

Clinton A. Carpenter Papers, 1923–1997 (bulk 1951–1997)

Biographical Note

Clinton A. Carpenter (1921 – 2005) was the first American composer to complete Mahler's unfinished Tenth Symphony. A Chicago native, Carpenter was employed as an insurance underwriter, with a life-long commitment to studying the works of Gustav Mahler, in particular, Mahler's unfinished Tenth Symphony. Carpenter attended Eastman School of Music after returning from the Army at the close of World War II, and received his degree from Eastman in 1947. Carpenter initially completed his composition of Mahler's Tenth Symphony in 1949. By the early 1950s, as an exercise in further studying Mahler's orchestration, Carpenter attempted to reconstruct the orchestral version of the symphony from his own studies on the piano. Carpenter later went on to compare his own orchestral page with the Mahler score to identify differences. Later versions of Mahler's Tenth Symphony edited by Carpenter were completed in 1952, 1954, 1955 and 1957. Carpenter finished his interpretation of the symphony in 1966. In 1983, the Carpenter composition received its world premiere in Chicago, performed by the Chicago Civic Orchestra.

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Scope and Content Note

The papers of Clinton A. Carpenter center on his work as a composer, specifically his interpretation of Gustav Mahler's 10th Symphony. The materials include correspondence, subject files, musical scores, typescripts, Mahler-related newsletters and publications, photographic prints, press clippings, and one audio recording.

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Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

Clinton A. Carpenter Papers, Archives and Special Collections Library, Vassar College Libraries.

Processing Information

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Acquisition Information

Transferred from the Vassar College Music Library in 2010.

Series 1. Subject Files

1.10 - 1.11 10th Symphony notes and movement themes 1.1 Carpenter inventory of archival holdings, 1996 1.2 Colorado Mahler Festival, clippings, programs, 1997 1.5 Comparisons between Mahler and contemporaries 1.3 - 1.4 Errata, notes for 10th Symphony performance, Chicago, 1983 1.6 Handwriting study of Gustav Mahler 3.6 - 3.7 International Gustav Mahler Society Annual Reports, 1956-1994 1.7-1.9 Orchestration and Instrumentation notes 1.12 Terms used by Mahler 1.13 Timeline of Mahler's life 1.14 Timing and keys, notes, 10th Symphony

Series 2. Musical Scores

7.1 Critical Edition of Total Works, Volume XI, Last Four Movements from Symphony No. 10, edited by Clinton A. Carpenter, includes additional remarks on Carpenter urtext (bound manuscript) 8.1 Critical Edition of Total Works, volume XI, Last Four Movements from Symphony No. 10, edited by Clinton Carpenter, with general comments on urtext (facsimile) 8.2-8.5 Gustav Mahler 10th Symphony, Paul Zsolnay Edition (facsimile) 5.1-5.2 Gustav Mahler X Symphonie, by Clinton A. Carpenter, Volumes I, II, including performance notes (manuscript) 7.3 Gustav Mahler's Lieder und Gesänge, Vol. 3 (facsimile) 7.4 Gustav Mahler's Symphony No. 10 (facsimile) 6.1-6.2 Mahler Symphony No. 10, Part I, Part II, interpreted by Clinton A. Carpenter (manuscript) 6.3 Mahler Symphony No. 10, transcribed for Piano-Four Hands, by Clinton A. Carpenter, (manuscript) 1.21 Mahler, The Youth's Magic Horn, No. 220, Wiener Philharmonischer, 1966 (photocopy) 4.1-4.2 Mahler's 10th Symphony-Carpenter, 1st and 2nd movements, (manuscript) 1.16-1.19 Mahler's 10th Symphony, Carpenter score (photocopy) 4.3 Mahler's 10th Symphony, Cooke Version, 2 Piano Version, Bowman (photocopy) 4.4 Mahler's 10th Symphony, Freidrich Block, Piano Arrangements 2, 4 and 5th movements (photocopy) 4.5 Mahler's 10th Symphony, Performing Edition by Joe Wheeler, 1965 (annotated photocopy) 1.20 Mahler's 9th Symphony, Erwin Ratz score (photocopy) 1.15 Study of Mahler's Das Klagende Lied, by Alfred Rose, (photocopy) 7.2 Theme in 5th Movement As Might Be Written by Von Webern-A Satire (manuscript)

Series 3. Typescripts

1.22 Mahler's 10th Symphony — articles written by Clinton Carpenter, 1969-1988 1.23-1.24 Mahler Werke Verzeichnis — index of performances, including commentary 1.25 Wheeler version of Mahler's 10th Symphony — article for Journal of the Conductor's Guild, by Clinton Carpenter, circa 1983

Series 4. Printed Material

3.12 Gustav Mahler, A Performing Version of the draft for the 10th Symphony, by Deryck Cooke, 1966 2.1-2.19 International Gustav Mahler Society Newsletter, 1956-1995 3.8-3.11 Mahler clippings, articles, programs, 1923-1992 3.13 Mahler, Symphony No. 10, Associated Music Publishers, 1951 3.14 Mahler, Symphony No. 10, Adagio, Universal Edition 1964, 1990 (2 copies) 1.29-1.30 News About Mahler Research, publication by the International Gustav Mahler Society, 1977-1995

Series 5. Correspondence

3.1 Correspondence to Clinton Carpenter re: Mahler Symposium, Utrecht, 1986
3.2-3.3 Correspondence, to and from Clinton Carpenter, 1956-1999 3.4 Nieman, Herman, Secretary of Gustav Mahler Society, 1957- 1992 3.5 Nikkels, Dr. Eveline, 1989-1994

Series 6. Miscellaneous

1.26-1.28 Scrapbook — world premiere of Carpenter performance of Mahler's 10th Symphony, Chicago, 1983-04 Box 9 Audio recording — Mahler's 10th Symphony, BBC Broadcast, Deryck Cooke, circa 1960 (quarter-inch audio tape reel)