

# Guide to the Donald Currier Papers

MSS 109



Compiled by Emily Ferrigno

October 2016

120 High Street

PO Box 208240

New Haven, CT 06520

[musicspecialcollections@yale.edu](mailto:musicspecialcollections@yale.edu)

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

---

## Table of Contents

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Collection Overview .....         | 3 |
| Requesting Instructions .....     | 3 |
| Administrative Information .....  | 3 |
| Conditions Governing Access ..... | 3 |
| Conditions Governing Use .....    | 3 |
| Preferred Citation .....          | 4 |
| Related Materials .....           | 4 |
| Related Materials .....           | 4 |
| Biographical / Historical .....   | 4 |
| Scope and Contents .....          | 4 |
| Arrangement .....                 | 4 |
| Arrangement .....                 | 4 |
| Collection Contents .....         | 5 |
| Files by date, 1948–2009 .....    | 5 |
| Files by subject .....            | 6 |
| Oversize concert posters .....    | 7 |
| Selected Search Terms .....       | 8 |

---

## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Gilmore Music Library  
120 High Street  
PO Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520  
musicsspecialcollections@yale.edu  
<https://guides.library.yale.edu/MusicSpecialCollections>

**CALL NUMBER:** MSS 109

**CREATOR:** Currier, Donald

**TITLE:** Donald Currier Papers

**DATES:** 1948–2009

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 3 linear feet (7 containers)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The materials in the collection relate to Currier's career as a pianist and faculty member at the Yale School of Music. Included are letters, programs, reviews, lecture notes, posters, and a few photographs. Currier included a number of sound recordings with his Papers. These include solo performances by Currier, and collaborations with other Yale School of Music faculty members. To access these recordings, please contact the Historical Sound Recordings department.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/music.mss.0109>

---

## 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.0109>.

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

b.      box  
f.      folder

---

## Administrative Information

---

### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

---

### Conditions Governing Use

Copyright status for collection materials is unknown. Transmission or reproduction of materials protected by U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.) beyond that allowed by fair use requires the written

permission of the copyright owners. Works not in the public domain cannot be commercially exploited without permission of the copyright owners. Responsibility for any use rests exclusively with the user.

---

## Preferred Citation

MSS 109, the Donald Currier Papers in the Gilmore Music Library of Yale University.

---

## Related Materials

Researchers may also wish to consult the Yale School of Music Papers (MSS 3), also held by the Irving S. Gilmore Music Library.

---

## Related Materials

Researchers may also wish to consult the Interview with Donald Currier, held by the Oral History of American Music (call number: OHI30/9a).

---

## Biographical / Historical

Donald Currier (1919-2010) was a professor of piano at the Yale School of Music. He attended the New England Conservatory as an undergraduate, and served in the U.S. Army during World War II. Currier joined the faculty at Yale in 1951, and remained there until his retirement in 1989. He was an active performer and teacher of the piano. He often collaborated with fellow faculty and students, including Helen Boatwright, Keith Wilson, and Blake Stern. Currier also served as a Resident Fellow at Branford College and as Associate Dean of the School of Music.

---

## Scope and Contents

The materials in the collection relate to Currier's career as a pianist and faculty member at the Yale School of Music. Included are letters, programs, reviews, lecture notes, posters, and a few photographs. Currier included a number of sound recordings with his Papers. These include solo performances by Currier, and collaborations with other Yale School of Music faculty members. To access these recordings, please contact the Historical Sound Recordings department.

---

## Arrangement

Materials in this collection have been kept in their original order - files by date and files by subject.

---

## Arrangement

The materials in this collection have been kept in their original order: files organized by date, and files organized by subject.

---

# Collection Contents

## Files by date, 1948–2009

Files by date contain programs from Currier’s own performances, as well as performances he attended. Related reviews, correspondence, and a few photos are also included.

|      |       |           |
|------|-------|-----------|
| b. 1 | Box 1 | 1948–1965 |
| b. 2 | Box 2 | 1966–1976 |
| b. 3 | Box 3 | 1977–1988 |
| b. 4 | Box 4 | 1989–2009 |

## Files by subject

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| b. 5, f. 1  | Mozart  |
| b. 5, f. 2  | Lecture CSM TA 10/18/81                       |
| b. 5, f. 3  | Lecture, 06/83                                |
| b. 5, f. 4  | Lecture Recital, Branford College 1/15/81     |
| b. 5, f. 5  | Tonality -- Bach & Beethoven                  |
| b. 5, f. 6  | Schumann                                      |
| b. 5, f. 7  | Contemporary Music                            |
| b. 5, f. 8  | Mahler Symphonies & Conductor, Character      |
| b. 5, f. 9  | Beethoven & Brahms                            |
| b. 5, f. 10 | Schumann Op. 13 Fantasie                      |
| b. 5, f. 11 | Haydn   |
| b. 5, f. 12 | Beethoven Middle Sonatas                      |
| b. 5, f. 13 | Schubert B-flat Sonata                        |
| b. 5, f. 14 | Branford Seminar                              |
| b. 5, f. 15 | Lecture notes [spiral bound]                  |
| b. 5, f. 16 | Annotated bibliography [note cards]           |
| b. 6, f. 1  | New Haven Symphony, 4/15/58                   |
| b. 6, f. 2  | California Concert & 1956 Concert Engagements |
| b. 6, f. 3  | London Recital                                |
| b. 6, f. 4  | Carnegie Recital Hall 2/24/61                 |
| b. 6, f. 5  | Town Hall Recital 10/21/56                    |
| b. 6, f. 6  | Netherlands Concert 4/17/50                   |
| b. 6, f. 7  | European Concerts 1966                        |
| b. 6, f. 8  | Op. 110 Beethoven                             |
| b. 6, f. 9  | Misc. Lecture Notes                           |
| b. 6, f. 10 | "European purchases" receipts and Trip Diary  |

**Oversize concert posters**

Posters from concerts and recitals including "Collegium Orchestra, Donald Currier, Gustav Meier" at Sprague Memorial Hall; "Piano Concert met Donald Currier" at Volksuniversiteit - entschede; "First Appearance in England of the American Pianist Donald Currier" in London; Donald Currier at Concertgebouw on 27 April 1950; and "Premier Recital du Pianiste Americain Donald Currier" at Salle Chopin-Pleyel, Paris on 17 April 1950.

There are five posters, all of which appear to be from c. 1950-1975.

b. 7

---

## **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.

### **Names**

Currier, Donald

### **Corporate Body**

Yale School of Music