

Local Sheet Music Collection

This collection contains pieces of sheet music primarily from the late 19th century and early 20th century. It includes songs written about Kansas City as well as published by local music publishers and written by local composers. The bulk of the collection includes pieces published in St. Louis.

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Artificial collection/Missouri Valley Special Collections

Title: Local Sheet Music Collection

Dates: circa1880-1960, bulk 1890-1930

Size: 65 linear feet (52 boxes), 2500-3000 items

Location: SC59

Administrative Information

Restrictions on access: Unrestricted access.

Terms governing use and reproduction: Copyright restrictions may apply.

Related collections in other repositories: Kansas City Sheet Music Collection, Miller Nichols Library, Special Collections, University of Missouri at Kansas City.

Acquisition information: Unknown.

Custodial history: Majority of collection formerly located in the library's Art and Music Department. Some sheet music transferred from the library's Central Reference department in 2003.

Citation note: Local Sheet Music collection (SC59), Missouri Valley Special Collections, Kansas City Public Library, Kansas City, Missouri.

Collection Description

Scope and content note

This collection is arranged as an imprint collection and the music is arranged alphabetically by title within each box. The sheet music is arranged by state: Missouri, Kansas and outside the local area and then by city with the two largest groupings for Kansas City and St. Louis. Within the Kansas City arrangement is a separate category for Jenkins Music Company and for Charles Johnson. Local composers besides Charles Johnson include Scott Joplin, Carl Hoffman, Charles N. Daniels, and others.

The type of music includes traditional music of the time period with emphasis on ragtime selections. The bulk of the music is published but there are some original, handwritten compositions. Also included are songs about Kansas City as well as sheet music covers with illustrations depicting Kansas City. A card index is located in the Missouri Valley Special Collections department and is arranged by song title, composer, and publisher. Box 23 contains numerous, non sheet music items including original music scores by local composers Gus Guentzel and Harry H. Bunton. Also included in this box is a scrapbook featuring famous violinists of the day.

Collection Inventory

- Box 1A - St. Louis Imprints - American Music Co. - Art Publication Society
- Box 1B - St. Louis Imprints - Art Publication Society, 1919-1936
- Box 2 - St. Louis Imprints - Balmer & Weber, through 1884
- Box 3 - St. Louis Imprints - Balmer & Weber, 1885-1898
- Box 4A - Kansas City Imprints - publishers A-D
- Box 4B - Kansas City Imprints - publishers E-I
- Box 5A - Kansas City Imprints - publishers K-Le
- Box 5B - Kansas City Imprints - publishers Li-N
- Box 5C - Kansas City Imprints - publishers O-Z
- Box 6A - Kansas City Imprints - Primarily Jenkins Music Company, A-K
- Box 6B - Kansas City Imprints - Primarily Jenkins Music Company, L-Z
- Box 7A - Kansas City Imprints - Jenkins Music Company, 1889-1909
- Box 7B - Kansas City Imprints - Jenkins Music Company, 1910-on
- Box 8A - Kansas Imprints - A-K
- Box 8B - Kansas Imprints - L-Z
- Box 9A - Kansas City Imprints - Charles L. Johnson (composer), 1899-1910, A-L
- Box 9B - Kansas City Imprints - Charles L. Johnson (composer), 1899-1910, M-Z
- Box 10A - Missouri Imprints - Outside of Kansas City, A-L
- Box 10B - Missouri Imprints - Outside of Kansas City, M-W
- Box 11 - Local Imprints - Outside of Kansas and Missouri
- Box 12A - Published Music - Charles Johnson, 1911-1940, A-L
- Box 12B - Published Music - Charles Johnson, 1911-1940, M-Z
- Box 13A - St. Louis Imprints - *St. Louis Star*, Oct. 1899-1909
- Box 13B - St. Louis Imprints - *Post Dispatch*, 1899-1900, *Republic*, 1899-1909
- Box 14A - St. Louis Imprints - Bafunno - Bollman & Schatzman
- Box 14B - St. Louis Imprints - Bollman & Sons - Brick

Box 14C - St. Louis Imprints - H. Bollman & Son - Brunner

Box 15A - St. Louis Imprints - Thibes-Stierlin

Box 15B - St. Louis Imprints - Thibes-Stierlin - Zerse

Box 16A - St. Louis Imprints, C-D

Box 16B - St. Louis Imprints - Buck & Lowney

Box 17A(1) - St. Louis Imprints - Robbins & Shattinger

Box 17A(2) - St. Louis Imprints - Simon - Syndicate

Box 17B - St. Louis Imprints - Shattinger

Box 18 - St. Louis Imprints - E - Kunkel Bros., through 1869

Box 18-2A - St. Louis Imprints - Kunkel Bros., 1870-1888, A - L

Box 18-2B - St. Louis Imprints - Kunkel Bros., 1870-1888, M - Z

Box 18-3A - St. Louis Imprints - Kunkel Bros., 1889-1924, A - L

Box 18-3B - St. Louis Imprints - Kunkel Bros., 1889-1924, M - Z

Box 19A - St. Louis Imprints - Laidig - Perricone-Dickerson

Box 19B - St. Louis Imprints - J. L. Peters

Box 19C - St. Louis Imprints - Phillips - Retter

Box 20(1a) - St. Louis Imprints - Balmer & Weber, through 1859, A - K

Box 20(1b) - St. Louis Imprints - Balmer & Weber, through 1859, L - Z

Box 20(2) - St. Louis Imprints - Balmer & Weber, 1860-1904

Box 21 - Non Local

Box 22 - Kansas City Imprints - Jenkins Music Company, miscellaneous items, catalogs, band score books, advertisements, etc.

Box 23 - Kansas City Imprints - Miscellaneous items including a booklet on Duke Ellington; May, 1962 issue of *Musical America*; original manuscript score for "Frontier Overture" by Gus Guentzel, circa 1945; scrapbook on violinists which includes newspaper clippings, programs, etc.; two original scores by Harry H. Bunton entitled "March Faithful Forever" and "March Determination" which was dedicated to Dr. E.M. Hiner and Gus Guentzel, 1937; brochure listing music scores in Kansas City Public Library; March 28, 1928 issue of *Retail Review* which was published in Kansas City, etc.

Box 24 - St. Louis Imprints - Miscellaneous items including sheet music, brochures, programs, etc.

Boxes 25, 26, 27 - St. Louis Imprints - Miscellaneous items including music scores, song book, sheet music, etc.

Processed by Special Collections Librarian Sara Nyman and Library Associate John Horner, Summer 1996.