

George Lessner:

An Inventory of His Papers in the Manuscript Collection at the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center

Descriptive Summary

Creator:	Lessner, George, 1904-1997
Title:	George Lessner Papers
Dates:	1915-1989, undated
Extent:	16 document boxes, 13 oversize boxes (osb) (11.10 linear feet)
Abstract:	George Lessner was a Hungarian-born American composer who wrote music for films, television, and the stage, as well as classical concert pieces and popular songs. The George Lessner Papers consist primarily of original music manuscripts. Also present are published scores and personal and professional papers.
Call Number:	Manuscript Collection MS-05271
Language:	English, French, German, and Hungarian
Access:	Open for research

Administrative Information

Acquisition:	Gift, 2012 (12-01-013-G)
Processed by:	Ancelyn Krivak, 2012
Repository:	Harry Ransom Center, The University of Texas at Austin

Biographical Sketch

George Lessner (1904-1997) was a composer of music for films, television, and the stage, as well as classical concert pieces and popular songs. Lessner graduated from the Royal Academy of Music in Budapest, his native city, where he was a pupil of composers Zoltan Kodaly and Bela Bartok. In 1926, Lessner immigrated to the United States, and eventually settled in Hollywood where wrote popular songs and composed music for Deanna Durbin films and Walter Lantz cartoons. In 1939, Lessner's symphony "Sunrise" was performed in a national radio broadcast. The following year, Lessner moved to New York City, and was commissioned by NBC to write an opera for radio broadcast-- *The Nightingale and the Rose*, based on the prose poem by Oscar Wilde--which was performed in 1942 by the NBC Symphony. In 1944, Lessner's symphony "A Merry Overture" was performed at Carnegie Hall.

Lessner orchestrated or composed music for three short run Broadway musicals, *Night of Love* (1941), *Mr. Strauss Goes to Boston* (1945), and *Sleepy Hollow* (1948). In the 1950s, he composed music for television series, including *The Billy Rose Show* and a children's program, *Bobo the Hobo and His Traveling Troupe*.

George Lessner died on May 12, 1997 in New Rochelle, New York. He was survived by two sons, Alford and Robert.

Sources:

In addition to material found within the George Lessner Papers, the following sources were used:

"George Lessner." Internet Broadway Database.

<http://www.ibdb.com/person.php?id=12050> (Accessed April 2012).

"George Lessner, 92, Film and TV Composer." *New York Times*, 25 May 1997.

<http://www.nytimes.com/1997/05/25/arts/george-lessner-92-film-and-tv-composer.html> (Accessed April 2012).

Scope and Contents

The George Lessner Papers, 1915-1989, undated, consist primarily of music manuscripts. Also present are published scores, scripts, correspondence, programs, and clippings. The papers are organized into two series: I. Music Manuscripts, 1915-1982, undated; and II. Personal and Professional Papers, 1937-1989.

Series I. Music Manuscripts (15 document boxes, 13 oversize boxes) contains the majority of the Lessner papers and is further divided into four subseries: A. Composed by George Lessner, 1915-1982, undated; B. Composed by Alford Lessner, 1948-1954, undated; C. Works by Others, 1935-1949, undated; and D. Fragments and Unidentified Works, undated.

The works in Subseries A. are arranged under four headings according to the genre of work: 1. Classical Music Scores, 1915-1982, undated; 2. Film, Radio, and Television Scores, 1937-1953, undated; 3. Musical Theater Scores, 1945-1952, undated; and 4. Popular Songs, 1930-1941, undated. The classical music scores are further broken down into original compositions by Lessner and works that are transcriptions or arrangements of works originally composed by others. Some of the classical scores are titled in Hungarian and transcriptions of Lessner's handwriting may not be accurate. Classical works by Lessner include his opera *The Nightingale and the Rose*, works for full symphony orchestra such as "The Merry Overture", art songs based on texts by poets such as Paul Verlaine and Sándor Petöfi, and short compositions for solo piano. Among the film, radio, and television scores are a large number of complete scores for episodes of the 1950's children's television show *Bobo the Hobo and His Traveling Troupe*, and one score for a Walter Lantz cartoon starring Oswald the Rabbit, "The Dumb Cluck." Lessner's musical theater scores include two shows that had brief runs on Broadway, *Sleepy Hollow* (1948), and *Mr. Strauss Goes to Boston* (1945). In the 1930s, Lessner composed several popular songs that were printed as sheet music, including a song written for Blanche Calloway, "Honey, I'se Cold, I Is."

Subseries B. consists of works composed by Alford Lessner, George Lessner's son, including classical compositions, popular songs, and an unfinished work for jazz band. Subseries C. contains works by other composers, such as Harry Revel and Robert Stolz. Subseries D. contains fragments of scores and unidentified scores, which may be the work of George or Alford Lessner.

Series II. Personal and Professional Papers (1 document box) includes correspondence, programs, and clippings from performances of George Lessner's works, and correspondence, clippings, and programs related to his wife, Lorraine Lessner, and son, Alford Lessner.

Condition Note

The score of *The Nightingale and the Rose* in Boxes 17-18 is coated with debris from deteriorating adhesive tape. Researchers may wish to wear gloves while handling individual leaves.

Separated Material

Sound recordings were transferred to the Ransom Center's Sound Recording collection and are described individually in a list at the end of this finding aid and in a [searchable database](#).

Series I. Music Manuscripts, 1915-1982, undated

Subseries A. Composed by George Lessner, 1915-1982, undated

1. Classical Music Scores, 1915-1982, undated

Original Works, 1915-1982, undated

23rd Psalm (The Lord Is My Shepherd...), signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 4-6 pages (4 versions), 1935 **Container**
1.1

Adagio, signed incomplete manuscript score for string orchestra, 2 pages, undated **Container**
1.2

As asszony és a tudás, ballet-pantomime, signed manuscript music for piano, 28 pages, 1920 **Container**
1.3

Aubade, signed manuscript score for string orchestra, 10 pages (4 copies), 1943 **Container**
1.4

Ballada, signed manuscript music for piano, 10 pages, 1920 **Container**
1.5

Bar a Fekete Macskához, signed manuscript music for piano, 37 pages, 1923-1924 **Container**
1.6

The Brook, signed manuscript music for piano, 5 pages (2 copies), undated **Container**
1.7

The Bungling Bugler (A March)

Signed manuscript music for piano, 5 pages (3 copies), 1950-1951 **Container**
1.8

Signed manuscript music for piano, 5 pages (3 copies), 1950-1951 **Container**
1.9

Choral Variatio, manuscript fragment of score for four voices, 2 pages, 1921 **Container**
1.10

Concerto for Piano and Orchestra, signed incomplete manuscript piano reduction, 20-25 pages (3 versions), 1945-1978, undated **Container**
1.11

Ecstasy (A Tone Poem)

Signed manuscript score for orchestra, 68 pages, 1936 **Container** 18

Signed manuscript music for piano [incomplete?], 2 pages, 1936	Container 1.12
Various orchestra parts, photocopies and manuscripts, undated	Container 1.13
Eight-Sixteenth (An Etude for Piano), signed manuscript music for piano, 3 pages, undated	Container 1.14
Etud pour piano, signed incomplete manuscript music for piano, 2 pages, 1920	Container 1.15
Eventide (A Symphonic Poem)	
Signed manuscript score for orchestra, 37-43 pages (2 versions), 1939	Container 23.1
Signed manuscript score for orchestra, 57-64 pages (3 versions), 1942	Container 23.2
Signed manuscript orchestra parts	
Brass, undated	Container 1.16
Percussion, undated	Container 1.17
Strings, undated	Container 1.18-2.2
Woodwinds, undated	Container 2.3
Signed manuscript piano sketch, 26 pages, 1942	Container 2.4
Manuscript worksheets, undated	Container 2.5
Galop #1, manuscript short score, 8 pages, undated	Container 2.6
Gavotte, signed incomplete manuscript music for piano, 2 pages, 1946	Container 2.7
Hebrew Chant, signed incomplete manuscript score for voice and piano, 2 pages, undated	Container 2.8
L'heure exquisite, text by Paul Verlaine, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 3 pages (4 copies), 1922	Container 2.9
Hungarian Dance, signed manuscript music for piano, 5 pages (2 copies), 1941	Container 2.10

Hungarian songs [various titles], signed manuscript scores for voice and piano, 1915, 1920-1922, undated	Container 2.11
In Memoriam	
Signed manuscript score for orchestra, 13 pages (4 copies), 1944	Container 24.1
Signed manuscript score for orchestra, 12 pages, 1944	Container 2.12
Signed manuscript music for piano, 2-5 pages (6 versions), 1944	Container 2.13
Indian Dance, signed manuscript music for piano, 4 pages, 1942	Container 2.14
Joanne, signed manuscript music for piano, 1 page, 1973	Container 2.15
La lune blanche, text by Paul Verlaine, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 3 pages, 1922	Container 2.16
March, signed manuscript score for orchestra, 8 pages (2 copies), undated	Container 2.17
Märchen, signed manuscript music for piano, 6 pages, 1921	Container 2.18
Das Melodrama, text by Béla Bálazs, signed manuscript music for piano with recitative, 38 pages, 1922	Container 3.1
A Merry Overture	
Signed manuscript score for orchestra, 56 pages (4 copies), 1943	Container 3.2-3
Signed manuscript score for orchestra, 55 pages (3 copies), 1943	Container 24.2-25.1
Signed manuscript music for piano, 22 pages (2 copies), 1942, 1944	Container 3.4
Manuscript music for piano, fragments, 1942	Container 3.5
Signed manuscript orchestra parts	
Brass, undated	Container 3.6

Strings, undated	Container 3.7
Tympani, undated	Container 3.8
Woodwinds, undated	Container 3.9
Manuscript music for piano, various fragments, 1917-1918	Container 3.10
Nem Ver Engem Meg Az Isten, text by Sándor Petöfi, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 3-4 pages (3 versions), 1924	Container 3.11
The Nightingale and the Rose [opera based on the prose poem by Oscar Wilde], book by Nicholas Bela	
Signed manuscript score for orchestra, 341 pages, undated	Container 17-18
Signed manuscript score for orchestra, 318 pages bound, undated	Container 19
Photocopy of score for orchestra, 318 pages, undated	Container 4.1-2
Manuscript music fragments titled "Revisions for NBC," undated	Container 4.3
Signed manuscript orchestra parts	
French horns, undated	Container 4.4
Trumpet, undated	Container 4.5
Trombones, undated	Container 4.6
Percussion, undated	Container 4.7
Bass, undated	Container 4.8
Celeste, undated	Container 4.9
Cello, undated	Container 4.10
Harp, undated	Container 4.11
Viola, undated	Container 5.1
First violin, undated	Container 5.2

Second violin, undated	Container 5.3
Bassoons, undated	Container 5.4
Clarinets, undated	Container 5.5
First flute, undated	Container 5.6
Second flute, undated	Container 5.7
Oboes, undated	Container 6.1
Commentator, undated	Container 6.2
Vocal parts, undated	Container 6.3
Various orchestra parts, undated	Container 6.4
Signed manuscript score for voices and piano, 164 pages, 1940	Container 20
Signed manuscript score for voices and piano, 156 pages, 1940, revised 1942	Container 21
Signed manuscript score for voices and piano, 157 pages, 1942	Container 22
Microfilm score for voices and piano, undated	Container 16.13
Typescript libretto by Nicholas Bela (3 copies), undated	Container 6.5
Script outline with song lyrics, excerpts of reviews and Lessner biography, 1942, undated	Container 6.6
Let Me Build Music by Moonlight from The Nightingale and the Rose, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 5 pages, undated	Container 6.7
Nocturne from The Nightingale and the Rose, signed manuscript score for orchestra, 25-28 pages (2 versions), 1942, undated	Container 6.8
Manuscript sketches, undated	Container 6.9-10
Paprika (A Hungarian Dance)	
Signed manuscript score for orchestra, 20-24 pages (3 versions), 1941, 1943	Container 7.1

Signed manuscript orchestra parts	
Brass, undated	Container 7.2
Percussion, undated	Container 7.3
Strings, undated	Container 7.4
Woodwinds, undated	Container 7.5
Music for piano, two printed scores and one handwritten score, 4-5 pages, 1943, undated	Container 7.6
Piano Quartett, signed incomplete manuscript score for piano quartet, 8 pages, undated	Container 7.7
Pierot, signed manuscript music for piano, 4 pages, 1921	Container 7.8
Pixie Pranks (A Scherzo)	
Signed manuscript score for violin and piano, 6-10 pages (2 versions), 1943, undated	Container 7.9
Signed manuscript music for piano, 6 pages (3 copies), 1943, undated	Container 7.10
Signed manuscript music for violin, 2 pages, undated	Container 7.11
A Poem	
Signed manuscript score for viola and orchestra, 4 pages, undated	Container 7.12
Signed manuscript score for violin and orchestra, 5 pages, 1944	Container 7.13
Signed manuscript score for viola and piano, 9 pages, undated	Container 7.14
Signed manuscript music for viola, 2 pages (3 copies), 1943, undated	Container 7.15
Signed manuscript score for violin and piano, 6-10 pages (3 versions), 1943, undated	Container 7.16
Signed manuscript music for violin, 3 pages (2 copies), undated	Container 7.17

Signed manuscript score for string quartet, 10 pages (2 copies), 1982, undated	Container 7.18
Polka, signed manuscript music for piano, 7 pages, and fragments of piano sketch, 1944	Container 7.19
Puppet Polka	
Signed manuscript score for orchestra, 26 pages (2 copies), 1944	Container 7.20
Printed music for piano, 5 pages (4 copies), 1944	Container 7.21
Signed manuscript music for piano ("orchestral version"), 8 pages, 1944	Container 7.22
The Queen's Maid, opera [in Hungarian], libretto by Béla Bálazs, signed manuscript score, 70 pages, 1921	Container 7.23
Reflection, signed manuscript music for piano, 3-7 pages (2 versions), 1943, undated	Container 7.24
Románc pour violin, signed manuscript score for violin and piano, 9 pages, 1921	Container 7.25
Romance, signed manuscript music for piano, 4 pages, undated	Container 7.26
Die Schatten, text by Béla Bálazs, signed manuscript music for piano with recitative, 30 pages, 1922	Container 7.27
Serenade (Josephine), signed manuscript music for piano, 3-4 pages (3 versions), 1943	Container 7.28
Snowflakes	
Ballet-pantomime in one act, signed manuscript music for piano with recitative, 44-48 pages (2 versions), 1929, 1930	Container 8.1
March from the ballet-suite Snowflakes	
Signed manuscript score for orchestra, 18-38 pages (3 versions), 1942	Container 8.2
Signed manuscript orchestra parts, undated	Container 8.3

Signed manuscript music for piano, 12 pages (2 copies), 1942, undated	Container 8.4
Sonata, signed manuscript music for piano, 13 pages, undated	Container 8.5
A Sonnet, signed manuscript score for violin and piano, 3-4 pages (4 versions), 1944	Container 8.6
Stories From a Nursery Book (A Suite for Orchestra)	
Signed manuscript score for orchestra, 50-53 pages (2 versions), 1941	Container 8.7
Signed manuscript score for orchestra, 38 pages, 1941	Container 25.2
Signed manuscript orchestra parts	
Brass, undated	Container 8.8
Percussion, undated	Container 8.9
Strings, undated	Container 8.10
Woodwinds, undated	Container 8.11
1. Once Upon a Time..., signed manuscript score for violin and piano, 3 pages, 1942	Container 8.12
Signed manuscript music for piano, 14-15 pages (4 versions), 1942, undated	Container 8.13
Manuscript piano sketches, undated	Container 8.14
Sunrise (A Tone Poem)	
Signed manuscript music for orchestra, 36 pages (2 copies), 1938	Container 25.3-4
Signed manuscript music for piano, 13 pages (2 complete scores and one fragment), 1938	Container 8.15
Sunset on the Saugatuck, signed manuscript music for piano, 7-8 pages (3 versions), 1943, 1945	Container 8.16
Symphonic Poem in D Minor	

Signed manuscript score for orchestra, 33-39 pages (2 versions), 1937, 1944	Container 8.17
Signed manuscript score for orchestra, 80-92 pages (3 versions), 1938	Container 26.1-2, 27.1
Signed manuscript score for orchestra, 84 pages bound, 1938	Container 27.2
Signed manuscript score for orchestra, 83 pages (2 copies), 1944	Container 28.2-3
Signed manuscript orchestra parts	
Brass, undated	Container 9.1
Percussion, undated	Container 9.2
Strings, undated	Container 9.3
Woodwinds, undated	Container 9.4
Today, text by Vivian Yeiser Laramore, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 4 pages (3 copies), 1942	Container 9.5
Two Short Pieces for the Piano, signed manuscript music for piano, 2 pages, 1976	Container 9.6
Valse, signed manuscript score for orchestra, 14 pages, 1951	Container 9.7
Valse Carnival	
Signed manuscript score for orchestra, 44 pages (2 complete scores and one incomplete score), 1944	Container 9.8
Signed manuscript music for piano, 9 pages, 1944	Container 9.9
Valse Fantastique, signed manuscript music for piano, 12 pages, 1944	Container 9.10
Valse Humoresque, signed manuscript music for piano, 12 pages, 1944	Container 9.11
Untitled manuscript music for piano	
1918	Container 9.12

1921	Container 9.13
1931	Container 9.14
War and Peace, signed manuscript worksheets for orchestra, 1941	Container 9.15
Adaptations of Works by Others, 1921-1939, undated	
Allegretto by Ludwig Van Beethoven, manuscript transcription for string orchestra, 3 pages, undated	Container 9.16
Ave Maria by Franz Schubert, manuscript transcription for orchestra, short score, 3 pages, undated	Container 9.17
Minuetto by Ludwig Van Beethoven, signed manuscript transcription for string orchestra, 3 pages, 1921	Container 9.18
Portrait of a Lovely Lady (tone poem for orchestra on a theme by Harry Revel)	
Signed manuscript score for orchestra, 26-31 pages, 1939	Container 29.1
Signed manuscript score for orchestra, 31 pages, 1939	Container 9.19
Signed manuscript short score, 12 pages, 1939	Container 9.20
The Star-Spangled Banner, words by Francis Scott Key, music by John Stafford Smith, manuscript transcription for orchestra, 5-8 pages (2 versions), 1943, undated	Container 20.2
Tritsch-Tratsch Polka (Opus 214) by Johann Strauss, signed manuscript transcription for orchestra, 21 pages, undated	Container 9.21
Valse, by Harry Revel, orchestration by George Lessner, signed manuscript score for orchestra, 28 pages, undated	Container 29.3
Waltz in Blue, by Harry Revel, orchestration by George Lessner	
Signed manuscript score for orchestra, 28 pages, undated	Container 29.4
Signed manuscript orchestra parts, undated	Container 10.1
2. Film, Radio, and Television Scores, 1937-1953, undated	
Bobo the Hobo and His Traveling Troupe (TV series)	

- Episode 101: The Prairie Princess, book and lyrics by Stella Unger, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 14 pages, and manuscript scores of individual songs, 1951 **Container**
10.2
- Episode 102: Betty and the Pirate (The Pirate and the Princess), book by Budd Fishel, lyrics by Alice Hammerstein, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 20 pages, and manuscript scores of individual songs, 1952 **Container**
10.3
- Episode 103: Mountain Cinderella, lyrics by Alice Hammerstein, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 18 pages, and manuscript scores of individual songs, 1952 **Container**
10.4
- Episode 104: The Lost Mine, lyrics by Alice Hammerstein, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 14 pages, and manuscript scores of individual songs, 1952 **Container**
10.5
- Episode 105: The Three Wishes, lyrics by Alice Hammerstein, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 8 pages, and manuscript scores of individual songs, 1952 **Container**
10.6
- Episode 106: The Toy Shop, lyrics by Alice Hammerstein, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 16 pages, and manuscript scores of individual songs, 1952 **Container**
10.7
- Episode 107: The Maid and the Monster (The Maid and the Dragon), lyrics by Alice Hammerstein, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 12 pages, manuscript scores of individual songs, and typescript with annotations, 1952 **Container**
10.8
- Episode 108: The Elves and King Kotton, lyrics by Alice Hammerstein, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 15 pages, and manuscript scores of individual songs, 1952 **Container**
10.9
- Episode 109: The Lost Space Ship, lyrics by Alice Hammerstein, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 16 pages, and manuscript scores of individual songs, 1952 **Container**
10.10
- Episode 110: Trouble in Texas, lyrics by Alice Hammerstein, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 17 pages, and manuscript scores of individual songs, 1952 **Container**
10.11
- Episode 111: Bill Brawny Private Eye, lyrics by Alice Hammerstein, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 14 pages, and manuscript scores of individual songs, 1952 **Container**
10.12
- Episode 112: The 49'ers, lyrics by Alice Hammerstein, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 10 pages, and manuscript scores of individual songs, 1952 **Container**
10.13

- Episode 113: The Elf Who Couldn't Be Bad, lyrics by Alice Hammerstein, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 11 pages, and manuscript scores of individual songs, 1953 **Container**
10.14
- Episode 114: Magic on the Hudson, lyrics by Alice Hammerstein, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 15 pages, and manuscript scores of individual songs, 1953 **Container**
10.15
- Episode 201: The Voyages of the S. S. Fantasy, lyrics by Alice Hammerstein, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 22 pages, and manuscript scores of individual songs, 1953 **Container**
10.16
- Episode 202: Don Quixote, lyrics by Alice Hammerstein, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 19 pages, and manuscript scores of individual songs, 1953 **Container**
10.17
- Episode 203: The Three Musketeers, lyrics by Alice Hammerstein, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 20 pages, and manuscript scores of individual songs, 1953 **Container**
11.1
- Episode 204: The Tempest, lyrics by Alice Hammerstein, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 24 pages, and manuscript scores of individual songs, 1953 **Container**
11.2
- Episode 205: Faust, lyrics by Alice Hammerstein, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 19 pages, and manuscript scores of individual songs, 1953 **Container**
11.3
- Episode 206: Romeo and Juliet, lyrics by Alice Hammerstein, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 22 pages, and manuscript scores of individual songs, 1953 **Container**
11.4
- Episode 207: Christopher Columbus, lyrics by Alice Hammerstein, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 23 pages, and manuscript scores of individual songs, 1953 **Container**
11.5
- Episode 207: Christopher Columbus, lyrics by Alice Hammerstein, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 23 pages, and manuscript scores of individual songs, 1953
- Episode 208: Helen of Troy, lyrics by Alice Hammerstein, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 20 pages, and manuscript scores of individual songs, 1953 **Container**
11.6
- Episode 209: The Lost Tomb, lyrics by Alice Hammerstein, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 18 pages, and manuscript scores of individual songs, 1953 **Container**
11.7

Episode 210: In Old Vienna, lyrics by Alice Hammerstein, manuscript scores of individual songs, 1953	Container 11.8
Episode 211: A Tale of Old Japan, lyrics by Alice Hammerstein, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 19 pages, and manuscript scores of individual songs, 1953	Container 11.9
Episode 212: The Gaucho, lyrics by Alice Hammerstein, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 16 pages, and manuscript scores of individual songs, 1953	Container 11.10
Episode 213: The Mysterious Island, lyrics by Alice Hammerstein, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 19 pages, and manuscript scores of individual songs, 1953	Container 11.11
The Gondolier's Song, lyrics by Alice Hammerstein, score for voice and piano, 4 pages, 1953	Container 11.12
The Dumb Cluck (Walter Lantz film short), signed manuscript score for orchestra, 79 pages, 1937	Container 11.13
Four Freedoms (Prudential Radio program), manuscript sketches for piano, 9 pages, 1943	Container 11.14
3. Musical Theater Scores, 1945-1952, undated	
Careless Love, book by H. L. Fishel, lyrics by Edward Eager (unproduced)	
Signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 82 pages bound, 1950	Container 11.15
Act One Scene 1 Stackolee's death..., signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 10-11 pages (2 versions), undated	Container 11.16
Act Two Scene 6 Frankie and Johnny, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 13 pages, undated	Container 11.17
Overture from Careless Love, signed manuscript music for piano, 10 pages, 1950	Container 11.18
Assorted songs from Careless Love, signed manuscript scores for voice and piano [with lyrics], 1949-1951, undated	Container 11.19
Assorted songs from Careless Love, signed manuscript scores for voice and piano [without lyrics], 1948-1950, undated	Container 11.20
Gumbo Ya-Ya, book by Bud Fishel and Paul Milton, lyrics by Alice Hammerstein (unproduced)	

Signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 71 pages, 1952	Container 12.1
Signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 101 pages bound, 1952	Container 12.2
Creole Love, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 2 pages, 1951	Container 12.3
Give Me Room, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 4 pages, undated	Container 12.4
I Feel So Feelsy, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 4 pages, 1951	Container 12.5
I've Never Been Away, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 4 pages (3 copies), 1951	Container 12.6
Johnny's Soliloquy, signed incomplete manuscript score for voice and piano, 5 pages, 1952	Container 12.7
The Results Is Just the Same, signed incomplete manuscript score for voice and piano, 2 pages, 1951	Container 12.8
Until This Moment (Ballad), signed manuscript score for voice and piano [without lyrics], 4 pages, 1951	Container 12.9
What I Say Goes, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 4 pages (2 copies), 1951-1952	Container 12.10
Typescript lyric sheets, undated	Container 12.11
Mr. Strauss Goes to Boston (1945), book by Felix Brentano and Leonard L. Levinson, lyrics by Robert Sour, music by Robert Stolz with Johann Strauss music adapted and arranged by Robert Stolz and George Lessner	
Printed conductor's score, 242 pages bound, 1945	Container 12.12
Ballets, No. 25 A, B, and C, music by Robert Stolz, orchestration by George Lessner, three signed manuscript orchestra scores, 18-27 pages, undated	Container 12.13
Sleepy Hollow (1948), book and lyrics by Russell Maloney and Miriam Battista, music by George Lessner	
Signed manuscript conductor's score, 193 pages, undated	Container 13.1

Printed conductor's score with correspondence and photograph, 178 pages, bound, 1948	Container 13.2
Act One signed manuscript score for voices and piano, 32 pages, undated	Container 13.3
Legend of Sleepy Hollow manuscript piano sketches, 1945, undated	Container 13.4
Gavotte, signed manuscript music for piano, 2-3 pages (2 versions), 1946, undated	Container 13.5
Prelude to Act I, signed incomplete manuscript music for piano, 1 page, undated	Container 13.6
The Psalm (Autumn), signed manuscript music for piano, 3 pages, 1946	Container 13.7
The Ride of the Headless Horseman, signed manuscript music for piano, 10 pages, 1946	Container 13.8
The Gray Goose, printed score for voice and piano, 2 pages (6 copies) and signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 4 pages, 1948	Container 13.9
Here and Now, printed score for voice and piano, 3 pages (6 copies) and signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 7 pages, 1948	Container 13.10
I'm Lost, printed score for voice and piano, 3 pages (9 copies), 1948	Container 13.11
The Things That Lovers Say, printed and photocopied scores for voice and piano, 4 pages (6 copies, 2 incomplete) and signed manuscript score for string quintet, 8 pages, with second violin part, 4 pages, 1948	Container 13.12
Time Stands Still, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 4 pages, 1947	Container 13.13
Typewritten lyric sheets, undated	Container 13.14
Typewritten prompt script, 1948	Container 14.1
Bound typewritten script, undated	Container 14.2
4. Popular Songs, 1930-1941, undated	
Always the Best Man, words and music by David Ormont and George Lessner, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 4 pages, undated	Container 14.3

Be Kind to the One I Love, words by Mildred Haynes, music by George Lessner and Ray Cameron, printed score for voice and piano, 2 pages (3 copies), 1934	Container 14.4
Chain Letter Blues, words and music by Ray Cameron and George Lessner, printed score for voice and piano, 4 pages (2 copies), 1935	Container 14.5
Dearest, words and music by David Ormont and George Lessner, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 3 pages, undated	Container 14.6
Honey, I'se Cold, I Is, words and music by Ray Cameron and George Lessner, ("Successfully introduced and featured by Blanche Calloway") printed score for voice and piano, 4 pages (4 copies, 1 incomplete), 1935	Container 14.7
I Found My Heaven In Your Dreamy Eyes, words by Robert Gilbert, music adapted by George Lessner from Tchaikovsky's 6th Symphony, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 4 pages, 1941	Container 14.8
If You But Only Knew, words and music by David Ormont and George Lessner, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 3 pages, undated	Container 14.9
I'm Gonna Die, words and music by David Ormont and George Lessner, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 3 pages, undated	Container 14.10
Just One More Kiss, words by Connie Ford Williams, music by George Lessner and Ray Cameron, printed score for voice and piano, 2 pages (4 copies), 1934	Container 14.11
Like the Birds, lyric by Robert Gilbert, music by George Lessner, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 3 pages (2 copies), 1941	Container 14.12
My Gypsy Love, words and music by Katharine Bainbridge and George Lessner, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 3 pages, 1936	Container 14.13
My Poster Girl, words by Lorraine Lessner, music by George Lessner, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 4 pages, 1930	Container 14.14
A Turn of the Wheel, words and music by David Ormont and George Lessner, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 3 pages, undated	Container 14.15
Subseries B. Composed by Alford Lessner, 1948-1954, undated	
Aubade	
Signed manuscript score for string orchestra, 10 pages, undated	Container 14.16
Signed manuscript transcription for piano, 5 pages, undated	Container 14.17

Ballad, signed incomplete manuscript music for piano, 2 pages, undated	Container 14.18
Chanson de Garbage, signed incomplete manuscript score for jazz band, 1 page, 1954	Container 14.19
Love Is My Song, words by Perry Bialor and Sandra Dobin, music by Alford Lessner, signed manuscript music for voice and piano, 3 pages, undated	Container 14.20
Pep Song, words by Evelyn Weinrich and Perry Bialor, music by Alford Lessner, signed manuscript music for voice and piano, 2-3 pages (2 versions), 1949	Container 14.21
Sonata for Piano, 1st movement, signed manuscript music for piano, 8 pages, undated	Container 14.22
String Quartet, signed manuscript score for string quartet, 8 pages, 1948	Container 14.23
Suite for Flute and Orchestra, signed manuscript fragment, 1 page, undated	Container 14.24
Manuscript fragments of orchestra parts transcribed from various works, undated	Container 14.25
Subseries C. Works by Others, 1935-1949, undated	
At Twilight Hour, words by Katharine Bainbridge, music by Sol B. Cohen, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 2 pages, undated	Container 14.26
Summer-night on the river, by Frederick Delius, printed music for piano, undated	Container 14.27
What's the Sense of Dreaming, by Richard Frederick, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 3 pages, 1949	Container 14.28
Manuscript music fragment by Richard Frederick, 1 page, undated	Container 14.29
In Copacabana, words by Mort Greene, music by Harry Revel, printed score for voice and piano, 3 pages, 1941	Container 14.30
Linda, words and music by Jack Lawrence, printed score for voice and piano, 3 pages, 1946	Container 14.31
Castilian Love Song, by "Fred Salathé", signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 3 pages, 1935	Container 14.32
Ask Anyone Who Knows, words and music by Eddie Seiler, Sol Marcus, and Al Kaufman, printed score for voice and piano, 2 pages, 1947	Container 14.33

Latin American Songs, compiled and edited by David Stevens, printed songbook for voice and piano, 46 pages, 1941	Container 14.34
So soll die Liebe sein, Sonja! words by Robert Gilbert, music by Robert Stolz, signed manuscript score for voice and piano, 4 pages, undated	Container 14.35
A Hindoo in Hollywood, synopsis of an original musical satire by Phyllis G. Voros and E. M. Ingleton, typescript, undated	Container 14.36
Orientalischer Bauchtanz, by Robert W., manuscript music for piano, undated	Container 14.37
Subseries C. Works by Others, 1935-1949, undated	
"Sketches" [includes fragments of manuscript scores and typed lyric sheets], undated	Container 15.1
Fragments of unidentified manuscript score for orchestra, undated	Container 15.2
Fragments of unidentified manuscript scores, undated	Container 15.3
Fragments of unidentified manuscript scores, possibly by Alford Lessner, undated	Container 15.4

Series II. Personal and Professional Papers, 1937-1989, undated

Biographical information, circa 1940s	Container 16.1
Correspondence and envelopes, 1938-1964, undated	Container 16.2
A Merry Overture, program and clippings, 1944	Container 16.3
The Nightingale and the Rose, clippings and correspondence, 1942	Container 16.4
Sleepy Hollow, clippings and flyer, 1948	Container 16.5
Sunrise, clippings, 1939	Container 16.6
Programs for various works by Lessner, 1940-1945	Container 16.7
National Association for American Composers and Conductors annual bulletins, 1937, 1939	Container 16.8
Almanac newsletter [list of Broadway productions], 26 December 1949	Container 16.9
Correspondence, clippings, and programs related to Lorraine Lessner, 1945-1989, undated	Container 16.10
Correspondence, clippings, and ephemera related to Alford Lessner, 1949-1951	Container 16.11
United States Air Force Band newspapers and other printed material, 1954, undated	Container 16.12

Container 17-29 Oversize materials

Sound Recordings List

- D 9199 : phonograph records : The Nightingale and the Rose, Parts 8 and 11
- D 9200 : phonograph records : The Nightingale and the Rose, Parts 2 and 5
- D 9201 : phonograph records : The Nightingale and the Rose, Parts 1 and 4
- D 9202 : phonograph records : The Nightingale and the Rose, Parts 3 and 6
- D 9203 : phonograph records : The Nightingale and the Rose, Parts 9 and 12
- D 9204 : phonograph records : The Nightingale and the Rose, Parts 7 and 10
- D 9205 : phonograph records : "Ostrich Feathers" and "The Air Express" - Disc 1
- D 9206 : phonograph records : "Ostrich Feathers" and "The Air Express" - Disc 2
- D 9207 : phonograph records : "Ostrich Feathers" and "The Air Express" - Disc 3
- D 9208 : phonograph records : "Ostrich Feathers" and "Lovesick"
- D 9209 : phonograph records : Sunrise, Parts 1 and 3
- D 9210 : phonograph records : Sunrise, Part 2
- D 9211 : phonograph records : In Memoriam, Parts One (Section 1 and 3) and Two (Section 2)
- D 9212 : phonograph records : Poem for Violin and Piano
- D 9213 : phonograph records : Stories From a Nursery Book (A Suite for Orchestra), Parts 1 and 3
- D 9214 : phonograph records : Stories From a Nursery Book (A Suite for Orchestra), Part 2
- D 9215 : phonograph records : Paprika
- D 9216 : phonograph records : Paprika
- D 9217 : phonograph records : Puppet Polka
- D 9218 : phonograph records : Sunrise, Parts 1 and 2
- D 9219 : phonograph records : Sunrise, Parts 1 and 3
- D 9220 : phonograph records : Sleepy Hollow, Parts 1 and 2
- D 9221 : phonograph records : Sleepy Hollow, Parts 3 and 4
- D 9222 : phonograph records : Fantasie
- D 9223 : phonograph records : In Memoriam, Parts One (Section 1 and 3) and Two (Section 2)
- D 9224 : phonograph records : A Merry Overture
- D 9225 : phonograph records : The Nightingale and the Rose, Parts 1 and 4
- D 9226 : phonograph records : The Nightingale and the Rose, Parts 2 and 5
- D 9227 : phonograph records : The Nightingale and the Rose, Parts 3 and 6
- D 9228 : phonograph records : The Nightingale and the Rose, Parts 7 and 10
- D 9229 : phonograph records : The Nightingale and the Rose, Parts 8 and 11
- D 9230 : phonograph records : The Nightingale and the Rose, Parts 9 and 12
- D 9231 : phonograph records : Stories From a Nursery Book (A Suite for Orchestra)
- D 9232 : phonograph records : Unlabeled
- D 9233 : phonograph records : Bobo the Hobo and His Traveling Troupe
- D 9464 : phonograph records : Helen and Kenneth Wedding Ceremony
- R 3170 : reel-to-reel audiotapes : The Nightingale and the Rose, reel 3
- R 3171 : reel-to-reel audiotapes : The Nightingale and the Rose, reel 1
- R 3172 : reel-to-reel audiotapes : The Nightingale and the Rose, reel 2
- R 3173 : reel-to-reel audiotapes : Sunrise / Stories of a Nursery / A Merry Overture / In Memoriam
- R 3174 : reel-to-reel audiotapes : Gumbo Ya-Ya, original demo
- R 3175 : reel-to-reel audiotapes : Gumbo Ya-Ya, audition tape