

Guide to the Paul Affelder Papers, 1930-1975

JPB 06-70

Music Division

**The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts
New York, New York**

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Abstract

Paul B. Affelder (1915-1975) was a music critic and the founder of Program Note Service. The collection consists primarily of Affelder's writings, as well as press releases, programs and other promotional materials compiled by Affelder from the mid-1950s through 1975. The collection also includes an incomplete set of orchestral parts for the Emmerich Kálmán–George Marion, Jr. operetta, *Marinka*.

Descriptive Summary

Title:	Paul Affelder Papers
Collection ID:	JPB 06-70
Creator:	Affelder, Paul B.
Extent:	9.06 linear feet (13 boxes)
Repository:	Music Division. The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts

Administrative Information

Access

Collection is open to the public. Library policy on photocopying will apply. Advance notice may be required.

Publication Rights

For permission to publish, contact the Curator, Music Division.

Preferred Citation

Paul Affelder Papers, JPB 06-70, Music Division, The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts.

Custodial History

The Paul Affelder Papers were donated in multiple installments to the Music Division in 1979 by Jane Affelder.

Related Materials

The Paul Affelder scrapbooks [microform], *ZB-3430 no. 1, are held by the Music Division.

Biographical Note

Paul B. Affelder (1915-1975) was a music critic and the founder of Program Note Service, which created and distributed program notes for music and ballet performances throughout North America. Affelder, who was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania studied the cello from an early age and spent summers at the National Music Camp in Interlochen, Michigan. He attended the Carnegie Institute of Technology, receiving his undergraduate degree in 1937. Affelder spent the summer of 1935 in Europe and studied conducting with Bruno Walter and Bernhard Paumgartner at the Mozarteum in Salzburg, Austria. In 1937, he began graduate work at New York University. After completing a Masters in Music in 1939, Affelder became the first cellist and assistant conductor for the Virginia-North Carolina WPA Symphony, which led to a position as conductor with a Federal Music Project-sponsored orchestra in Richmond, Virginia for three years. He also helped to found the private Richmond Philharmonic Orchestra in 1939 and served as its conductor from 1939-1941.

Following his stint in Virginia, Affelder settled in New York, where in 1943 he became the Musical Director for the Masterworks Division of Columbia Records. He joined the Columbia Broadcasting System in 1948 as a music annotator and writer for CBS Radio, writing continuity for classical music broadcasts for many years, and becoming music and dance critic for WCBS-TV News in 1963. Affelder also served as the music editor and critic for the *Brooklyn Eagle* from 1948 through 1955 (when the newspaper folded), contributing numerous performance and record reviews. He later would serve in a similar capacity for *The National Observer* from 1962-1966. In addition to writing for periodicals, Affelder was the author of *How to Build a Record Library* (1947), which went through several printings, as well as a monograph on the dancer, Sybil Shearer, in 1955. In 1965, he created the Program Note Service, which made available through subscription, descriptive notes about compositions, composers, and performers to various musical organizations or individuals. Affelder ran the Program Note Service out of his home until his death in 1975; at the time of his death it was reported that the service was being used by over seventy orchestras.

Scope and Content Note

The Paul Affelder Papers consist primarily of press releases, programs and other promotional materials relating to individual musical artists, organizations, or venues. Much of the material probably was sent to Affelder in his role as the director of Program Note Service, and dates from 1964-1975. The collection also includes drafts of Affelder's writings, including reviews and other pieces that appeared in *Musical America*, the *Brooklyn Eagle*, and *The National Observer*. A small amount of personal papers cover Affelder's student years and his early work as a conductor. His 1935 summer spent studying conducting at the Mozarteum in Salzburg, Austria is especially well documented through a set of letters home to his family and a scrapbook containing postcards, commercial photographs, and snapshots, which show some of the notable musicians he encountered during his stay, including Adrian Boult, Arturo Toscanini, and Felix Weingartner. Also well represented, by clippings and programs, is the period (1939-1942) in which Affelder served as the conductor of a WPA orchestra in Richmond, Virginia. The collection also includes an incomplete set of orchestral parts for the Emmerich Kálmán-George Marion, Jr. operetta, *Marinka*, which was staged in New York in 1945.

Organization

The collection is organized into 4 series. They are:
Series I: Personal papers, 1930-1975 and undated
Series II: Subject files, 1937-1975 and undated
Series III. Writings, 1941-1966 and undated
Series IV: *Marinka* orchestrations, circa 1945

Series Descriptions

Series I: Personal Papers, 1930-1975 and undated

5 boxes

Arrangement: Alphabetical

The Personal Papers series is comprised of clippings, correspondence, programs, and scrapbooks containing photographs and other materials. There is a small amount of material documenting Affelder's studies at the Carnegie Institute of Technology and New York University, including a complete set of Affelder's class schedules from the Institute and class notes from three NYU courses taught by musicologist Curt Sachs. Of special interest are a scrapbook and a set of letters dating from Affelder's 1935 summer in Europe; primarily spent studying at the Mozarteum. Also of note are clippings and programs relating to the WPA orchestra in Richmond, Virginia, which Affelder led from 1939-1942.

Series II: Subject Files, 1937-1975 and undated

5 boxes

Arrangement: Alphabetical

The Subject Files consist of clippings, programs, press releases, and other promotional materials and publications relating to individual musical artists, organizations, or venues. Affelder may have compiled the material as research or as documentation of his own writing. Many of the concert programs contain program notes by Affelder.

Series III: Writings, 1941-1966 and undated

2 boxes

Arrangement: Chronological

The Writings series contains mainly carbon copies (some with corrections) of pieces contributed to various publications. Most of the material dating from 1941-1943 appeared in *Musical America*. The contributions from 1948-1954 were written for the *Brooklyn Eagle* newspaper and the majority of items dated from 1962-1966 were published in *The National Observer*. Although the material chiefly consists of concert reviews, Affelder also wrote on topics relating to dance and record collecting. One folder of editorial correspondence is filed at the end of the series.

Series IV: *Marinka* orchestrations, circa 1945

3 boxes

Arrangement: By musical instrument part

Incomplete orchestral parts for *Marinka*, which was produced on Broadway in 1945. The show was the only operetta completed by Hungarian-born composer Emmerich Kálmán after he was forced to immigrate to the United States following the Nazi Anschluss with Austria and occupation of Paris. The libretto, which was co-written by Karl Farkas and George Marion, Jr., was a new version of the Mayerling story. Marion also supplied the lyrics to the songs, which included the waltz, "Turn on the Charm." Ray Kavanaugh served as the musical director for *Marinka* and Hans Spialek is credited in the program with the orchestrations; it is unclear what Affelder's connection with the production may have been. The conductor's parts folder contains a listing of some of the members of the orchestra.

Box/Folder	Description
<u>Series I: Personal papers, 1930-1975 and undated</u>	
Box 1	
F. 1	Biographical information, 1936-1975 and undated Carnegie Institute of Technology
F. 2	Class schedules, 1932-1934
F. 3	Graduation programs, 1937
F. 4	Honor roll, 1934-1937
F. 5	Phi Kappa Phi initiation, 1936
F. 6	Clippings, 1936-1943 and undated 1950 (The majority of the clippings relate to Affelder's role with the Richmond WPA orchestra)
	Correspondence
F. 7	1935(Affelder's letters home from Europe)
F. 8	1941-1964 (Includes a 1962 exchange of letters with Walter Toscanini about Arturo Toscanini.)
F. 9	National High School Orchestra and Band Camp, 1930-1931(Certificates of attendance and other materials relating to summer music camp in Interlochen, Michigan.)
	New York University
	Curt Sachs class notes, 1937-1938
F. 10	History of musical instruments (Includes copy of Affelder's term paper on the classic guitar.)
F. 11	Music and the dance (Includes copy of Affelder's book review of Thoinot Arbeau's <i>Orcheosography</i> .)
F. 12	Primitive music
F. 13	Program Note Service, undated (Promotional fliers for the firm, including one from Leonard Burkat after the time of Affelder's death.)
	Richmond, Virginia
F. 14	Richmond Philharmonic Orchestra, 1939 (Programs for two appearances at the Richmond Stadium.)
	Richmond WPA Orchestra
	Programs
F. 15	1939 (Called the Richmond Federal Orchestra and the Richmond Orchestra of the Virginia Music Project during this period.)
F. 16	1940 (Mainly called the Richmond WPA Little Symphony Orchestra from 1940 on.)
F. 17	1941
F. 18	1942
F. 19	Undated
F. 20	Promotional materials, 1942
Box 2	
	Scrapbooks
	European trip, 1935 (Primarily postcards and commercial images; some photographs by Affelder of Salzburg, Austria, including candid shots of Arturo Toscanini, Adrian Boult, and Felix Weingartner.)
Box 3	
F. 1	National Music Camp (Interlochen, Michigan), 1930 and undated (Includes five loose class photographs.)
F. 2	Radio programs I have played in, 1930-1936 (Includes one loose program and four transcripts of broadcasts.)
<u>Series II: Subject files, 1937-1975 and undated</u>	
Box 4	
F. 1	Aeolian Skinner Organ Company, 1950

Box/Folder	Description
F. 2	Albany Symphony, 1968
F. 3	American Symphony Orchestra League, 1965
F. 4	Anderson, Leroy, undated
F. 5	Association of College and University Concert Managers, 1966-1967
F. 6	Bolet, Jorge, undated
F. 7	Boston Symphony Orchestra, 1941 and undated
F. 8	<i>Bravo</i> , undated
F. 9	Brodsky, Vera, 1951
F. 10	Chamber Symphony of Pittsburgh, 1967
F. 11	Christiansen, Dr. F. Melius, undated
F. 12	Fargo-Moorhead Symphony Orchestra, 1967-1973
F. 13	<i>Film Music Notes</i> , 1948
F. 14	Flagstaff Symphony Orchestra, 1966-1967
F. 15	Great Neck Symphony, 1964-1965
F. 16	Horne, Marilyn, 1964
F. 17	International Association of Concert Managers, 1966-1967
F. 18	Janis, Byron, 1959
F. 19	<i>Jesus Christ Superstar</i> , 1970
F. 20	Jones, Geraint, undated
F. 21	Katims, Milton, undated
F. 22	Kletzki, Paul, undated
F. 23	Lambert, Constant, 1946
F. 24	Lamoureux Orchestra, 1959-1960
F. 25	Lecuona, Ernesto, 1946
F. 26	Library of Congress, 1937-1939
F. 27	Lieberson, Goddard, 1956
F. 28	Lipton, Martha, undated
F. 29	Loesser, Frank, undated
F. 30	Luening, Otto, undated (Draft of program notes, also includes text about Maurice Baron.)
F. 31	McCracken, James, 1963
F. 32	Macurdy, John, undated
F. 33	Marlboro Music Festival, 1975
F. 34	Mason, Marilyn, undated
F. 35	Masselos, William, 1951
F. 36	Mershon Auditorium, 1967-1968
F. 37	Michaels, Audrey, 1964
F. 38	Midsummer Serenades, 1967
F. 39	Mostly Mozart Festival, 1975
F. 40	Moudry, Janice, 1951-1952
F. 41	Musica Aeterna, 1970
Box 5	
F. 1	National Entertainment Conference, 1968
F. 2	National Orchestral Association, 1955-1970
F. 3	NBC Symphony Orchestra, 1954
F. 4	NDR Symphony Orchestra of Hamburg, 1962
F. 5	Netherlands Information Service, 1957
F. 6	New Haven Symphony Orchestra, 1968-1973
F. 7	New York City Opera, 1966
F. 8	New York Philharmonic, 1955-1968
F. 9	New York State Theater, 1964
F. 10	North Manchester Civic Symphony, 1965

Box/Folder	Description
	Oakland Symphony
F. 11	1968-1969 season
F. 12	1969-1970 season
Box 6	
F. 1	1971-1973
F. 2	<i>Oedipus Rex</i> , 1950 (Press release from Boosey and Hawkes regarding the publication of Igor Stravinsky's score.)
F. 3	O'Neil, Terry, undated
	Oregon Symphony Orchestra
F. 4	1968-1969 and undated
F. 5	1970
F. 6	1971
F. 7	1973
F. 8	1974
F. 9	Orff, Carl, 1955
F. 10	Organ music, undated
F. 11	Orpheus Chamber Ensemble, 1974
F. 12	Orrego-Salas, Juan, undated
Box 7	
	Phoenix Symphony Orchestra
F. 1	1972
F. 2	1973
F. 3	1974
F. 4	Portland Symphony Orchestra, 1967
F. 5	Price, Leontyne, 1961
F. 6	Prince-Joseph, Bruce, undated
F. 7	Princeton Chamber Orchestra, 1966-1970 and undated
F. 8	Purdue Convocations, 1970-1971
Box 8	
F. 1	St. Olaf Lutheran Choir, undated
F. 2	St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, 1955
F. 3	Saidenberg, Daniel, undated
F. 4	Sorel, Claudette, 1951
F. 5	Soria, Dario, undated
F. 6	Springfield Symphony Orchestra, 1969
F. 7	Temple University Music Festival & Institute, 1970
F. 8	Town and Gown, 1968
F. 9	Tucker, Richard, undated
F. 10	University of Massachusetts Fine Arts Council, 1972-1974
F. 11	Waco Symphony Association, 1966
F. 12	Washington National Symphony, 1967
F. 13	Waterloo Music Festival, 1970 and undated
F. 14	Wichita Symphony Orchestra, 1966-1969
F. 15	Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, 1967-1970
F. 16	York Symphony Association, 1965-1971 and undated
F. 17	Youth Concerts at Symphony Hall, 1968-1973
	<u>Series III: Writings, 1941-1966 and undated</u>
Box 9	
F. 1	1941-1942
F. 2	1943
F. 3	1948
	1949

Box/Folder	Description
F. 4	Jan. 2-May 15
F. 5	June 26-Nov. 27
	1950
F. 6	Jan. 1-May 28
F. 7	July 23-Dec. 24
	1951
F. 8	Jan. 7-Apr. 29
F. 9	May 20-Dec. 30
F. 10	1952
Box 10	
F. 1	1953
F. 2	1954
F. 3	1962
	1963
F. 4	Jan. 3-26
F. 5	Feb. 8-Mar. 28
F. 6	Apr. 2-Oct. 23
F. 7	1964-1966
	Undated
F. 8	Ca. 1940-1949
F. 9	Ca. 1950-1966
F. 10	Editorial correspondence, 1962-1966 and undated (Primarily relating to <i>The National Observer</i> .)
	<u>Series IV: Marinka orchestrations, circa 1945</u>
Box 11	
	Parts, manuscript
F. 1	Conductor (Includes list of musicians in the orchestra.)
	Woodwind instruments
F. 2	Flute
F. 3	Oboe
F. 4	Clarinet
F. 5	Bassoon
F. 6	Saxophone
F. 7	Piccolo
Box 12	
	Brass instruments
F. 1	Horn
F. 2	Trumpet
F. 3	Trombone
	Stringed instruments
F. 4	Violin A
F. 5	Violin B
F. 6	Violin C
Box 13	
F. 1	Violin D
F. 2	Violin E
F. 3	Violin F
F. 4	Viola
F. 5	Cello
F. 6	Bass
	Plucked instruments
F. 7	Harp

Box/Folder	Description
	Keyboard instruments
F. 8	Piano
	Percussion instruments
F. 9	Drum
	Voices
F. 10	Baritone