

Register to The Zo Elliott Papers

MSS 18



Compiled by Adrienne Nesnow

1996-2007

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<https://guides.library.yale.edu/MusicSpecialCollections>

Table of Contents

Collection Overview	3
Requesting Instructions	3
Administrative Information	3
Immediate Source of Acquisition	3
Conditions Governing Access	3
Conditions Governing Use	4
Preferred Citation	4
Biographical / Historical	4
Scope and Contents	4
Arrangement	4
Collection Contents	5
Series I: Correspondence	5
Subseries I.A: Concerning the collection	5
Subseries I.B: To 'Zo Elliott	5
Series II: List of musical works, program notes, brochure	6
Series III: Photographs	7
Series IV: Clippings and press releases	8
Series V: Poetry and prose by Zo Elliott	9
Series VI: Miscellaneous items	10
Series VII: Statistical information and letters relating to John Brown	11
Series VIII: Piano roll	12
Series IX: Musical works by Zo Elliott	13
Series X: Musical works by other composers	18
Selected Search Terms	19

Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Gilmore Music Library
120 High Street
PO Box 208240
New Haven, CT 06520
(203) 432-0497
musicpecialcollections@yale.edu
<https://guides.library.yale.edu/MusicSpecialCollections>

CALL NUMBER: MSS 18

CREATOR: Elliott, Zo, 1891-1964

TITLE: The Zo Elliott Papers

DATES: 1861-1977 (inclusive)

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 10 linear feet (19 boxes)

LANGUAGE: Materials chiefly in English.

SUMMARY: Music, correspondence and other papers, photographs; and miscellaneous items by and about the American composer Zo Elliott (1891-1964)

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/music.mss.0018>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use on site, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/music.mss.0018>.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

The Zo Elliott Papers were established in the Music Library of Yale University by Elliott's sister, Mildred W. Smith, in 1964.

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open to researchers by appointment. There are no restricted materials in the collection. Please contact the [Special Collections staff](#) to schedule an appointment.

Some of the materials may be stored at the Library's off-campus shelving facility, so researchers should allow at least two business days to have the appropriate boxes paged.

Conditions Governing Use

The Zo Elliott Papers are the physical property of the Irving S. Gilmore Music Library of Yale University. Copyrights belong to the composers and authors, or their legal heirs and assigns.

Preferred Citation

MSS 18, The Zo Elliott Papers in the Irving S. Gilmore Music Library of Yale University.

Biographical / Historical

Alonzo ("Zo") Elliott was born in 1891 in Manchester, New Hampshire. He was educated at St. Paul's School (Concord, New Hampshire), Phillips Academy (Andover, Massachusetts), Yale University, Cambridge University, and Columbia Law School. Elliott also studied voice with De Sadler of New York and Berlin, and piano with Harry Whittemore of Manchester, New Hampshire. His best known composition is "There's a Long, Long Trail," one of the most popular songs from the era of World War I. (Elliott wrote the music; the words are by Stoddard King.) That song was not the only example of Elliott's interest in military music; he composed an opera, *Top Sergeant*, and he wrote an article about the background of the Civil War song "John Brown" which showed that the John Brown of the song was a soldier in Boston, not the famous abolitionist of the same name. Zo Elliott died in Wallingford, Connecticut in June, 1964.

Scope and Contents

The Zo Elliott Papers contain sketches, manuscript scores, and published editions of Elliott's musical compositions, including operas, chamber works, piano pieces, songs, and choral music. Elliott's life and work are further documented by: correspondence; programs, clippings, and press releases; writings by and about Elliott; photographs; and miscellaneous items.

Arrangement

In 10 series as follows: I. Correspondence. II. List of musical works, program notes, brochure. III. Photographs. IV. Clippings and press releases. V. Poetry and prose by Zo Elliott. VI. Miscellaneous items. VII. Statistical information and letter relating to John Brown. VIII. Piano roll. IX. Musical works by Zo Elliott. X. Musical works by other composers.

Collection Contents

Series I: Correspondence

	Subseries I.A: Concerning the collection	
b. 1, f. 1	Letters concerning the collection <i>35 items</i>	1964-1977
	Subseries I.B: To 'Zo Elliott	
b. 1, f. 2	West, Charles 1 typed letter signed, re publication of song.	1913 Nov 6
b. 1, f. 2	West and Company 1 typed letter signed, re publication of song.	1913 Dec 9
b. 1, f. 2	Yearsley, Claude B. 1 typed letter signed, re business proposal.	1919 Oct 6
b. 1, f. 2	King, Stoddard 1 autograph letter signed, re lyrics for song.	1926 Jan 23
b. 1, f. 2	Pearkes, L.V. 1 typed letter signed, photocopy, re final payment.	1927 Nov 17
b. 1, f. 2	McCann, J.L. 1 typed letter, re dues for the American Legion.	1932 Mar 10
b. 1, f. 2	King, Stoddard 1 typed letter signed, thanks for check received.	no year Mar 28

Series II: List of musical works, program notes, brochure

b. 1, f. 3	<p>"Zo Elliott Music Library" 2 leaves. 28 cm. Smith, Mildred Weeks Elliott, 1890-1973 Typescript.</p>	1964 Aug 10
b. 1, f. 3	<p>List of compositions [2] leaves. 28 cm. Typescript.</p>	[1965]
b. 1, f. 3	<p>The Frederick Smyth Chorale Program [4] p. 21 cm. 3 copies, one with note signed by William R. McAllaster. First performance of <u>Armistice</u>.</p>	1965 May 23
b. 1, f. 3	<p>Program notes for <u>Top Sergeant</u> 2 p. 28 cm. Typescript.</p>	no date
b. 1, f. 3	<p>Brochure for 'Zo Elliott, lecturer on music [2] leaves. 12 cm.</p>	no date

Series III: Photographs

b. 1, f. 4

Miscellaneous photographs
11 items

1861-1965

Series IV: Clippings and press releases

b. 1, f. 5	<i>"John Brown" of Famed Song Hub Soldier,</i> <u>The Boston Herald</u> Manchester, H.F.	1930 Sep 21
b. 1, f. 5	<i>'Sheds new light on the origin of "John Brown" song,'</i> [<u>The Boston Herald</u>]	[1930 Oct 5]
b. 1, f. 5	<i>"John Brown's body never mouldered"</i>	[1937-1938]
b. 1, f. 5	<i>"Song for two John Browns,"</i> <u>The MUSIC Magazine/Musical Courier</u> , p. 8-10. Elliott, Zo, 1891-1964 Includes a signed note dated 1962 Mar 9.	1962 Apr
b. 1, f. 5	<i>"Zo Elliott compositions highlight of concert,"</i> <u>Manchester (N.H.) Union Leader</u> Fischer, Herbert R.	1965 May 24
b. 1, f. 5	<i>'Who "Mademoiselle from Armentières" was.'</i> <i>3 leaves. 26 cm.</i> Photocopy of typescript. Press release.	

Series V: Poetry and prose by Zo Elliott

b. 1, f. 6	"To: M.W.E." [1] leaf. 28 cm. Typescript.	1918 Jul
b. 1, f. 6	"History of Long Trail" 4 leaves. 28 cm. Holograph in ink and pencil.	no date
b. 1, f. 6	'History of "There's a Long, Long Trail" [4] leaves. 28 cm. Typescript.	
b. 1, f. 6	"John Brown's Body" and other great military songs' 26 p. 28 cm. Typescript, with corrections in pencil.	no date
b. 1, f. 6	"John Brown's Body" 10 p. 28 cm. Typescript.	no date
b. 1, f. 6	["What Music has Meant to Me"] 3 leaves. 28 cm. Typescript. 2 copies.	no date
b. 1, f. 6	Dedication for <u>What Price Glory</u> [2] leaves. 78 cm. Typescript.	no date

Series VI: Miscellaneous items

b. 1, f. 7	Miscellaneous <i>10 items</i>
b. 1, f. 7	Bookplate for Alonzo Elliott, picturing his home in Manchester, New Hampshire.
b. 1, f. 7	4 envelopes.
b. 1, f. 7	Key and 2 key tags.
b. 1, f. 7	2 poems in Russian.

Series VII: Statistical information and letters relating to John Brown

b. 1, f. 8	Hallgreen, Frances J. <i>[3] p. 21 cm.</i> autograph letter signed, Malden, Massachusetts, to Mr. Staniels, n.p.	1928 May 5
b. 1, f. 8	Statistical information re John Brown's quartet <i>[1] leaf. 28 cm.</i> Typescript. 3 copies.	no date

Series VIII: Piano roll

There's a Long, Long Trail A'Winding. [Phonoroll]

[1915]

1 roll

Elliott, Alonzo, 1891-1964

Duo-Art 103415.

'Zo Elliott, piano.

Edition recorded: M. Witmark and Sons, c1915.

For player piano.

Series IX: Musical works by Zo Elliott

b. 2, f. 1	Captain of the Crew. For piano.	c1907
b. 2, f. 1	Tulips. For voice and piano, words by Laura Elliott.	c1907
b. 2, f. 2	There's a Long, Long Trail. <i>13 items</i> For voice and piano, words by Stoddard King. 1 copy includes Chinese translation. Parts for orchestral and band arrangements included.	c1913-1916
b. 2, f. 3	Oh! Oh! Abdullah! <i>4 items</i> For voice and piano, words by Stoddard King.	c1915
b. 2, f. 3	The World Was Made For You And Me For voice and piano, words by Edward Lockton. Waltz version for piano included.	c1917-1918
b. 2, f. 4	There's a Wee Little Cottage <i>11 items</i> For voice and piano, words by Stoddard King. Parts for orchestral arrangement included.	c1918
b. 2, f. 4	Burma Bells For voice and piano, words by 'Zo Elliott.	c1920
b. 2, f. 5	In the Heart of Paradise <i>5 items</i> For voice and piano, words by 'Zo Elliott. Parts for orchestral arrangement included.	c1920
b. 2, f. 5	Oo: Oo: De Cologne! For voice and piano, words by John Milton Hagen.	1923 Jan
b. 2, f. 6	Oh, Yes, Sir <i>4 items</i> For voice and piano, words by John Milton Hagen.	1923 Apr 12
b. 2, f. 6	Opening Number: The Beauty Shop For voice and piano, words by John Milton Hagen.	1923 Apr 12
b. 2, f. 6	Run Sheep Run For voice and piano, words by Kate Horton and John Milton Hagen.	1923 Apr 12
b. 2, f. 6	Troubadour Song For voice and piano, words by 'Zo Elliott.	1923 Dec

b. 2, f. 7	<i>Music Written for a Mexican Garden.</i> [from Jolanda?] <i>16 items</i> For flute, violin, and violoncello. Parts for orchestra included.	1923
b. 2, f. 8	Reflection <i>4 items</i> For voice and piano, words by Stoddard King.	1923
b. 2, f. 8	Serenade For voice and piano, words by 'Zo Elliott.	1924 Mar
b. 2, f. 8	T'amo de Lecco For piano.	1924
b. 2, f. 9	Trail O' My Heart <i>27 items</i> For voice and piano, words by John Milton Hagen. Parts for orchestral arrangement included. Bass and baritone parts included.	c1924
b. 2, f. 10	Enchanted River <i>21 items</i> For voice and piano, words by Stoddard King. 1 copy includes Russian translation. Also included are a scores an arrangement for male chorus (TTBB) and piano, and parts for orchestral arrangement.	c1925
b. 2, f. 7	[Jolanda?] Opera, libretto by Edward Lowrey. Sketches.	1925-1926
	Top Sergeant Opera in four acts, the libretto is by 'Zo Elliott based upon Maxwell Anderson's <u>What Price Glory</u> .	1925-?
b. 6, f. 1	List of themes.	
b. 6-7	Workbooks.	
b. 8	Scores Piano-vocal, Acts II-IV. Final, corrected piano-vocal. Voice parts for Sergeant Quirt, The Three Marines, Lewisohn, Lt. Moore and Cognac Pete, Charmaine.	

Top Sergeant (continued)

b. 9-10	Scores Scores, complete, 2 copies of Act III. Orchestral corrections. Addenda.	
b. 11	Parts	
b. 11	Literary source <u>What Price Glory</u> , by Maxwell Anderson, and German translation (<u>Rivalen</u>)	
b. 12-19	Sketches	
b. 2, f. 11	Pour Réveillon <i>4 items</i> For voice and piano, words in French.	1930-1931
b. 2, f. 11	Caucasian Love Song For voice and piano, words by Philip Seeley.	c1932
	Annapolis: Midshipman's March On a melody by Maurice La Farge.	c1932-1933
b. 2, f. 12	For voice and piano, words by 'Zo Elliott and Elizabeth Demarest, 27 copies.	
b. 2, f. 12	For voice and piano, words by N.J. Francis and 'Zo Elliott, 3 copies.	
b. 3, f. 1-2	Parts for band arrangement, 2 copies.	
b. 3, f. 1-2	Parts for orchestral arrangement.	
b. 3, f. 1-2	Arrangement for male chorus (TTBB) and piano. <i>20 items</i>	
b. 3, f. 1-2	Sketches.	
b. 3, f. 5	<i>Shall I Compare Thee</i> : Elizabethan Sonnet <i>13 items</i> For voice and piano, words by William Shakespeare.	1939-1956
b. 3, f. 6	Armistice <i>16 items</i> For male chorus (TTBB), piano or organ, and drums. Words by Stonewall Jackson and Rupert Brooke. Arrangement for baritone, chorus (SATB), and piano, by William R. McAllaster included.	1939 Oct
b. 19, f. 1	British Eighth March: Chungking Hymn <i>25 items</i> For piano. Arrangement for voice and piano, words by John Masefield is included. Also arrangements for band with score and parts, for chorus of mixed voices, unacc., and for male quartet (TTBB), unacc. are included.	c1943-1954

b. 3, f. 7	Bluebird <i>4 items</i> For voice and piano, words by Alice Hunt Bartlett.	c1961
b. 3, f. 7	Ave Maria For voice and piano, words by Lord Byron.	no date
b. 3, f. 7	Aviation Glide For voice and piano, words by 'Zo Elliott.	no date
b. 3, f. 8-11b. 4, f. 1-2	El Chivato: Billy the Kid <i>24 items</i> Opera in four acts. Synopsis included in folder 8.	no date
b. 4, f. 3	Comrade O' Mine For voice and piano, words by Fred E. Bowles.	no date
b. 4, f. 3	Hooray for Love For voice and piano.	no date
b. 4, f. 3	If a Girl For piano	no date
b. 4, f. 3	Jamie Mackee For voice and piano, words by Blanche Elliott-De Moulpied.	no date
b. 4, f. 4	Juvenile works <i>24 items</i>	no date
b. 4, f. 5	Let Us Suppose For voice and piano, words by Benné Dixon.	no date
b. 4, f. 5	Love is Like the Sunshine For voice and piano, words by John Milton Hagen.	no date
b. 4, f. 5	May Time For voice and piano, words by 'Zo Elliott.	no date
b. 4, f. 5	Minuet For piano. Parts for string quartet.	no date
b. 4, f. 6-7	Miscellaneous works and notebooks <i>18 items</i>	no date
b. 4, f. 8	Phillipian March <i>2 items</i> For voice and Diano, words by 'Zo Elliott.	no date
b. 4, f. 8	Recruit's Song For voice and piano, words by E.J. Webb and 'Zo Elliott.	no date

b. 4, f. 9	Silver and Gray <i>7 items</i> For piano. Parts arranged for band by Lt. Resta included.	no date
b. 4, f. 10	So Good, So Bad <i>6 items</i> For voice and piano, words by Massa Dixon, sketch.	no date
b. 4, f. 10	Soldier, Soldier For voice and piano, words by Rudyard Kipling.	no date
b. 4, f. 10	Sweetheart of My Childhood For voice and piano, without text.	no date
b. 4, f. 10	Telech A ballet, sketch.	no date
b. 4, f. 11	Untitled work <i>3 items</i>	no date
b. 19, f. 2	Zhdi Menia: 620 March: 620 and 612 March <i>9 items</i> Title romanized : Wait for me. For voice and piano, words in Russian and English, by K. Simenov. Arrangement for band, score and parts included.	no date
b. 4, f. 11	Waltz No. 2 <i>3 items</i> For voice and piano, words by 'Zo Elliott.	no date
b. 5, f. 1-6	Workbooks and composition exercises	no date

Series X: Musical works by other composers

b. 4, f. 7	Alexander's Ragtime Band Berlin, Irving, 1888-1989 For voice and piano, words by Irving Berlin. Commentary attached to front cover, typescript.	c1911
b. 5, f. 7	Hinky Dinky Parlez-Vous Rice, Gitz For voice and piano, words by "Red" Rowland.	c1911
b. 4, f. 7	I Wonder Fenner, Beatrice For voice and piano, words by Beatrice Fenner. Incomplete.	c1925

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

Composers -- Correspondence
Music -- United States -- 20th Century
Operas -- Scores
Piano music
Songs

Names

Elliott, Zo, 1891-1964
King, Stoddard, 1889-1933