Finding Aid

Alice Gerstl Duschak (1902-1993) Collection

Descriptive Summary

Extent
Number of containers: 17
Linear feet: 8 linear ft.

Repository
Peabody Archives
Johns Hopkins University

Location
Archives stacks, second floor of the Friedheim Music Library

Processed by
Rebecca Roose (March 11, 2016)

Administrative Information

Accession Number
1996.15

Provenance
Unknown

Access
Materials in the Alice Gerstl Duschak Collection are available for use by appointment, Monday through Friday from 9:00 am until 5:00 pm.

Publication Rights
All requests for permission to publish or perform materials in this collection must be submitted in writing to the Head Librarian.

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Biography

Soprano Alice Gerstl Duschak was born in Vienna, Austria, on December 21, 1902. Her parents were active in the arts; among her parents' house guests was the composer and conductor Gustav Mahler. She passed away in Washington, DC, on July 19, 1993.
She was educated at the University of Music and Dramatic Art in Vienna and at the Mozarteum in Salzburg, Austria. She also studied in Milan, Italy. She became the leading lyric coloratura singer at the opera house in Muenster, Germany, and was a guest artist at many other opera houses in Germany and Austria.

In 1943, she and her husband, Dr. Gottfried Karl Duschak, came to the United States from England where they had been living. They resided in Minneapolis before they moved to Washington. She continued her singing career in the U.S. and often appeared with pianist and composer Ernst Krenek and with other well-known musicians, including conductor Dimitri Mitropoulos.

During her career she taught at the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore, MD, MacPhail College of Music in Minneapolis and at Catholic and Howard universities, writing many articles on vocal technique and interpretation. Her students included the sopranos Jessye Norman and Veronica Tyler, at least seven winners of the Metropolitan Opera Auditions and first-place winners at the International Munich Vocal Competitions. Ms. Tyler, who won second prize in the 1966 Moscow Competition, interrupted her professional career to perfect her Moscow program with the help of Mrs. Duschak.

Mrs. Duschak was awarded the Decoration of Honor in Gold for services to the Republic of Austria in 1982.

Her husband, Dr. Duschak died in 1984.

Mrs. Duschak retired from the Peabody Conservatory in 1990.

Mrs. Duschak died on July 21, 1993 of cancer at her home in Washington, D.C.

(Excerpts from The Baltimore Sun, July 1993)

**Series Description**

Series I: Personal Papers  
Series II: Poetry  
Series III: Newspaper Clippings  
Series IV: Greeting Cards/Postcards/Personal Items  
Series V: Music Library  
Series VI: Arts and Literature Library  
Series VII: Recordings

**Scope and Content**

This collection contains the personal papers of Alice Gerstl Duschak and husband Dr. Gottfried Karl Duschak, poetry written and compiled by Ms. Duschak from 1941–1978, newspaper clippings related to Ms. Duschak’s performances and teaching career, greetings cards and
correspondence with family, friends, colleagues, and composers, Ms. Duschak’s personal music, arts, and literature libraries, and LP and reel-to-reel recordings of Ms. Duschak and her students in performance and in lecture-recital.

**Container List**

Series I: Personal Papers

**Box 1**

1. American Association of University Professors
3. Bach Recital-Lecture Notes
4. Banking
5. Biography (Professional)
6. Birth Certificate, Austria 1902
8. Business Cards (Duschak)
9. Colonial Penn Insurance Company
10. Concert Program Booklets (Misc.)
11. Concert Programs (Misc.)
12. Concert Programs – New York
13. Concert Programs – Washington D.C.
14. Correspondence – Carnegie Institute, 1964
15. Correspondence – David Garvey
16. Correspondence – Loda Hopkins
17. Correspondence – Norman Johnson
18. Correspondence – Dr. Ifor Jones
19. Correspondence – Ernst Křenek
20. Correspondence – Jessye Norman (Flower Card)
21. Correspondence – Dr. Adolf Reiter, Notary
22. Correspondence – W. Rathke Remersh
23. Correspondence – Mrs. Alfred Schutz
24. Correspondence – Valerie Schwarzschild (Regarding Unfair Lease?)
25. Correspondence – Harrison L. Winter (Regarding Appointment of New Peabody Director, 1967)
26. Correspondence – Unknown/Miscellaneous

**Box 2**

1. Didier, Charles – “Twixt Cupid & Croesus or The Exhibits in an Attachment Suit”
2. Draft Notes for Article about Young Singers’ Success Rate in Profession and How to Improve It
4. Lesson Plans (Music Theory)
5. MacPhail School of Music Press Release: “She Sings Well, She Teaches Well”
6. Manuscript Notebooks
9. Obituary (Publication Unknown)
12. Peabody Institute (Misc.)
13. Peabody Letter to Dean Regarding Art Song Course
15. Peabody Notes Publications
16. Peabody Recital Programs
17. Peabody Shapiro House Notes, Feb. 1986
19. Personal Notes (Misc.)
20. Photo: Headshots (Undated)
21. Photo: Leontyne Price and David Garvey
22. Photos: Miscellaneous
23. Photos: Sept. 1959-60 European Travels
24. Photos: Unidentified Portraits ( Relatives?)

Box 3

1. Recital Program Drafts
2. Recital Programs (Duschak)
3. Schubert Lecture-Recital: NATS (Maryland), 1971
4. Schubert Lieder Recording Materials; Duschak and Garvey
5. Scholastic Diplomas/Certificates (Misc.)
6. Sketch: Pencil on 8x10 (Undated-Duschak?)
7. Social Security Administration
8. Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association of America College Retirement Equities Fund
9. Vocal Technique Notebook
10. Will and Testament (Handwritten)

Series II: Poetry

Box 4

1. Complete Typed Compilations
2. 1941-1954
3. 1961-1964
4. 1965
5. 1966
6. 1967-1969
7. 1970-1978
8. Undated (Misc.)
Series III: Newspaper Clippings

Box 5

2. American Musical Clippings (Misc.)
3. Austrian-German Newsprint Publications (Misc.)
5. *The Minnesota Daily* (May 14, 1942)
6. *NBC Publication* (September 1943)
7. *The New York Post* (February 24, 1940)
8. *The Progress-Register, Minneapolis*: Fascinating Lyric Soprano Wins Her Way at MacPhail School Recital
9. *The Pueblo Chief*: To Sing with Symphony (December 12, 1945)
12. Student/Colleague Clippings & Profiles

Series IV: Greeting Cards/Postcards/Personal Items

Box 6

- Greeting Cards (Misc.)
- Postcards (Misc.)
- 2 circular wooden carvings (397 “Moccasin Flower”; 398 “Snow Drop”)
- 1 small looking glass in leather case
- 1 small binocular pendant
- 1 small address book
- 1 gilded leather wallet
- A.G. Duschak - Austrian papers (1937-38)
- A.G. Duschak - U.S. passport (1985-95)
- Dr. Gottfried Karl Duschak - Austrian papers (1933)
- Dr. Gottfried Karl Duschak - Austrian passport (1930-35)
- Dr. Gottfried Karl Duschak - Viennese student papers (1913-1920)
- Dr. Gottfried Karl Duschak - Viennese student papers (1920-1928)
- Dr. Gottfried Karl Duschak - Viennese student papers (1925)

Series V: Music Library

Subseries A: Sheet Music/Manuscripts A-L (arranged by composer)
Box 7

1. Allen, James – When I No Longer Sing (manuscript)
2. Bach, J.S. – “O Jesulein Süß” (transcription)
4. Berg, Alban – “Traumgekrönt” (transcription)
8. Duschak, A.G. – “Esther & King” (manuscript)
9. Duschak, A.G. – “In einem kühl n Grunde” duet (transcription)
10. Duschak, A.G. – “O du lieb’s ängeli” (transcription)
12. Fraser, Kennedy – Songs of the Hebrides for Voice and Celtic Harp
13. Geist, Geo. – Ein Sonett (manuscript)
14. Gounod, Charles – “Chanson du Roi de Thulé” from Faust
15. Grood, Stefan – Orpheus (manuscript copy)
16. Guilbert, Yvette – Legendes Dorées
17. Handel, G.F. – “Cantando un di” (transcription)
20. Hokanson, Margrethe – “Tribute” (inscribed)
21. Hurst, George – “Darkness Music” (manuscript copy)
22. Johnson, Norman – “Early on a Frosty Morn” Christmas Carol (manuscript)
23. Johnson, Norman – “We Praise Thee O God” from Te Deum Laudamus (inscribed)
24. Judic, Anne – Les Noisettes
25. Křenek, Ernst – Aber die Winter
26. Křenek, Ernst – “Freut euch des Lebens” (manuscript)
27. Křenek, Ernst – Fünf Lieder Op. 82
28. Křenek, Ernst – Monolog der Stella Op. 57 (manuscript copy)
29. Křenek, Ernst – Die Nachtigall
31. Křenek, Ernst – “On a Piece of Music” (inscribed manuscript)
32. Křenek, Ernst – “Wechselied zum Tanz” aus Triumph der Empfindsamkeit
33. Křenek, Ernst? – Unmarked manuscripts
34. Lucke, Katharine – 2 Songs with Piano (“Mo Brôn” and “Slumber Song”) 
35. Lucke, Katharine – “A Song on the Wind Mo Brôn” for High Voice
36. Lucke, Katharine – Longing Song
37. Lucke, Katharine – My Harp of Many Strings, Sacred Song
38. Lucke, Katharine – “The Scarecrow” from The Lost Day

Subseries A (cont.): Sheet Music/Manuscripts M-Z (arranged by composer)

Box 8

1. MacDowell, Edward – 6 Selected Songs for High Voice
2. Mahler, Gustav – Erinnerung (transcription)
3. Mittler, Franz – An Ruth (manuscript)
4. Mittler, Franz – “Ave Maria” for High Voice and Piano (manuscript)
5. Mittler, Franz – Der Felseu (manuscript)
6. Mittler, Franz – Fünf Zigeunerlieder II. “An der Marosch” (manuscript)
7. Mittler, Franz – Hoffnung (manuscript)
8. Mittler, Franz – Die Kranke (manuscript)
9. Mittler, Franz – Der Lezte Tanz (manuscript)
10. Mittler, Franz – Liebesflämmlchen (manuscript)
11. Mittler, Franz – Lodoletta (manuscript)
13. Mittler, Franz – Schwallbensiziliane (manuscript)
14. Mittler, Franz – Sommerlüst (manuscript)
15. Mittler, Franz – Trgendwo (manuscript)
16. Mittler, Franz – Die Welt ist so schön (manuscript)
17. Mittler, Franz – Die Wolke (manuscript)
18. Mittler, Franz – Was zucken die Braunen Geigen (manuscript)
19. Mittler, Franz – Zwei Kindersprüche (manuscript)
20. Patti/Vianesi – “Le Rossignol” from La Leçon de Chant du Barber de Seville
22. Pisk, Paul – “Green” (Manuscript)
23. Pisk, Paul – “The Song that I Came to Sing” (transcription)
24. Pleskow, Raoul – 3 Songs on a Text of Oscar Wilde (manuscript copy)
25. Poppea, Ernst de – Bei ich in spaerter nacht allein” (manuscript)
26. Poppea, Ernst de – “The Dawn of the Maron” (manuscript), Nov. 1939
27. Purcell, Edward – “Passing By Song”
29. Rameau, J.P. – “Grand Air de Vénus” dans Le Prologue de Dardanus, No. 376
30. Reichert, Ernst – Seltene Meistergesänge aus Drei Jahrhunderten
31. Schoenberg, Arnold – 15 Gedichte aus “Das Buch der Hängenden Gärten” von Stefan George
32. Scott, Cyril – The Unforseen, Op. 74 No. 3 for Voice and Piano
33. Shipley, R. – 6 Tudor Songs for Guitar (Transposed from Lute Tablature)
34. Schoeck, Othmar – Lieder aus dem Westöstlichen Divan con Goethe
35. Schubert, Franz – “Nachtstück” (transcription)
36. Schütz, Heinrich – “O Jesu, Nomen Dolce” (piano transcription)
37. Simmons, Ocie Lee – “Jewels” (partial manuscript) 1945
38. Strauß, Johann – “Love Deals the Cards Tonight” from The Gypsy Baron
39. Strauß, Johann – “Zigeuner Baron” duet (transcription)
40. Stravinsky, Igor – Le Gaune et la Bergère Suite pour Chant et Orchestre
41. Thomas, Ambroise – “Connais-tu le Pays” from Romance de Mignon
42. Thompson, Randall – “Velvet Shoes” from 2 Songs for Voice and Piano
43. Webern, Anton – Drei Lieder, Op. 25
44. Wiers, B.W. – Seasons: A Song Cycle (manuscript)
45. Woert, R.v. – “Winds that Blow Across the Sky” (Manuscript)
46. Wolf, Hugo – Wiegenlied in Sommer
47. Young, Robert D. – Poème de Théophile Gautier (manuscript copy), 1946
Subseries B: Composer Anthologies

Box 9

1. Bach, J.S. – Sacred Cantatas (Edited by Ifor Jones)
2. Debussy, Claude – Chansons de Bilitis
3. Mahler, Gustav – 24 Songs (Low), Volume I (2 copies)
4. Mahler, Gustav – 24 Songs (Low), Volume II (2 copies)
5. Mahler, Gustav – 24 Songs (Low), Volume IV
6. Mahler, Gustav – 24 Songs (High), Volume I (2 copies)
7. Mahler, Gustav – 24 Songs (High), Volume II (2 copies)
8. Mahler, Gustav – 24 Songs (High), Volume IV (3 copies)
9. Mahler, Gustav – Eight Songs for High Voice
10. Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, Felix – Sämtliche Lieder

Subseries B: Composer Anthologies (cont.)
Subseries C: Miscellaneous Anthologies

Box 10

1. Schubert, Franz – Gesänge für eine Singstimme mit Klavierbegleitung, Band I
2. Schubert, Franz – Gesänge für eine Singstimme mit Klavierbegleitung, Band II (partial)
3. German Folk Songs (inscribed cover)
5. Messchaert, Johannes – Ein Gesängstunde
6. Opern-Arien für Sopran, Band I

Subseries C: Miscellaneous Anthologies (cont.)

Box 11

1. Pratella, F. Balilla – Raccolta di Musiche: monodiche e melodiche poco divulgate dall’Antichita fino al Secolo XVII notate, armonizzate e tradotte modernamente
2. Self-Compiled Anthology Set (Volume I/II)

Series VI: Arts & Literature Library

Box 12

An Elizabethan Song Book: Lute Songs – Madrigals and Rounds
Celan, Paul – Last Poems
Demus, Jörg – Abenteurer der Interpretation
Hahn, Reynaldo – Du Chant: Pour la musique collection dirigée par Roland-Manuel
Languirand, Jacques – Les Grands Departs (inscribed)
Maher, Sigmund – Die Wiener Juden: 1700-1900
Social Research: An International Quarterly of Political and Social Science, March 1951
Williamson, James L. – Poems (2 copies, 1 inscribed)

Series VII: Recordings

Subseries A: Cassette Tapes

Box 13

- Duschak, A.G. – “Me Alone”
- Duschak, A.G. – “Mahler Rehearsal”
- Duschak, A.G. – “Mainacht”
- McMahan, Robert – “Original Works for Accordion”
- Unknown - “Donnell Lecture Recital”
- Unknown - “Opera Brown/Tauber”

Subseries B: Reel-to-Reels, 7” (Duschak)

Box 14

- Duschak, A.G. – “Alice Gerstl Duschak, soprano”
- Duschak, A.G. – “Mme. Duschak – Side 1” (November 27, 1971)
- Duschak, A.G. – “Mme. Duschak – Side 2” (November 27, 1971)
- Duschak, A.G. – “Wednesday Convocation Reel I” (May 25, 1975), 2 copies
- Duschak, A.G. – “Wednesday Convocation Reel II” (May 25, 1975), 2 copies
- Duschak, A.G./Garvey, D. – “Songs of Felix Mendelssohn”
  The First Violet; Spring Song; Sun of the Sleepless; There’ll Be None of Beauty’s Daughter; On Wings of Song; New Love; Grass; Suleika I; Suleika II
- Duschak, A.G./Garvey, D. – “The Influence of the Songs of Franz Schubert; Lecture – Recital, University of Minnesota”
- Duschak, A.G./Garvey, D. – “Schubert, Side A”
  Klarchens Lied; Der Tod und das Mäden; Der Frühling; An Silvia; Nachtstück; Schlummerlied; Seligkeit
- Duschak, A.G./Garvey, D. – “Schubert, Side B”
  Suleika; An die Musik; Der Jüngling an der Quelle; Liebhaber in allen Gestalten; An die Mond; An die Leier
  Er ist’s; Aus den hebräischen Gesängen; Suleika; Widmung; O Ihr Herren; Aufträge; Schöne Wiege meinen Leiden
- Duschak, A.G./Garvey, D. – “Hugo Wolf Recital, Side A”, 2 copies
  Anakreon’s Grab; Mignon III; Wiegenlied; Nachtzauber; Verschwiegene Liebe; O wär dein haus; Mein Liebster singt
- Duschak, A.G./Garvey, D. – “Hugo Wolf Recital, Side B”, 2 copies
  Auf einer Wanderung; Gesang Weylas; Das Verlassene Mägdlein; In der Frühe; Elfenlied; Benedeit die sel’ge Mutter; Herr was trägt der Boden; Die ihr schwebet
  Auf einer Wanderung; Gesang Weyla’s; Herr was Tragt der Boden;
  Verschwiegene Liebe
• Duschak, A.G./Garvey, D. – “H. Wolf RCA”, 2 copies
  Elfenlied; Benedite die sel’ge Mutter; O wär dein haus; Mein Libester singt;
  Wiegenlied; Anakreon’s Grab
• Duschak, A.G./Garvey, D. – “H. Wolf RCA Tape 2”
  O wär dein haus; Mein Liebster singt; Wiegenlied; Anakreon’s Grab
• Duschak, A.G./Garvey, D. – “Eichendorff - Wolf”
  Mägdelein; In der Frühe
• Duschak, A.G./Garvey, D. – Title/date unknown, 4 copies
• Duschak, A.G./Křenek, Ernst – “Art Song Recital” (May 17, 1967)
• Duschak, A.G./Křenek, Ernst – “Křenek”, 2 copies
  Peace; Patience
• Duschak, A.G./Křenek, Ernst – “Last Rehearsal”, 2 copies
  Lacrimosa; Hopkins Songs
• “Mr. Shuk” (Undated)

Subseries C: Reel to Reels (Students and Blanks)

Box 15

• “Conservatory Students 1975”, 2 copies
• Peabody Art Song Class Recital (May 17, 1972)
• Peabody Art Song Class Recital – “Music of Franz Schubert – Reel I” (1978)
• Peabody Art Song Class Recital – “Music of Franz Schubert – Reel II” (1978)
• “Students of Mme. A.G. Duschak” 3 copies
• Unlabeled/Blank Reels (6)

Subseries D: Reel-to Reels, 15” (Duschak)

Box 16

• Duschak, A.G./Garvey, D – “Hugo Wolf - A” (2 copies)
• Duschak, A.G./Garvey, D – “Hugo Wolf - B” (2 copies)
• Duschak, A.G. – “Lecture Recital on the Harp” (June 18, 1962)

Subseries E: LPs (Duschak)

Box 17

• Duschak, A.G. – “Baroque Cantata/Pre-Bach Music”
• Duschak, A.G. – “June 3, 1957”
  Mahler: Liebst du um Schönheit, Ich atmet einen Linden duft, We hat dies
  Liedlein erdacht; Schoeck: Herbstgefühl, Waldvogelein, Nachklang;
  Mendelssohn: Suleika I/II, Gruss, Schlafloser Augen Leuchte, Aug
Flugeln des Gesanges

- Duschak, A.G. – “Magnificat/3 Songs by Schütz”
- Duschak, A.G./Esteban, J. – “Schubert, Wolf, & Mahler Songs” (2 copies)
- Duschak, A.G./Esteban, J. – Title/date unknown (2 copies)
- Duschak, A.G./Fall, F.
  Stravinsky: La Faune; Gretchaninoff: Lullaby; Glazounoff: Nereid
- Duschak, A.G./Meyer, C. – “Development of Song from Antiquity to Shubert” (2 copies)
- Duschak, A.G./Silfies, G. – Recital (2 copies)
- Duschak, A.G./Silfies, G. – “Sides 3 & 4”
  An Die Nachtigall; Der Wegweiser; An Den Mond; Erntelied; Dein Blaues Auge; Nicht Mehr Zu Dir Zu Gehn; Mädchenlied; Therese
- Norman, Jessye – “Christmastide” (autographed)
- Unknown - “Copied from Client’s Tape”
- Unknown - “Schubert/Bernhalt”
- Untitled Reel

Related Materials

Obituary: The Baltimore Sun (July 21, 1993)

Click here for articles about Duschak in the Peabody News and Peabody Notes.

Birth and death dates from the U.S. Social Security Death Index (from ancestry.com).

Revised

April 3, 2016  jo