1978.

Sister Mary Dominic Ray died January 26, 1994, in San Rafael, California. She was 80. In 1990, she made arrangements for the American Music Research Center to be purchased by the University of Colorado at Boulder Library so that her work of preserving America's musical heritage would continue.

Detailed Description

Personal papers

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1	1	Biographical Information
1	2	Clippings , 1962 – 1984
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		Joyzelle Ray, c. 1945
		Sister Mary at desk in AMRC, 1974
		Sister Mary informal, n.d.
		Sister Mary close-up, 1975
		Sister Mary standing at piano, 1975
		Sister Mary negatives
		Sister Mary and Elmar Armer, 1975
		Sister Mary and unidentified man, c. 1975
		Sister Mary and unidentified woman student, c. 1975
1	5	Programs – Joyzelle Ray, 1939 – 1946
1	6	Programs – Sister Mary Dominic Ray, 1962 – 1976
1	7	Religious Books (personal copies with notes)
		New Testament, translated by Ronald Knox, New York: Sheed & Ward, 1954
		Triduo Ante Pascha, S.O. P., Rome: Vatican, 1927
1	8	Travel Schedule of SMD , 1965 – 1986

Class and research materials

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2	4	Billings, William
2	5	Billings, William
2	6	Billings, William
2	7	Black music
2	8	Bullitt, Dorothy Stimson
2	9	Choral Music (by title)
3	1	Dates (Establishments, Symphonies, Schools, etc.)
3	2	Dox, Thurston – Article – Choral Theater: An Annotated List of Works
3	3	Dox, Thurston – Article – Henry Cowell's Choral Bombshell
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3	5	Dox, Thurston – Catskill Choral Society, 1982-1986
3	6	Dox, Thurston – Correspondence, Felsted's Jonah, 1979
3	7	Dox, Thurston – Correspondence, Felsted's Jonah, 1980

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               Felsted's Jonah – Performance Chronology
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               Felsted's Jonah – Performance, San Francisco, Ca., 1980
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11	11	Gold Digger's Song Book – Original and Reprint
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21 1 Slides

20th Century Artists (8 slides)

20th Century Composers (7 slides)

Gershwin, George (8 slides)

Griffes, Charles T. (3 slides)

Harrison, Lou (1 slide)

Ives, Charles E (24 slides)

Ruggles, Carl (3 slides)

Sutton, Jon (4 slides)

Varese, Edgar (5 slides)

20th Century Conductors, Impresarios (15 slides)

20th Century Theatres (11 slides)

British Museum (4 slides)

York, England (14 slides)

Miscellaneous Art (10 slides)

Dominion College (8 slides)

Gold Rush (36 slides)

Virginia City (35 slides)

Cities

Boston, Ma. (4 slides)

Charleston, S. C. (20 slides)

New Orleans, La. (27 slides)

New York, N.Y. – Steinway (3 slides)

Welte – Mignon, France (10 slides)

Philadelphia, Pa. (18 slides)

San Francisco, Ca. (30 slides)

Seattle, Wa. (21 slides)

St. Genevieve, Mo. (4 slides)

St. Louis, Mo. (13 slides)

Theatre (10 slides)

Dancing School (4 slides)

Local Color (6 slides)

Auction (9 slides)

Musicians (29 slides)

Tomales, Ca. (11 slides)

Washington, D.C. (8 slides

Williamsburg, Va. (10 slides)

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Gottschalk, L. M. (9 slides)

Gottschalk, L. M. – Gold Hill (12 slides)

Gottschalk, L. M. – South America (4 slides)

Moravian Religion (25 slides)

Moravian I, Bethlehem, Pa. (16 slides)

Moravian II, Europe, Salem, Pa. (17 slides)

Moravian III, Salem, Pa.-Charts, Town, Crafts (19 slides)

Moravian IV, Salem, Pa.-Crafts (15 slides)

Archives (1 slide)

Brethren's House (14 slides)

Bethlehem, Nazareth, Lititz, Pa. (8 slides)

Comenius, J. A. (13 slides)

Crafts (18 slides)

God's Acre (5 slides)

Instruments (16 slides)

Tavern 1784 (9 slides)

Tobacco Shop (8 slides)

Vogler (9 slides)

Black Music

Africa (10 slides)

Black Artists (21 slides)

Black Music (8 slides)

Minstrels (19 slides)

St. John's Island (11 slides)

St. Simon's Island (25 slides)

Slave Songs 1867 (5 slides)

Recordings

ixccor c	iiigs	
Box	Cassette	
22	1	American Folk Music
22	2	American Music, History of, by W.T. Marrocco, American Music Festival,
		Washington, D.C. (Includes Latrobe Son, Gottschalk), 1966
22	3	American Music, History of, by W.T. Marrocco, American Music Festival,
		Washington, D.C. ("The Banjo", "Danse Cubaina", LMG), 1966
22	4	American Bicentennial, Washington, D.C. (Psalmody, Folk Hymns, Fuge
		Tunes, Anthems), 1976
22	5	American Bicentennial, Washington, D.C. (Comic Operas, Moravian Music),
		1976
22	6	Black Studies – African Examples
22	7	Black Studies – American Examples of African Elements
22	8	Black Studies – Black Folk Music Festival, from NPR broadcasts; Smithsonian
		Music Festival, from NPR broadcasts; Bessie Jones, Georgia Sea Island,
		orchestral clapping demonstration, 1977-1978
22	9	Black Studies – Lampkin and Gwen Lockwood, 1974 (March 24)
22	10	Black Studies - Charles Lampkin, Work Songs; Fasola Singers, Dr. Kingman,
		Lecturer, 1972
22	11	California, Images of, 1776-1876, A Meeting of Three Cultures #AT427
22	12	California, Images of, 1776-1876, A Meeting of Three Cultures #AT428
22	13	California, Images of, 1776-1876, A Meeting of Three Cultures #AT429
22	14	California before 1846 – Mission Archive Sources in California History by
		Maynard Geiger, O.F.M. #AT430
22	15	California Mission Music Studies – Barrel Organ, c. 1828
22	16	California Mission Music Studies – Songs, Recorded by RCA for Padre da
		Silva, 1950
22	17	Chamber Music – Flonzaley Quartet, 1925-1928
22	18	Chamber Music – Jones, Edward A., 1853-1911, 4 Compositions
22	19	Chamber Music – Marin Arts Quartet, with performers Barbara Baum, Charles
		Meacham, Rhonda Bingham, Jean Mitchell, Lucian Mitchell, Angelio Hall
		playing Moller and Beach, 1976 March
22	20	Christmas Music 1900, California Historical Society, 1973 December
22	21	Comic Operas – "The Better Sort" or "The Girl of the Spirit"
22	22	Comic Operas – "Dead or Alive" KPFA Broadcast, 1973 Fall
22	23	Comic Operas – "Flora" or "Hob In the Well", 1976 March
23	1	Comic Operas – "Mock Doctor", 1972 March
23	2	Comic Operas – "Mock Doctor", 1972 March
23	3	Eighteenth Century American Cultural Life, Anne McClenny Krause, 1972
		July
23	4	Gold Rush Concert, Dominican College, 1973 February
23	5	Gold Rush Music for California Historical Society, San Francisco, Ca., 1973

23	6	Ives, Charles – Lecture by Lou Harrison, San Francisco State university, 1978 May
23	7	Ives, Charles – Lecture for PD342 class at Dominion College, Tape 1
23	8	Ives, Charles – Remembered – Lecture for PD342 class at Dominion College, Tape 2
23	9	Jazz, What Is? Lecture by Bernstein
23	10	Joplin, Scott – KPIX Program by Peter Giamona, 1973
23	11	Joplin, Scott – Ragtime, Cakewalk, "Treemonisha"
23	12	Litwin, David-Welcome to Washington, D.C., National Visitors' Center, 1976
		July 4
23	13	Litwin, David-City of the Plain, Washington, D.C. Union Station, 1986
		September
23	14	Litwin, David-Lecture about Robert Lewis Stevenson
23	15	Minstrel Shows-"Old Time Minstrel Shows" and Arnold's Archives, 1976
23	16	Minstrel Shows-"Old Time Minstrel Shows" and Arnold's Archives, 1986
23	17	Organ in America, E. Power Biggs, for class PD111
23	18	Outdoor Music Amplification – American Music Week, Washington, D.C., 1986
23	19	Outdoor Music Amplification – American Music Week, Washington, D.C., 1986
23	20	Outdoor Music Amplification – American Music Week, Washington, D.C., 1986
23	21	Piano Music, 18th Century American Sampler, by John Gillespie, University of California, Santa Barbara
23	22	Psalmody – Early American Music, California Mission Music, for PD33
23	23	Shaker Songs – Dr. Kingman at Calervega: Songs of Hopkinson
23	24	Sousa, John Phillip, Original Band with Table of Contents
23	25	Sutton, Jon – "The Seasons" and "Children's' Piano Suite"
23	26	Sutton, Jon – "A Child's Garden of Songs" with Song Settings of Poems by
		Robert Louis Stevenson
23	27	Western Wind Vocal Ensemble "Happy Journal" Vol. 2 for PD411
23	28	York Minister, Sounds of

Artifacts

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28	1	Advertisements (19th Century)
		Central Pacific RR – Time Table
		Christy's Minstrels

		Pirates of Penzance Zon-O-Phone Records
		Girl of the Golden West
28	2	Advertisements (19th Century)
		Floating Palace – Riverboat
		Company "Rules and Suggestions"
		San Francisco Minstrels
		Paul Whiteman
		Edison-Bell Consolidated Phonograph Co.
28	3	American Music Festival – Festival Chorus and Orchestsra
28	4	Advice to Monks, n.d.
28	5	Boston, MA., Slave Sale, 1667
28	6	Comic Opera Playbills (Original)
		Hob in the Well, 1786
		Haunted Tower, 1794
		No Song, No Supper, 1798
		Spoiled Child, 1799
		Love in a Village, 1813
		Devil's Bridge, 1816
28	7	Comic Opera Playbills (Reproductions)
		1752: Venice Preserved; Miss In Her Teens
		1753: King Richard III; Devil To Pay
		1753: Flora, or, Hob in the Well
		1767: Romeo and Juliet
		1778: Wonder
		1778: Theatre – Postponed
20	0	1798: Castle-Spectre; No Song, No Supper
28	8	Currency – 18th Century Continental Currency (2 items) (Original)
28	9	Currency – 19th Century Confederate Currency (8 items) (Original)
28	10	Currency – English and American Bills (7 items) (Replica)
28	11	Moravian Church and Music
28	12	Music: Originals
		Mistrels' Return (1st Hit Song), c.1827
		Open the Lattice Love, 1844
		Old Folks at Home, 1851
		California Pioneers (1st Music Published in California), 1852
20	13	United States Military Academy Song, 1852 Musica Patriotic Scores (Penroductions)
28	13	Music: Patriotic Scores (Reproductions) 1795: President's March
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		1798: President's March (Hail Columbia) 1799: Yankee Doodle
		1814: Star Spangled Banner
		1831: America – My Country Tis of Thee
		1862: Battle Hymn of the Republic
28	14	Music: San Francisco Examiner (Originals)
20	17	Christmas Carol, 1897
		Cuckoo Bird, 1901
28	15	Music: San Francisco Examiner (Originals)
20	13	Madie. Suit Funcisco Examiner (Originais)

		Love's Old Sweet Song, c.1906
		Strolling With Your Summer Girl, 1906 Sylvia (from Merry Widow), 1908
		Merry Widow Waltz Song, 1908
28	16	Patriotic Banner WW I
28	17	Paul Revere's Certificate
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		Arnold, Samuel
		Boyce, Wm.
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28	19	Shields, Wm. Photos: Comia Opara Librattists
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28	21	Photos: Miscellaneous
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29	8	Original Colored Engraving: London, England – Covent Garden Theatre & Drury Lane
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30	2	"Fasola Folk" (DoRayMe Folk) Andrew Law's System, 1802; Shape Notes;
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