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Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library

# **Guide to the Edward G. Levy Collection of Papers Relating to Music**

**GEN MSS 955**



by Karen Spicher

2013 June

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library  
P. O. Box 208330  
New Haven, CT 06520-8330  
(203) 432-2977  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

**CALL NUMBER:** GEN MSS 955

**CREATOR:** Levy, Edward G., 1898-1990 , collector

**TITLE:** Edward G. Levy collection of papers relating to music

**DATES:** 1859-1970s

**BULK DATES:** 1880-1910

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 1.63 linear feet (7 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** Chiefly in English; some materials in German or French.

**SUMMARY:** Contains manuscript and printed music, and scrapbooks, photographs, printed material, and other materials relating to nineteenth-twentieth century American and European music, collected by Edward G. Levy. Four scrapbooks made by Helen D. Love Scranton, genealogist and daughter of Edward Gurley Love (1850-1919) and Lucy Cleveland Prindle, contain advertisements, programs, tickets, and manuscript notes relating to performances of opera, musicals, plays, orchestral music, chamber music, vocal recitals, children's concerts, dance, and non-Western music in New York City, Bayreuth, Berlin, Paris, and London, 1895-1910, including materials relating to the Metropolitan Opera, Carnegie Hall, the Symphony Society of New York, the Philharmonic Society of New York, German opera in New York City conducted by Walter Damrosch, the Bayreuth Festspielhaus, the Kroll Opera, and the Berliner Philharmoniker. Music includes an unidentified fragment, autograph manuscript, signed, by P. A. Tirindelli, 1894, and clippings of songs and keyboard music published in magazines, 1886-1888 and undated. Photographs include images of American singer and actress Lillian Russell, on Sweet Caporal Cigarette cards (Kinney Bros., New York), circa 1880s-1890s; and Italian actress Giannina Chiantoni, in Italian theater productions, circa 1910. Printed material includes clippings of newspaper advertisements for theater performances in the Howard Athenaeum, Boston, 1859 and undated, and the Wagner Opera House, Bradford, Pennsylvania, 1884-1885. Other materials consist of articles by Marion Thede and Harold Preece, circa 1970s, about American cowboy songs, typescript with printer's annotations, possibly published in Real West magazine; and buttons and paper fans advertising American businesses and organizations relating to music, circa 1900.

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

## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.levymusic>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to [beinecke.images@yale.edu](mailto:beinecke.images@yale.edu).

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

- b. box
  - f. folder
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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Edward G. Levy, 1977.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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### Conditions Governing Use

The Edward G. Levy Collection of Papers Relating to Music is the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

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### Preferred Citation

Edward G. Levy Collection of Papers Relating to Music. General Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

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### Processing Information

This collection consists of materials formerly classed as Uncat MS Vault 854. In 2013, the collection received a baseline level of processing, including rehousing and minimal organization.

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## Edward G. Levy (1898-1990)

Edward G. Levy received his LL.B from Boston University in 1921 and joined his brother's New Haven law practice. In 1939 he was sentenced to a year in jail for his participation in a kickback scheme led by the mayor of Waterbury. In later years he and his wife, Hortense R. Levy, collected autographs and dime novels and made substantial donations of these materials to several libraries. Edward G. Levy died in 1990.

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## Scope and Contents

Contains manuscript and printed music, and scrapbooks, photographs, printed material, and other materials relating to 19th-20th century American and European music, collected by Edward G. Levy. Four

scrapbooks made by Helen D. Love Scranton, genealogist and daughter of Edward Gurley Love (1850-1919) and Lucy Cleveland Prindle, contain advertisements, programs, tickets, and manuscript notes relating to performances of opera, musicals, plays, orchestral music, chamber music, vocal recitals, children's concerts, dance, and non-Western music in New York City, Bayreuth, Berlin, Paris, and London, 1895-1910, including materials relating to the Metropolitan Opera, German opera in New York City conducted by Walter Damrosch, Carnegie Hall, the Symphony Society of New York, the Philharmonic Society of New York, the Bayreuth Festspielhaus, the Kroll Opera, and the Berliner Philharmoniker. Music includes an unidentified fragment, autograph manuscript, signed, by P. A. Tirindelli, 1894, and clippings of songs and keyboard music published in magazines, 1886-1888 and undated. Photographs include images of American singer and actress Lillian Russell, on Sweet Caporal Cigarette cards (Kinney Bros., New York), circa 1880s-1890s; and Italian actress Giannina Chiantoni, in Italian theater productions, circa 1910. Printed material includes clippings of newspaper advertisements for theater performances in the Howard Athenaeum, Boston, 1859 and undated, and the Wagner Opera House, Bradford, Pennsylvania, 1884-1885. Other materials consist of articles by Marion Thede and Harold Preece, circa 1970s, about American cowboy songs, typescript with printer's annotations, possibly published in *Real West* magazine; and buttons and paper fans advertising American businesses and organizations relating to music, circa 1900.

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## Arrangement

Organized into five series: I. Helen D. Love Scranton Scrapbooks, 1895-1910. II. Music, 1886-1894. III. Photographs, 1880s-1949. IV. Printed Material, 1859-1970s. V. Other Materials, 1900-1970s.

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## Collection Contents

### Series I: Helen D. Love Scranton Scrapbooks, 1895-1910

*1 linear foot (4 boxes)*

Arranged chronologically.

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b. 1 (Oversize)	Scrapbook Contains materials relating to music and theater in New York City	1895-1902
b. 2 (Oversize)	Scrapbook Contains materials relating to German opera conducted by Walter Damrosch, 1897, and other music and theater in New York City, 1902-1906	1897-1906
b. 3 (Oversize)	Scrapbook Contains materials relating to music and theater in Bayreuth, Berlin, Paris, and London, 1902-1903, and in New York City, 1903-1906 Ownership inscription of Helen D. Love Scranton	1902-1906
b. 4 (Oversize)	Scrapbook Contains materials relating to music and theater in New York City	1907-1910

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**Series II: Music, 1886-1894***0.14 linear feet (0.33 box)*

b. 5, f. 1	Tirindelli, P. A. (Pier Adolfo). Unidentified fragment, autograph manuscript, signed	1894 June 24
b. 5, f. 2	Music for voice and piano. Clippings From <i>The Young Ladies Journal</i> (London)	1886, undated
b. 7 (Oversize), f. 18	Music for voice and piano. Clippings From <i>The Young Ladies Journal</i> (London) and <i>Waverley Magazine and Literary Repository</i> (Boston)	1888, undated
b. 5, f. 3	Other printed music	undated

**Series III: Photographs, 1880s-1949***0.14 linear feet (0.33 box)*

b. 5, f. 4	Russell, Lillian Photographs on Sweet Caporal Cigarette cards (Kinney Bros., New York)	[1880s-1890s?]
b. 5, f. 5	Chiantoni, Giannina Photographs of Chiantoni in Italian theater productions	[circa 1910?]
b. 5, f. 6	Unidentified	1939-1949, undated



**Series IV: Printed Material, 1859-1970s***0.14 linear feet (0.33 box)*

b. 5, f. 7	Clippings Includes advertisements for theater performances in the Howard Athenaeum, Boston, 1859 and undated; and the Wagner Opera House, Bradford, Pennsylvania, 1884-1885	1859-1885, undated
b. 5, f. 8-12	Other printed material <i>5 Folders</i>	1881-1970s, undated
b. 7 (Oversize), f. 19	Other printed material	1893-1969, undated

**Series V: Other Materials, 1900-1970s**

*0.21 linear feet (1 box)*

b. 6, f. 13-14	Thede, Marion, and Preece Harold. "The Story Behind the Song," articles, typescript wth revisions and printers annotations <i>2 Folders</i> Possibly published in <i>Real West</i> magazine	[1970s?]
b. 6, f. 15-17	Objects <i>3 Folders</i>	[circa 1900]

## **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**

Cowboys -- Songs and music  
Piano music  
Songs with piano

### **Geographic Names**

New York (N.Y.) -- Social life and customs --  
19th century  
New York (N.Y.) -- Social life and customs --  
20th Century

### **Genres / Formats**

Buttons (information artifacts) -- United States  
-- 20th Century  
Cigarette cards -- United States -- 19th century  
Fans (costume accessories) -- United States --  
20th Century  
Photographs -- Italy -- 20th Century  
Photographs -- United States -- 20th Century

### **Names**

Chiantoni, Giannina, 1881-1972 -- Portraits  
Damrosch, Walter, 1862-1950  
Levy, Edward G., 1898-1990  
Preece, Harold, 1906-  
Russell, Lillian, 1861-1922 -- Portraits  
Scranton, Helen D. Love (Helen Douglas Love),  
1879-1968  
Thede, Marion  
Tirindelli, P. A. (Pier Adolfo), 1858-1937

### **Corporate Bodies**

Berliner Philharmoniker  
Carnegie Hall (New York, N.Y.)  
Festspielhaus (Bayreuth, Germany)  
Howard Athenaeum  
Kinney Bros  
Krolloper  
Metropolitan Opera (New York, N.Y.)  
Philharmonic Society of New York  
Symphony Society of New York  
Wagner Opera House (Bradford, Pa.)