



University of Victoria Archives

AR434

Victoria Balalaika Orchestra fonds

1. Fonds-level description

Title

Victoria Balalaika Orchestra fonds

Dates

1973-2008

Extent

32 cm of textual and photographic records

Administrative history

The Victoria Balalaika Orchestra (VBO) was a Slavonic music group based in Victoria that existed from 1973 to 2008. The group was founded by Dr. Nicholas Galichenko, a faculty member in the Department of Germanic and Russian Studies at the University of Victoria, who has written several books on cinema. The group originally performed using instruments primarily from Galichenko's personal collection, and played its first concert at the University of Victoria in 1974 under the direction of Anton Kolstee. From 1975 to 1981 Robert Mari directed, from 1981 to 2001 Tony Booker directed, and from 2001 to 2008 Mary Clarke directed. The VBO released three albums: *Victoria Balalaika Orchestra* (1981), *Echoes of Russia* (1991) and *Give Me Balalaika* (1998). In 1986, the VBO performed at Expo '86 in Vancouver. The group had ties to the Victoria Ukrainian and Russian communities and regularly performed in events organized by each.

Scope and Content

Fonds consists of photographs (which are mostly photocopies), concert programmes, correspondence, newspaper clippings, posters, meeting minutes, and sheet music related to the Victoria Balalaika Orchestra. Also included are copies of the Balalaika and Dorna Association of America (BDAA) Newsletter.

Notes

Gift of Jeanette L. Walker.

2. Structure

Series 1. Orchestra history. 1974-2008. 14.5 cm of textual and photographic records.

Series consists of photographs, correspondence, clippings, concert programmes, posters, and meeting minutes from throughout the VBO's life.

Series 2. Anniversary concerts. 1998, 2008. 2.5 cm of textual records.

Series consists of materials related to the VBO's 25th and 35th anniversary concerts.

Series 3. Sheet music. 1974-2008. 1 cm of textual records.

Series consists of photocopied pages of Balalaika music. Some titles are in Russian.

File 1. 25th Anniversary Gala Concert. 1998. 0.5 cm of textual records.

File consists of photograph, poster, and invitation for the VBO's 25th anniversary concert, 12 December 1998.

File 2. 35th Anniversary Gala Concert. 2008. 2 cm of textual records.

File consists of correspondence, invitations, meeting minutes, poster, clippings, and photographs related to the VBO's 35th anniversary concert, 10 May 2008.

Series 4. BDAA Newsletter. 1994-2008. 2 cm of textual records.

Series consists of ten issues of *The BDAA Newsletter*, the official journal of the Balalaika and Domra Association of America.

3. Inventory

Accession 2010-004

Box 1

- 1.1 Correspondence, programmes, photos, general, 1974-2003
- 1.2 Correspondence, programmes, photos, general, 1974-2003
- 1.3 Correspondence, programmes, photos, general, 1974-2003
- 1.4 Correspondence, clippings, photographs, programmes, Sept. 2000 - June 2004
- 1.5 Correspondence, clippings, photographs, programmes, Sept. 2000 - June 2004
- 1.6 Correspondence, clippings, photographs, minutes, general, Sept. 2004 - June 2007
- 1.7 Minutes, correspondence, 1979-2008
- 1.8 Photographs, 1974, 1994, 1999
- 1.9 Programmes, clippings, 1974-2007
- 1.10 Programmes, clippings, 1974-2007
- 1.11 25th Anniversary Gala Concert, 1998
- 1.12 35th Anniversary Gala Concert, 2008
- 1.13 Sheet music, 1974-2003
- 1.14 Sheet music, programme
- 1.15 BDAA Newsletters, 1994-2008

Oversize folder

- 1.0 Music folder, newspaper section, poster