



University of Victoria Archives

AR234

Victoria Symphony Society fonds

1. Fonds-level description

Title

Victoria Symphony Society fonds

Dates

1941-1984, predominant 1953-1974

Extent

2.9 m of textual records

Administrative history

The Victoria Symphony was founded in 1941 as a community orchestra comprised of 32 members taken from the Royal Canadian Navy. The ensemble had its first performance 18 May 1942 at the Empress Hotel's Crystal Ballroom under the direction of Melvin Knudsen. In 1943 the group moved to the Royal Theatre and performed three or four concerts per season. On 12 May 1948 the Victoria Symphony Society was incorporated.

By the mid-1970s the orchestra was fully professional. Directors have included Melvin Knudsen (1941-1948), Hans Gruber (1948-1964), Otto Werner Mueller (1964-1967), Laszlo Gati (1967-1978), Paul Freeman (1979-1988), Peter McCoppin (1989-1999), Kees Bakels (1999-2001), Timothy Vernon (2001-2003), Tania Miller (2003-2017), and Christian Kluxen (2017-).

Scope and content

Fonds consists of minutes, correspondence, fund raising records, financial records, conductors files, guest artists files, legal agreements, arrangements for tours, scrapbooks of clippings, and programmes.

Notes

Acquired from Gerhardt Friedmann, November 1984; Joan Banister, April 1995.

2. Structure

Series 1. Constitution, agreements, and amendments. 1973-1982. 1 cm of textual records

Accession 84-58, Box 1, File 1

Series consists of copies of the Society's constitution and amendments, and collective agreement between the Society and the Victoria Musicians' Association, Local 247, American Federation of Musicians.

Series 2. Minutes. 1979-1984. 12 cm of textual records.

Accession 84-58, Box 1, Files 2-6

Series consists of minutes of Directors' meetings, financial information, proposed committee structure.

Series 3. Financial records. 1981-1983. 2 cm of textual records.

Accession 84-58, Box 1, File 7

Series consists of budgets, financial statements.

Series 4. Published Material. 1981-1983. 1 cm of textual records.

Accession 84-58, Box 1, File 8

Series consists of newsletters, posters, subscription announcements.

Series 5. Working papers. 1979-1981. 3 cm of textual records.

Accession 84-58, Box 1, File 9

Series consists of donor lists, correspondence, guidelines for fund-raising campaigns, proposals.

3. Inventory

Accession 1984-058

Box 1

- 1.1 Constitution, Agreement, Amendments. 1973-1982.
- 1.2 Minutes, 1979-1980.
- 1.3 Minutes, 1980-1981.
- 1.4 Minutes, 1981-1982.
- 1.5 Minutes, 1982-1983.
- 1.6 Minutes, 1983-1984.
- 1.7 Financial records, 1981-1983. Budgets, financial statements.
- 1.8 Published material, 1981-1983. Newsletters, posters, subscription announcements.
- 1.9 Working papers, 1979-1981, n.d. Donor lists, correspondence, proposals, guidelines for carrying out fund-raising campaigns, memos re. internal organization of the Society.

Accession 1995-021

Box 1

- 1.1 Constitution and Bylaws (with correspondence and amendments), 1947-1989.
- 1.2 History, 1941-1983.
- 1.3 Boards of Directors, 1950-1984.
- 1.4 Victoria Symphony Foundation, 1972-1974.
- 1.5 Executive Committee, 1964-1976.
- 1.6 Finance Committee, 1969-1984.
- 1.7 Liaison Committee, 1977.
- 1.8 Nominating Committee, 1968-1978.
- 1.9 Women's Committee, 1969-1983.
- 1.10 Fund Raising Committee, 1969-1980.
- 1.11 Programme Committee, 1972.
- 1.12 Expenditures, Revenues, and Budgets, 1953-1975.
- 1.13 Expenditures, Revenues, and Budgets, 1976-1984.
- 1.14 Financial Statements (incomplete), 1959-1989.
- 1.15 Managerial (incomplete), 1970-1983.
- 1.16 Correspondence with President (incomplete), 1958-1982.
- 1.17 President's Messages, 1971-1977.
- 1.18 Honorary Life Members, 1965.
- 1.19 75th Gala Concert: A Salute to Oak Bay and Saanich, 1981.
- 1.20 Sponsors, 1972-1984.
- 1.21 Supporters and Guarantors, 1966-1984.
- 1.22 Party Gala Attendance, 1957-1983.

- 1.23 Victoria Conservatory of Music, 1965-1970.
- 1.24 Assn. of Canadian Orchestras, 1972.
- 1.25 Selection of Conductors, 1971-1978.
- 1.26 Hans Gruber – Interview, 1 CD, 2001, Newspaper clippings, 1995, 2000-2001 (10 photos)
- 1.27 Laszlo Gati, 1960-1977. (2 slides)
- 1.28 Paul Freeman, 1979-1988.
- 1.29 Glen Fast. (1 photo)
- 1.30 Peter McCoppin.
- 1.31 Core Orchestra, 1980-1981.
- 1.32 Programme Plans, 1969-1984.

Box 2

- 2.1 Players, 1976-1977, 1980-1981.
- 2.2 Schedule of services, 1976-1985.
- 2.3 Rehearsal Schedules, 1970-1979.
- 2.4 Memos to Orchestra, 1978-1984.
- 2.5 Pops Series, 1980-1981.
- 2.6 School and Special Concerts, 1969-1977. (1 photo)
- 2.7 Orchestra Openings, 1978-1982.
- 2.8 Agreements with Victoria Musicians' Association, 1967-1977.
- 2.9 Agreements with Victoria Musicians' Association, 1978-1984.
- 2.10 Victoria Symphony Players' Association, 1976-1978.
- 2.11 Victoria Symphony Members' Status, 1976-1977.
- 2.12 Insurance benefits, 1979.
- 2.13 Employment and Immigration Canada, 1977-1981.
- 2.14 Pacific Opera Victoria, 1980-1981.
- 2.15 Summer Performances, 1977-1980.
- 2.16 Performances with the CBC, 1971-1972, 1979-1981, 1984.
- 2.17 Out of town concerts, 1959-1983.
- 2.18 Out of town concerts, Alberni, 1971.
- 2.19 Out of town concerts, Campbell River, 1970-1971.
- 2.30 Out of town concerts, Courtenay, 1970-1972.
- 2.31 Out of town concerts, Duncan, 1970-1971.
- 2.32 Out of town concerts, Ganges, 1970-1971.
- 2.33 Out of town concerts, Parksville/Qualicum, 1971.
- 2.34 Out of town concerts, Shawnigan Lake, 1972.
- 2.35 Tours, 1978-1979.
- 2.36 Tours, 1980-1983.
- 2.37 Fall Tour, 1981.
- 2.38 USA Tour, 1983.

- 2.39 Minutes -- Annual General Meetings, 1962-1983 (except for: 1963, 1966, 1967, 1970, 1973, 1978-1981, 1988).
- 2.40 Minutes -- Board of Directors Meetings, 1962-1964.
- 2.41 Minutes -- Board of Directors Meetings, 1965-1966.
- 2.42 Minutes -- Board of Directors & Executive Committee Meetings, 1967-1968.

Box 3

- 3.1 Minutes -- Board of Directors & Executive Committee Meetings, 1969-1970.
- 3.2 Minutes -- Board of Directors & Executive Committee Meetings, 1971-1972.
- 3.3 Minutes -- Board of Directors & Executive Committee Meetings, 1973-1974.
- 3.4 Minutes -- Board of Directors & Executive Committee Meetings, 1975-1977.
- 3.5 Minutes -- Board of Directors & Executive Committee Meetings, 1977-1978.
- 3.6 Minutes -- Board of Directors & Executive Committee Meetings, 1979-1980.
- 3.7 Minutes -- Board of Directors & Executive Committee Meetings, 1981-1984.
- 3.8 Fundraising General.
- 3.9 Fundraising, 1980-1981.
- 3.10 Fundraising, 1982.
- 3.11 Promotion and Publicity, 1959-1981.
- 3.12 Advertising and Public Relations, 1968-1982.
- 3.13 Victoria Symphony Auction, 1984. (1)
- 3.14 Victoria Symphony Auction, 1984. (2)
- 3.15 Corporate Fundraising, General.
- 3.16 Corporate Fundraising, A-B.
- 3.17 Corporate Fundraising, C-D.
- 3.18 Corporate Fundraising, E-L.
- 3.19 Corporate Fundraising, M-R.

Box 4

- 4.1 Corporate Fundraising, S.
- 4.2 Corporate Fundraising, T-Z.
- 4.3 Box Office, 1964-1978.
- 4.4 Complementary tickets; subscribers, 1966-1978.
- 4.5 Guest Artists -- Miscellaneous.
- 4.6 Guest Artists -- MacDermot, Derek, 1966. (1 photo)
- 4.7 Guest Artists -- McManus, Donald L., 1967.
- 4.8 Guest Artists -- Matteucci, Juan, 1973. (1 photo)
- 4.9 Guest Artists -- Maxwell, Joan, 1967. (1 photo)
- 4.10 Guest Artists -- Mdivani, Marina, 1967. (2 photos)
- 4.11 Guest Artists -- Menuhin, Yehudi, 1971-1973. (12 photos)
- 4.12 Guest Artists -- Miller, Mitch, 1973. (3 photos)
- 4.13 Guest Artists -- Mizerit, Klaro, 1972-1973. (1 photo)

- 4.14 Guest Artists -- Morgan, Marie-Elizabeth, 1969-1970.
- 4.15 Guest Artists -- Moscow Trio, 1970. (3 photos)
- 4.16 Guest Artists -- Nasedkin, Aleksei, 1972. (1 photo)
- 4.17 Guest Artists -- National Ballet of Canada, 1967-1969. (1 photo)
- 4.18 Guest Artists -- National Concert Bureau, 1970.
- 4.19 Guest Artists -- Neblett, Carol, 1969. (4 photos)
- 4.20 Guest Artists -- Norris, Richard, 1966.
- 4.21 Guest Artists -- Olefsky, Paul, 1967. (1 photo)
- 4.22 Guest Artists -- Ovens, Ray, 1967-1968. (2 photos)
- 4.23 Guest Artists -- Pauk, Gyorgy, 1968-1971. (3 photos)
- 4.24 Guest Artists -- Perrault, Michel, 1964-1967. (3 photos)
- 4.25 Guest Artists -- Peters, Robert, 1964-1966. (3 photos)
- 4.26 Guest Artists -- Petrich, Eugene R., 1966-1967.
- 4.27 Guest Artists -- Pianists, Canadian, 1985-1986.
- 4.28 Guest Artists -- Purcell Quartet, 1971. (1 photo)
- 4.29 Guest Artists -- Rampal, Jean-Pierre, 1969-1970. (1 photo)
- 4.30 Guest Artists -- The Romeros, 1970-1973. (1 photo)
- 4.31 Guest Artists -- Roslak, Roxolana, 1970-1971. (2 photos)
- 4.32 Guest Artists -- Royal Winnipeg Ballet, 1969-1973. (3 photos)
- 4.33 Guest Artists -- Rubes, Jan, 1969. (2 photos)
- 4.34 Guest Artists -- Sieb, Calvin, 1966-1967.
- 4.35 Guest Artists -- Segovia, Andres, 1969. (4 photos)
- 4.36 Guest Artists -- Siki, Bela, 1970-1972. (6 photos)
- 4.37 Guest Artists -- Starker, Janos, 1970. (3 photos)
- 4.38 Guest Artists -- Staryk, Steven, 1967-1968.
- 4.39 Guest Artists -- Steel, Christopher, 1965-1967. (2 photos)
- 4.40 Guest Artists -- Streatfeild, Simon, 1971-1972.
- 4.41 Guest Artists -- Trhlik, Otakar, 1968-1969. (7 photos)
- 4.42 Guest Artists -- Tsutsumi, Tsuyoshi, 1970-1971. (2 photos)
- 4.43 Guest Artists -- Turangeau, Huguette, 1966. (1 photo)
- 4.44 Guest Artists -- Turgeon, Bernard, 1970. (1 photo)
- 4.45 Guest Artists -- Turini, Ronald, 1972. (3 photos)
- 4.46 Guest Artists -- Turner, Robert Child, 1965-1966.
- 4.47 Guest Artists -- Turofsky, Ricki, 1971-1973. (1 photo)

Box 5

- 5.1 Guest Artists -- Ushioda, Masuko, 1971-1973. (1 photo)
- 5.2 Guest Artists -- University Chorus (UVic), 1971-1972.
- 5.3 Guest Artists -- Weiss, Irene, 1967-1968. (1 photo)
- 5.4 Guest Artists -- Wood, Robin 1965-1972. (3 photos)
- 5.5 Guest Artists -- Yepes, Narcisco, 1972. (2 photos)
- 5.6 Guest Artists -- Zabaleta, Nicanor, 1967-1971. (2 photos)

- 5.7 Guest Artists -- Zivoni, Yossi, 1968-1970.
- 5.8 Guest Artists -- Zukerman, George, 1970. (1 photo)
- 5.9 Canada Council, 1958.
- 5.10 Canada Council, 1959.
- 5.11 Canada Council Questionnaire, 1960
- 5.12 Canada Council, 1960-1963. (1)
- 5.13 Canada Council, 1960-1963. (2)
- 5.14 Canada Council, 1960-1963. (3)
- 5.15 Canada Council, 1964-1966.
- 5.16 Canada Council, 1967-1968.
- 5.17 Canada Council, 1968-1970. (1)
- 5.18 Canada Council, 1968-1970. (2)
- 5.19 Centennial Cultural Fund Advisory Committee, 1967
- 5.20 Grants -- B.C. Government, 1964-1967.
- 5.21 Grants -- Submissions to governments, 1964-1966.
- 5.22 Grants -- Intermunicipal, 1961-1968.
- 5.23 Newsclippings, 1943-1966.
- 5.24 Newsclippings, 1957.
- 5.25 Newsclippings, 1958.
- 5.26 Newsclippings, 1959.
- 5.27 Newsclippings, 1960.
- 5.28 Newsclippings, 1961.
- 5.29 Newsclippings, 1962.
- 5.30 Newsclippings, 1963.

Box 6

- 6.1 Newsclippings, 1964.
- 6.2 Newsclippings, 1965.
- 6.3 Newsclippings, 1966.
- 6.4 Newsclippings, 1967.
- 6.5 Newsclippings, 1968.
- 6.6 Newsclippings, 1969.
- 6.7 Newsclippings, 1970.
- 6.8 Newsclippings, 1971.
- 6.9 Newsclippings, 1972.
- 6.10 Newsclippings, 1973.
- 6.11 Newsclippings, 1974.
- 6.12 Newsclippings, 1975.
- 6.13 Newsclippings, 1976.
- 6.14 Newsclippings, 1977.
- 6.15 Newsclippings, 1978.
- 6.16 Newsclippings, 1979.

- 6.17 Newsclippings, 1980.
- 6.18 Newsclippings, 1981.
- 6.19 Newsclippings, 1982.
- 6.20 Newsclippings, 1983.
- 6.21 Newsclippings, 1984.
- 6.22 Newsclippings, 1985.
- 6.23 Newsclippings, 1986.
- 6.24 Newsclippings, 1988.
- 6.25 Newsclippings, 1989.
- 6.26 Newsclippings, unknown date.
- 6.27 Newsclippings, programmes, and letters, 1943-1948 (photocopies).
- 6.28 Reports of early concerts, 1939-1942.
- 6.29 Scrapbook, 1950-1985 (contains occasional symphony newsclippings).
- 6.30 Brochures, posters, programmes, 1932-1962.
- 6.31 Brochures, posters, programmes, 1960's-1980's.
- 6.32 Brochures, posters, programmes, 1970's-1980's
- 6.33 Brochures, programmes, etc., 1970s-1980s
- 6.34 Photographs -- Glen Fast conducting. (3 photos)
- 6.35 Photographs -- Paul Freeman with Symphony, and 3 backstage colour photographs. (4 photos)
- 6.36 Photographs -- Laszlo Gati, some with Symphony. (14 photos)
- 6.37 Photographs -- Symphony with Laszlo Gati and Paul Horne in Market Square. (6 photos)
- 6.38 Photographs -- Symphony members, trips, etc, (9x12cm colour). (36 photos)
- 6.39 Photographs -- Symphony, publicity portraits and in performance. (26 photos)
- 6.40 Photographs -- Symphony, school concerts. (8 photos)
- 6.41 Photographs -- Rossini, slide of portrait. (1 photos)
- 6.42 Photographs -- Performers, supporters. (17 photos)
- 6.43 Photographs -- Performers, supporter. (16 photos)
- 6.44 Photographs -- Contact sheets. (6 photos)

Box 7 / Over-sized: Scrapbooks. -- 30x40 cm

All scrapbooks contain mostly newsclippings, photographs, drawings, magazine clippings and advertising.

- 7.1 Scrapbook -- 1955-1967. (3 photos)
- 7.2 Scrapbook -- 1965-1966. (3 photos)
- 7.3 Scrapbook -- 1967.
- 7.4 Scrapbook -- 1972-1974.
- 7.5 Scrapbook -- 1977-1980.
- 7.6 Scrapbook -- 1978-1979. (3 photos)
- 7.7 Scrapbook -- 1982-1983.
- 7.8 Scrapbook -- 1983-1984.

- 7.9 Scrapbook -- 1983-1984
- 7.10 Scrapbook -- 1984-1985
- 7.11 Scrapbook -- 1984-1985 (newspaper ads).

Box 8 / Over-sized: Scrapbooks. -- 40x60 cm

- 8.1 Scrapbook -- 1969-1970.
- 8.2 Scrapbook -- 1971-1973.
- 8.3 Scrapbook -- 1973-1975.
- 8.4 Scrapbook -- 1975.
- 8.5 Scrapbook -- 1980-1982.
- 8.6 Paste-ups ("Omits and redo's").